THE WORLD'S POLITICS.

A CRUCIAL MOMENT FOR THE UNITED STATES.

Pope Leo's Efforts to Relieve Spain of Cuba—Europe's Attitude Toward This Republic and Its View of England—The Time Pregnant with Momentous Events—The Wisest and Truest Statesmanship Needed to Guide America on the True Course.

ROME, April 25.—The Holy Father is much affected by the impressions produced in different quarters by the offer of his services with a view to a peaceful solution of the difficulties between Madrid and Washington. Some have thought that they saw in the offer an act of partiality toward Catholic Spain and against Protestant America. Nothing can be more false. Leo XIII. rejects with deep indignation this reproach and mistake. It was not his intention, he says, to deny to the United States its right of intervention; it was to induce the Spanish Government to concede finally to Cuba the autonomy and independence so often promised and never granted. A minister of peace and justice, he desired, in the words of the Scriptures, "the kiss of peace and justice," *justitia et pax sibi osculatæ*. Spain's pride, her Quixotism, her crooked and weak diplomacy would not allow her to make the hard sacrifice; perhaps the Pope, whose genius and authority she venerates, might have enough influence to make her swallow the bitter pill. Such was Leo XIII.'s latest inspiration. He believed in the possibility of a peaceful solution which should be the same as that obtained by war. From this point of view his intervention takes on a different appearance.

He had in mind, moreover, to save the Queen Regent and the dynasty, which the national vanity will hold responsible for the disasters to the country. Since the battle of Rocroy, as every one knows, Spain, poisoned by the spirit of Philip II. and of despotism, has tossed about from abject dictatorships and sleep to the fruitless agitation of revolutions. She has rolled over and over in her Procrustean bed. To-day she is the prey of a parliamentarism of continental make which is destroying the last fibres of her national life. Her political decadence is complete. Leo XIII., moved by the tears of a woman, a mother and a queen, wished to restore to her country peace with order, to give stability to its institutions and security to its future. With marvellous skill and angelic patience he has gathered the whole hierarchy and all Catholics about the throne and the fragile cradle of Alfonso XIII. in order that the Carlists might not try their chances at invasion and open again a period of revolution.

The rescue succeeded. Thanks to his intervention, parties and passions laid down their arms in the presence of the double weakness of a woman and of a foreigner. But the threat of a conflict with the all powerful American democracy endangered everything, the development of institutions, the security of the throne, the future of the dynasty, the peace and safety of the kingdom. Is it not certain that the disastrous results of the present complications will sweep away like a cyclone the frail supports of the dynasty? Will not that oversensitive and jealous people, proud and vain, be tempted to make the foreigner and her rule responsible for their calamities?

To save Spain from this danger without diminishing the rights of Cuba and of the United States was the desire of the "White Man," *quel vecchio inerme vestito di bianco* (that defenceless old man clad in white). He had no other. For the same higher reason the courts of Europe had formed the plan of concerted action. Leo XIII. believed he was rendering a service to civilization. The force of events has made matters turn out otherwise.

As for public opinion on the Continent, its feelings and ideas have been influenced by a different consideration. It would be wrong to regard it as a protest against the right of intervention of the United States. The consideration is this:

THE SUN has often laid stress on the danger of a continental coalition, a sort of embargo against England, whose expansion it sought to check, as well as to prevent the creation of an Anglo-African empire extending from the Cape of Good Hope to the Nile. Russia and Germany have more than once suggested fascinating combinations to the Quai d'Orsay, with the object of opposing an unbreakable barrier to the maritime supremacy of John Bull. Although, on account of national sentiment, France has been unwilling or unable to come into these agreements; the Continent, tacitly, naturally, as it were, fell into step in a march against the policy of the British Foreign Office. Events in Africa and in the extreme East more than prove this. England saw that a formidable opposition to her was being formed, and feared lest she should undergo the fate of Carthage and Venice.

It is this feeling and these facts that have given Mr. Chamberlain his great popularity and the authority with which the English people have invested him. Mr. Chamberlain and his followers believe that England has allowed the opportune moment to slip by when these latest coalitions might have been stopped short and England might have waved once more triumphantly the sovereign trident of Neptune. It would, however, be even more dangerous for her to delay longer without striking a resounding blow either in Africa or in the extreme East.

In such a dramatic situation England hails with joy the Spanish-American war, which affords her two immense opportunities—to win for herself the friendship of Washington, and to seize the opportunity of flaunting her ensign throughout the whole world.

