

ENGLAND ACTS.

Declares Neutrality and Orders Our Ships from Her Ports.

THE DAY THE WAR BEGAN.

She Says It Was When Spain Gave Woodford His Passports.

The Action on the Part of Great Britain... Admiral Dewey's Squadron to Sail from Hong Kong, and Three of His Ships Are Already Off for the Philippines...

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Great Britain has made declaration of neutrality between Spain and the United States, and has notified the commanders of United States war vessels in English ports to leave within forty-eight hours...

The decision of Great Britain renders it impossible for the United States to secure the services of the Albany before the end of the war. It is also unlikely that the Somers will be called home before the expiration of the forty-eight hours...

The Administration is very much pleased over the action of Great Britain. It disposes of the embarrassing questions that have arisen as to the right of United States vessels to take the Buena Ventura and other Spanish merchantmen before war had been formally declared...

There is now no reason existing why this Government should not protest to Portugal against the further stay of the Spanish fleet at St. Vincent. Great Britain has declared that war between the United States and Spain began from the moment of Minister Woodford's dismissal...

There are no United States warships in any foreign ports excepting those of Great Britain, China, Hawaii and Nicaragua. The old wooden ship Monocacy is in the port of Woonsocket, but she is not fitted to engage in action with any Spanish ship now in Asiatic waters...

during the pendency of the annexation question. Should this Government take possession of the Hawaiian Islands, as it is reported the Administration intends to do, there would, of course, be no reason why the Bennington should depart from the waters of the Pacific republic...

Right on this point it is interesting to note the opinion of an authority on international law, given today, with regard to the treaty proposed by Admiral Meyer to be instructed to take possession of Hawaii in the name of this Government...

The battleship Oregon, the gunboat Marietta, now proceeding to join the squadron under command of Rear Admiral Sampson, will not suffer any inconvenience through the probable action of South American countries in following the example of Great Britain in declaring neutrality between Spain and the United States...

Great Britain's declaration that a state of war exists and that she has issued notice to American vessels to leave British ports have caused a great and important change in the strategic situation. It now not only forces the United States to begin its contemplated offensive movement against the Philippines at once, but it also forces the United States to declare war on Spain...

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The Alert, another old ship, is at San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua. She is looking after American interests in Central America, where revolutionary outbreaks are so frequent that, despite the need of all the warships that this Government controls to carry on hostilities against Spain, it is considered necessary that she should remain in that locality...

CHASE AFTER A WARSHIP.

ALL OUR FLEET STARTED AFTER THE STRANGE CRUISER.

It was Monday on Saturday, and the ship was making for Havana—the vessel to be the fastest steamer of the fleet...

It happened at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. Under orders from Rear Admiral Sampson the squadron had separated into divisions, were on route along the coast, and had stretched out to a line fifteen miles long...

OFF FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

Three of Admiral Dewey's Warships Left Hong Kong Yesterday.

HONG KONG, April 24.—The American fleet, with the exception of the Baltimore, Raleigh and Olympia, have left this port. The vessels remaining will sail to-morrow.

The vessels which sailed to-day were the Boston, second-rate cruiser, eight guns; the Concord, third-rate gunboat, six guns, and the Petrel, fourth-rate gunboat, four guns. The Baltimore, Olympia, and Raleigh, which are to follow to-day, are cruisers. Their destination is the Philippine Islands and in a few days they may be expected to appear there.

MADRID, April 24.—The issue of the official telegram reporting the departure of the American fleet from Hong Kong caused an enormous popular demonstration at Manila, where all the inhabitants are offering their lives and property in defence of the fatherland.

It is alleged that Philippine filibusters are acting in conjunction with the American squadron.

THE PRESIDENT TO ENGLAND.

The Nation Will Not Forget the Good Will Sent Across the Sea.

LONDON, April 24.—The Washington correspondent of the Daily Mail cables that in an interview this afternoon President McKinley said: "Not the Government alone, but the whole nation, feel most deeply the good will sent to them across the sea..."