What is especially feared in Europe is an understanding between the Foreign Office and the White House, an understanding which England would use by opposing to Continental compacts the friendship and magic of the starry flag. The British mind counts on the unity of race and religion, on the temporary embarrassments of the United States, on the views of the White House about the extreme East, on the powerful navy which America will create, as a natural corollary of her recent progress. In the imagination of Continental Europe, of Frenchmen especially, a phantom is taking shape of a naval alliance of which John Bull would make use against the Continent. They ask themselves with anxiety if it is not permissible to fear in the distant future an agreement between England, the United States, and Japan. Will the United States accept the guardianship or the programme of London? Will they put their young power and their immeasurable future at the service of the ambitions of the modern Venice? Will they bind up their fate with the beginnings of old age in this nation of tradesmen, loaded down with glory, but at the same time with crimes and curses? At the moment when Carthage sees her star sink below the horizon will the starry flag form an alliance with that dying world?

Will not the United States rather preserve its noble and proud independence in order to play the first part in the history of the world? England and the Continent, sooner or later, will enter upon a duel to the death. The United States will hold the decision in its hands, if it knows enough to retain its freedom and its distant solitude.

These are the views of true observers and sincere friends of the United States. They fear lest the United States in an hour of conflict allow itself to be drawn by England into a path dangerous to its liberties and its fundamental interests. They have the foreboding that the entry of the United States by itself into the general politics of the world opens up a new period in the history of humanity. Machiavelli and Richelieu, the philosopher and the realiser of great diplomatic hegemonies, once taught that a people entering on a broader life should never attach its fortunes to those of a power that is decaying. It is the marriage of an old man to a robust young girl—a marriage worthy of reprobation and sure to be sterile.

INNOMINATO.

$1,350,000 More Gold Engaged in Europe.

An additional import gold engagement, amounting to $1,350,000, was announced in Wall street yesterday by Lazard Frères, making the total of the import movement from Europe, which began on Feb. 25, $62,616,850.

SPAT IN THE SPANIARD'S FACE.

Laborde Returns An Insult He Received While a Prisoner from Col. Cortijo.

KEY WEST, Fla., May 5.—When fate threw Col. Vincent Cortijo into the hands of the Nashville by the capture of the Argonauta it gave to one of the Spanish officer's deadliest enemies a chance to be revenged. The pilot of the Nashville was Alfredo Laborde, the Captain of the filibustering vessel Competitor, who was captured by the Spaniards.

Laborde, together with the rest of the crew was imprisoned in the Cabanas prison where Cortijo was the commandant. When Laborde was brought before the Spanish officers the latter heaped insults upon him and spat in his face. After the Cuban's release through the efforts of the Government he joined the insurgent army, for a time and eventually came to Key West, where he became the Nashville's pilot when the fleet sailed to blockade Cuba.

As soon as the prisoners were taken from the Arganauta and put on board the Nashville Laborde recognised his enemy, and became beside himself with rage.

"Do you remember?" he demanded of Cortijo.

"No," was the reply.

"Then perhaps this will make you," said the Cuban and he spat in the Colonel's face.

Had the officers of the Nashville not interfered the pilot would have assaulted the prisoner. He was arrested, and was released only upon his promise not to annoy the Spaniard again.

It was said here to-night that Laborde's friends had planned to assassinate Cortijo as he was being put on board of the steamer for Miami, but there is no evidence of such a conspiracy.

LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

Franz Rummel, who returned to this country last winter and appeared at a series of recitals that failed to gain for him the praise formerly his, has lately gone back to Berlin and the reports from that city confirm the impressions concerning his health which were current during his presence in New York. It was thought here that he was in bad health and that his failure to play with his customary success was due to that fact. This now appears to have been true, as Prof. Rummel—he is the only well-known pianist who clings to the title of his pedagogic days—has gone to a sanitarium for treatment for an attack of nervous prostration. The reports of his condition are not of a character to alarm any of his friends and the conclusion of his physicians seems to be that he is merely in need of rest and treatment for several weeks. Raoul Pugno has lately reappeared with his customary success in Paris and has expressed himself as delighted with this country, which, in view of his experiences, sounds forgiving. Paderewski is to play only once this year in London and Rosenthal has already given his last concert there. Joseffy is going abroad this summer and may be heard in London. It will be interesting to observe his experiences there. London is always wary of artists that come from this country even if they are as great as Joseffy or Anton Seidl. It waits as long as possible before any commensurate acknowledgment of their merits is given. That attitude was never more strikingly exemplified than in Anton Seidl's case. A European reputation, on the other hand, has always a dazzling effect. "From La Scala and the Grand Opéra House at Paris," is still a phrase that makes criticism blink. But the artists who are chiefly identified with this country are long considered before they are frankly praised in London.

A member of the Philharmonic Society told a SUN reporter yesterday that if Emil Paur came to New York it was entirely on his own responsibility, as not 5 per cent. of the men in the orchestra wanted him as conductor. Mr. Paur is coming to New York, according to this authority, because he believes there is a future for him here; but the Philharmonic is said to have made no attempt to secure his services. "He would be the last man in the world for the Philharmonic," this authority said, "because he would never be satisfied with our organization as it exists at present, and none of our men would be satisfied with any such reforms as he would undertake. The conductor who comes to the Philharmonic has got to be satisfied with the orchestra as it exists at present, and must be prepared to defer to all its habits and traditions. For that reason the new conductor is not likely to be an eminent foreigner or any native or American conductor who is looking for a reputation for himself. The right conductor is the man who will step in and resume the work of the orchestra at just the point it was left off by Anton Seidl. That may not be the best thing for the orchestra, but it is the thing that will happen beyond a doubt. No man who comes with the object of changing or reorganizing will be thought of for a moment. Anton Seidl was in charge of the orchestra for six years, and in all that time he succeeded in getting only one man into the orchestra and in having only three others promoted. That is enough to show what the spirit of the organization is. The probabilities are that the new conductor will be a local man willing to respect the Philharmonic traditions and at the same time have associations enough in New York to make his $3,000 income sufficient. That can be done only when a man has pupils or other engagements. Mr. Paur got $10,000 from the Boston Symphony Orchestra in lieu of the pension he would have received in Europe."

Julian Potter has now been a theatrical agent for three years, and he is seriously in the business, despite the fact that his experience, which began with Burr McIntosh, has been confined chiefly to looking after the fortunes of his fellow members of the Lambs' Club. Mr. Potter's affiliation with theatrical matters began after his marriage to an actress who was a sister of the late Annie Pixley. Another man at one time as active and conspicuous in society as Mr. Potter was R. L. Cutting, who since his marriage to a popular actress has been concerned chiefly with the stage. Mr. Cutting has never taken the active part in amusements that Mr. Potter hopes to since he ceased to act, about five years ago. Not many years ago these men were as conspicuous in society as any two in New York. But the satisfactions of theatrical life have proved so complete to both of them that they are now occupied only with it.

To no citizen of the United States does the news of the fall of Manila bring more personal satisfaction than to Earle Walter Blodgett, formerly of Yonkers. In the summer of 1896 the Spanish officials in Manila nagged and pestered the general merchandise firm of Warner, Blodgett & Co. of Manila. The firm was under American protection. Blodgett was the only American member. The Spanish customs officials received 75 per cent. of all fines imposed on shippers. Warner, Blodgett & Co. was the only American firm on the island. The officials knew that the Madrid Government would wink at the pillage of an American firm, and thought, too, that they knew that Americans were not the sort of people who would ever force a day of reckoning. In twenty-two months the Collector of the port of Manila and his assistants divided $78,999.60 as their shares of the fines paid by Mr. Blodgett's firm. The sort of offences for which the fines were demanded is shown by this instance: A barge load of cobblestones was found to be six or eight short of the number listed in the manifest. The firm was fined $100 for each missing cobblestone. The fine had to be deposited before the case was adjudicated. And once the fine was deposited the adjudication was "manana."

The Zafiro, now a supply ship with Commodore Dewey's squadron, belonged to the firm. It was the action of the Spanish in libelling her for fining her Captain more than $50,000 that led to the final smash. Merchants would not trust goods in Warner, Blodgett & Co.'s ships after that.

The firm's business was so injured and depleted that it was forced to close up business on June 30, 1896. Warner and Barnes, who were Englishmen, took over its affairs and formed an English firm. Blodgett was employed by them as confidential clerk. Under the British flag they prospered. Blodgett was in this city last summer, but returned to Manila. When the friction between the United States and Spain became acute, he went to Hong Kong, where he is now. He was born in New York in 1857. He was graduated at William and Mary in 1879, and went to the Philippines in 1881 as a sugar analyst.

NO STATE AQUEDUCT GUARD.

Gov. Black Unable to Appoint Men to Protect New York City's Water Supply.

ALBANY, May 5.—Gov. Black said to-day that he could not grant the request contained in a communication from the New York city Aqueduct Commissioners asking that twenty or thirty extra patrolmen be appointed to prevent the waters of the Aqueduct reservoirs from being poisoned by Spaniards or Spanish sympathizers.