ENGLAND'S NEUTRALITY.

The Privy Council Meets to Approve a Draft of the Proclamation.

LONDON, April 24.—The Prince of Wales presided yesterday at a meeting of the Privy Council in behalf of the Queen. The meeting was held at Marlborough House, and was called for the purpose of approving a draft of a proclamation of neutrality. The Duke of Devonshire, President of the Council, and Viscount Cross, Lord Privy Seal, were present.

WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The Insurgents Expect Our Warships That Are Now Under Way.

TACOMA, Wash., April 24.—The latest rebellion in the Philippine Islands has already assumed proportions as serious as that beginning two years ago. Hong Kong advises to March 25 that the insurgent leaders, who are in constant communication with friends in Hong Kong, were sanguine that the United States would soon declare war against Spain and propose to free Cuba. In such a case they would see the greatest opportunity of recent years to drive their Spanish rulers out of the Philippines forever, and sever their allegiance to Spain.

Six native Spanish soldiers have been murdered at Manila, where a general exodus of Spanish and rich native merchants was taking place for fear of capture by the insurgents. Ambala, Pangasinan, and Tula are among the provinces already in revolt. The rebellion is rapidly spreading, the natives everywhere refusing to pay the increased taxes levied to defray the cost of crushing the late rebellion. During an engagement near Bolinas a band of insurgents was captured and ordered to be executed. The insurgents quickly retreated, and rescued them. Subsequently the insurgents cut the Spanish cable at Bolinas and destroyed miles of land lines connecting Bolinas and Manila.

A month ago Spain had five cruisers, three troopships, and five small gunboats at Manila, and the cruiser Reina Christina at Amoy. The cruisers at Manila were the Isla de Cuba, Isla de Luzon, Castilla, Don Antonio de Ulla, and Don Juan de Austria. The United States had the Olympia, Boston, Raleigh, and Concord and the gunboats Petrel and Monocacy on the China station.

CABLE TO HAVANA CUT.

The Government Takes Charge of the Cable Office at Key West.

KEY WEST, Fla., April 24.—The United States Government has seized the cable office here and has cut out the cable to Havana. The Western Union Telegraph Company has been put out of the office, and Capt. Thompson of the United States Army has taken charge. Of course, all Government business has precedence in transmission. Press and commercial matter comes after it, and over both a strict censorship has been established. Nothing can go out of the office that is objectionable to the censor.

All dispatches are supposed to be sent in the order that they are filed, but dispatches that contain matter that is objected to are laid aside, and corrections that are demanded by the censor are made. They are then refiled as new matter. The amount of business offered at the cable office is so great that the censor has hands full day and night, and great delay under the present arrangement is unavoidable.

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ANOTHER PRIZE SHIP.

The Helena Captures the Spanish Steamer Miguel Jover and Takes Her Into Key West.

KEY WEST, Fla., April 24.—The gunboat Helena intercepted the Spanish steamship Miguel Jover of J. J. Serras, Son, Perleño line, from New Orleans on April 21, for Barcelona via Havana, 100 miles out of Havana early this morning, and captured her. The Jover is loaded with staves and cotton. She has no passengers. Fifty-two men are in the crew.

A revised and trustworthy estimate of the value of the prize ship Miguel Jover is \$150,000, according to the manifest, is worth \$134,000. The Catalina came in at 3:20 P. M. Quartermaster Joseph Hanson of the prize crew on the Miguel Jover by the Helena accidentally shot himself this morning. The incident is said to be slight.

NEW ORLEANS, April 24.—Messrs. Del Corral & Serin, agents here of the steamer Miguel Jover, announce that they will ask the United States authorities to turn the vessel over to her owners on the ground that her capture was "snap judgment," the ship having secured clearance papers from the United States authorities in New Orleans. The cargo, they said, was owned by various firms in New Orleans, most of them Americans.

WE CAPTURE ANOTHER STEAMER.

The Cutter Winona Takes the Saturnina in the Gulf of Mexico.