He directed Judge Lincoln, his legal adviser, to investigate the question, and the Judge reported to him at noon to-day that the State was not empowered to employ these men. Judge Lincoln expressed the opinion that the appointment and payment of extra men lay entirely within the jurisdiction of New York city, and that if it was desired to give these men police powers they could be made deputy sheriffs in the counties in which they were to serve.

Gov. Black said that the fear was not that Spaniards might blow up the Aqueduct and thus cut off the city's water supply, but that the water might be poisoned.

WAR MUNITIONS AT MANILA

PLENTY OF COAL AND POWDER THERE IF DEWEY CAN FIND IT.

Blanco Put Up Many Big Krupp Guns Under Cavite Fort and in the City, but They Are Poorly Handled—Ex-Consul Elliott Doubts if Our Fleet Was Very Much Damaged.

Isaac M. Elliott of New York, who was United States Consul at Manila before the outbreak of the last insurrection in the Philippines, believes that Commodore Dewey should now have no great difficulty in raising the American flag over the residence of the Governor-General of the islands. Mr. Elliott was at Manila three years.

"The harbor is strongly defended by modern high-power guns," said Mr. Elliott yesterday. "When I say strongly defended I mean in comparison with other Asiatic forts. Within a very short time the defences of the harbor have been greatly strengthened.

"When I first entered the magnificent bay of Manila, where, as has been well said, all the navies of the world might anchor and leave many square miles of water unoccupied, I thought how easily its few batteries could be silenced by a few of our warships. Then very few modern guns were mounted, and these

THE KRUPP GUNS IN MANILA'S DEFENCES.

were poorly protected from attack by ships. But while I was stationed at Manila Governor-General Blanco devoted a great deal of attention to strengthening the old fortifications. New guns from Europe were mounted in modern earthworks, and strong garrisons of Spanish troops were brought from Spain to man them.

"Cavité fortress was made the principal stronghold. The town of Cavité lies on the southeastern shore of the great bay, some twenty miles from the quarantine station at the harbor entrance, and ten miles from Manila. For twenty years the town has been in the control of the insurgents. But the ancient fortress which defended the harbor when Draper raised the English flag in Manila is impregnable to infantry attack. The insurgents, with their bows and arrows and old muskets, have assailed it in vain. The castle stands upon a rise of ground and reminds one of Morro Castle at the entrance of Havana harbor. With its masonry walls and smooth-bore guns it would be useless in defending the harbor against modern warships.

"On the Cavité peninsula, between the castle and the shore, modern earthworks were thrown up. Under Blanco they were not more than ten feet high, but thick enough to stop the heaviest projectiles of modern guns. Behind the earthworks were mounted eight 8-inch breech-loading guns, built in Germany by the Krupps. They were mounted on barbette, non-disappearing carriages and comparatively close together. Here in New York harbor our big guns are mounted on disappearing carriages and placed many yards apart. Shipboard guns cannot reach them. At Cavité it was entirely different. The great Krupp guns were exposed to the fire of ships and the men behind them would find their positions untenable at the approach of an attacking warship.

"Near the southern shore of the Pasig River, which divides the modern business portion of Manila from the old walled town, modern batteries were erected. Manila Fortress, a short time ago, had only brass and iron smooth-bore guns, but Blanco transformed the place. Above the driveway along the shore, just below the old fortress, strong earthworks were thrown up. Two batteries of two guns each were located between the mouth of the Pasig and the Luneta, the fashionable promenade. The guns were 10-inch Krupps. While I was in Manila a third battery was constructed still further south, between the Luneta and the Cavité. The two guns mounted there were 13-inch Krupps, the most powerful in the harbor.

"These fourteen Krupps made up the modern armament of the interior harbor fortifications. Within two years fortifications have been built at the entrance of the harbor. Manila Bay, you know, is not far from forty miles wide, north and south. From the quarantine station to Manila is a twenty-eight mile stretch of water. Even between Cavité and Manila the distance is so great that a fleet could lie at anchor between them without being in danger from the firing of either fort.

"The harbor entrance is twelve miles wide. Corregidor Island lies in the entrance, about two miles from the north shore. The shore and the island were fortified with heavy Krupp guns, varying in calibre from eight inches to twelve. Two years ago Corregidor Island was without a gun. The number of guns mounted there since I do not know. Across on the shore, at Mariveles, Governor-General Primo de Rivera constructed a strong fortification. But these new forts had the same weak points as the old.

"Commodore Dewey's passage of these modern forts was a courageous performance, but I do not believe there was any great loss of life on our ships. It wouldn't surprise me to hear that not a man was lost. The cable reports seem to indicate that our fleet divided, a part entering the main ship channel between Corregidor and Mariveles and the other ships taking the southwest channel. The former is used by ships from Hong Kong and the latter by the traders from Singapore and other southern ports. When Dewey had passed the entrance forts he had to steam fifteen miles or more before he was within range of the interior forts. Our whole navy could go through the squadron evolutions in Manila Bay without getting within range of the forts.