MOBILE, Ala., April 24.—It has just been learned through a private message from Biloxi, Miss., that the cutter Winona, which left this port last night, captured the Spanish steamer Saturnina at Ship Island at 1 o'clock this afternoon. It is likely that the prize may have to remain in quarantine for a time. Then the vessel will be brought into Mobile Bay.

The Saturnina was built at Sunderland in 1874, and is owned by Otero, Larrazaga & Co. of Bilbao, Spain, who owned the Buena Ventura. She is an iron steamship of 1,926 tons burden, 340 feet long, and of 2,150 horse power. She sailed from Havana in April for Sagua, and from Sagua on April 9 for St. Jago, Pinarcoela, and Holland. Her Captain's name is Zeleaga.

POSSIBLE INTERVENTION.

Austria, France and Italy May Take Such Action After the First Collision.

LONDON, April 24.—The Berlin correspondent of the Standard says he learns that Great Britain and Germany will not join in any intervention in Spain's behalf. Such action may be taken by Austria and France and probably Italy soon after the first collision, even if it is quite incidental.

FAITH IN THE PARIS'S SAFETY.

She Is Believed to Be Speeding Rapidly Toward This City.

LONDON, April 24.—It is increasingly probable that the American line steamer Paris is speeding safely in midatlantic toward New York. In answer to inquiries made at Lloyds it was announced that nothing had been heard of her since she passed the Lizard. It is believed in Southampton and Liverpool that she is safe.

HAVE WE CAUGHT GEN. PANDO?

They Hunt in Havana That He Was a Passenger on a Ship Taken by Us.

HAVANA, April 24, via Kingston and Halifax.—The theatres here were opened at 9 o'clock on Saturday night, and, despite the excitement caused by the blockade, they were crowded. It is reported that the Spanish schooner Matilde, with a cargo of sugar and a crew of five men, has been captured off Key West. It is also rumored that an American warship has captured a coasting vessel on which Gen. Pando was a passenger.

ADMIRALS IN MADRID.

The Queen Regent Summons Twenty-seven of Them to a Consultation.

MADRID, April 24.—The optimism of Saturday following the reported capture of the Paris and Shenandoah and several unnamed American vessels a few hundred miles from Cadiz has already given place to disquietude. The public was surprised to learn that an American fleet was within ten miles of Havana, and then with five miles. The Havana authorities called that they had put the town on the alert by firing three signal shots from Morro Castle. The Spaniards, however, were not impressed by this activity.

There is now much anxiety regarding the safety of the Montserrat, Alfonso XII and Alfonso XIII. After Admiral Bermejo, Minister of Marine, had conferred for an hour to-day with the Queen Regent, the latter summoned twenty-seven Admirals, with whom she consulted. Important decisions were arrived at, and these were immediately telegraphed to the ports and the fleets.

Public opinion emphatically approves the Government's decision regarding privateering contraband of war, and the right of search. The preamble of the proclamation says that the Government expressly refuses to admit the abolition of privateering. The balance sheet of the Bank of Spain has been published in the Madrid Gazette. It shows the results of the increased engagements of the Treasury with the bank and the result of the run on the bank in both Madrid and the provinces for silver in exchange for notes. The cash in hand, according to the report, has declined over \$5,000,000 pesos.

38 Hours of Solid Comfort can be had on the limited run of the New York Central between New York and the West every day in the year. Use time table, this paper, or Ade.

SPAIN'S PROCLAMATION.

ALL TREATIES BETWEEN HER AND US ARE NULL AND VOID.

MADRID, April 24.—The Gazette Oficial to-day prints a proclamation by the Government declaring that a state of war exists between Spain and the United States and announcing that the treaty of 1795 and the protocol of 1877 are null and void.

The decree is as follows: "Diplomatic relations are broken off between Spain and the United States, and the state of war being begun between the two countries, numerous questions of international law arise, which the Government of Spain, because of the injustice and provocation done from our side, and it is they who, by their detestable conduct, have caused this grave conflict."

"We have observed with the strictest fidelity the principles of international law and have shown the most scrupulous respect for morality and the right of government. The Government is of the opinion that the fact of not having adhered to the Declaration of Paris does not exempt us from the duty of respecting the principles therein enunciated. The principle Spain unquestionably refused to admit: then was the necessity of privateering. The Government now considers it most indispensable to make absolute reserves on this point, in order to maintain our liberty of action and uncontested right to have recourse to privateering when we consider it expedient, first, by examining immediately a force of cruisers, auxiliary to the navy, which will be composed of vessels of our mercantile marine and with equal distinction in the work of our navy."

"Clause 1. The state of war existing between Spain and the United States annuls the treaty of peace and commerce of 1795, 1795, and the protocol of Jan. 12, 1877, and all other agreements, treaties, or conventions in force between the two countries. "Clause 2. From the publication of these presents, thirty days are granted to all ships of the United States anchored in our harbors to take their departure free of hindrance. "Clause 3. Notwithstanding that Spain has not adhered to the Declaration of Paris, the Government, respecting the principles of the law of nations, proposes to observe, and hereby orders to be observed, the following regulations of maritime law: "First—Neutral flags over the enemy's merchandise except contraband of war. "Second—Neutral merchandise, except contraband of war, is not seizable under the enemy's flag. "Third—A blockade to be obligatory must be effective, that is, it must be maintained with sufficient force to prevent access to enemy's littoral. "Fourth—The Spanish Government, upholding its right to grant letters of marque, will at present confine itself to organizing, with the auxiliary cruisers, which will cooperate with the new navy, according to the needs of the campaign, and will be under naval control. "Fifth—In order to capture the enemy's ships and confiscate the enemy's merchandise and contraband of war under whatever form the auxiliary cruisers may see fit to employ, search on the high seas and in the waters under the enemy's jurisdiction, in accordance with international law and the regulations, which will be published. "Sixth—Included in contraband of war are weapons, ammunition, equipment, engines, and in general all the appliances used in war. "Seventh—To be regarded and judged as pirates, with all the rigor of the law, are captains, masters, officers, and two-thirds of the crew of vessels which, not being American, shall commit acts of war against Spain, even if they are aided with letters of marque issued by the United States. "The fourth is the most important clause, in which Spain maintains the right to grant letters of marque, which right she reserved to herself in her note of May 3, 1857, contained in her reply to France. Spain defines contraband of war as "cannon, quick-firing guns, shells, rifles, all patterns of cutting and thrusting weapons and arms of precision, bullets, bombs, grenades, fulminate, capsules, fuses, powder, dynamite, torpedoes, and all explosives of all kinds, as well as uniforms, straps, pack saddles, and equipment for artillery and cavalry, marine engines, and in general all appliances used in war." The Government reserves liberty of action relative to the question of coal being contraband of war.

CABINET MEETING IN MADRID.

The Queen Regent Presided—Enthusiasm Over the Soldiers.

MADRID, April 24.—A Cabinet meeting was held to-day, at which the Queen Regent presided. All the Ministers were present. It was decided to issue instructions to many merchant vessels to join the navy as armed auxiliaries. Officers, gunners, and marines will be all the rights of warships. It is understood that these auxiliaries will act as legalized privateers, but will serve under better conditions and have more rights. The question of privateering was discussed by the Cabinet to-day.

THE POPE'S ATTITUDE.

He Will Be Absolutely Neutral During the War—So Prayers Except for Peace.

ROME, April 24.—Cardinal Rampolla, Papal Secretary of State, declared to-day that the Pope had resolved to maintain a position of absolute neutrality during the war, and to permit no prayers except for peace.

NEW METHOD OF OPERATING THROUGH EXPRESS TRAINS.

He Will Be Absolutely Neutral During the War—So Prayers Except for Peace.

NEW YORK, April 24.—The New York Central is to be the first to operate through express trains to prominent points on Long Island. Ade.