"Why do I think Dewey suffered little loss? You evidently have never witnessed Spanish target practice. Spanish gunners had plenty of opportunity of firing the big guns while I was in Manila. I went out one day to watch the practice. A raft carrying a great wooden target was towed a mile out from shore and the batteries began to pepper away at it. The bay was lashed into foam by the 8 and 10 inch shells, which ricochetted far out. At the end of the day's practice the target was towed back to shore. I couldn't find a splinter knocked off.

"Manila was well garrisoned. In addition to two or three regiments of Spanish troops, Blanco had ten regiments of volunteers organized when I left the islands. They were armed with Mauser rifles and were well drilled. The native regiments are officered by Spaniards. With an American fleet bombarding the town I don't think the volunteers would be of any great service to Spain. The love of liberty is too strong among them. America to them is the great liberator of oppressed people. Since Congress took a hand in the Cuban question two winters ago, the Philippine Islanders have been more determined in their opposition to their Spanish rulers, and they have expected the American people to aid them.

"Commodore Dewey ought to find 50,000 tons of coal at Manila. Blanco always kept a reserve supply of this amount stored up in the town, and unless the new Governor-General has confiscated the coal to prevent its use by our ships, fully 50,000 tons should be there now. The islands have coal beds, but they have never been worked. We should hold the Philippines as a coaling station and mine the coal, which I think will be found in considerable quantities.

"Coal was discovered on the island of Mindoro while I was stationed at Manila. Typhoons, you know, are frequent in the Philippines. In the great typhoon of Sept. 17, 1896, the American trading ship Richard Parsons, from some Maine port, was wrecked off the southern coast of Mindoro. This island is about a hundred miles south of Manila. Six of the crew of the Parsons were lost. The other thirteen walked barefoot across the island to the north shore, some fifty or sixty miles, to the nearest port. On the way they found a coal ledge. When the news reached Manila the Europeans in town prepared to hunt up the coal and mine it, but the Spanish Supreme Court practically forbade the mining of the coal by announcing an exorbitant tax on every ton which should be mined. Coal has also been found on the northern coast of the island of Luzon, but Spain has confiscated the machinery of Europeans who have attempted to mine it. Coal sold for $13 a ton when I was in the islands.

"Powder, too, is stored up in large quantities. The magazines are in the hills some five or six miles back of Manila. Powder was brought from Spain in the mail steamers, unloaded at night, and carted up to the magazines while the town was asleep. I found this out one night when I was awakened by the creaking of the powder carts. The people in the town knew little about the magazines. The Navy Department does not know of this powder, unless the Consul who succeeded me learned of its existence. I wrote to Secretary Long to-day to tell him about these magazines. Commodore Dewey will find them valuable."

RED CROSS ISSUES AN APPEAL.

Funds Called for to Carry on Its Great Scheme of Relief Work.

The American National Red Cross Relief Committee met in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday afternoon, Bishop Potter presiding, William T. Wardwell read a telegram from Clara Barton approving of the movement, and then the Chairman asked Mr. Wardwell, as Chairman of the Executive Committee, to make his report. Mr. Wardwell said that the Executive Committee thought it necessary to make the following appeal:

"The American National Red Cross Relief Committee, acting under the auspices of the American National Red Cross, has for its objects the collection of funds for providing medical and surgical attendance, nursing, medical supplies, food, clothing, and such necessary assistance as may be required by the American National Red Cross upon call of the United States Government during the present war, in order to unify all endeavors to that end.

"Under provisions of the Geneva Conference, from which every National Red Cross derives its authority, the American National Red Cross is directed to provide such relief as may be required by all, without recognition of friend or foe, who may suffer from the calamities incidental to war, pestilence, or famine.

"The Red Cross here and throughout the civilized world, by a wide and varied experience in recent wars, recognizing, by international treaty, the sacred obligations of helpfulness for the suffering, wherever found, has so perfected its organization that it becomes the recognized and legitimate channel for contributions from all classes of individuals and every variety of auxiliary association.

"For the purpose of properly systematizing the benevolent impulses of the general public and of giving proper direction for efficient Red Cross work the committee solicits the co-operation of individuals and auxiliary associations throughout the country, confident that through such means the various funds and articles collected can most safely and most directly reach their ultimate destination."

The appeal was signed by the following: Bishop Potter, August Belmont, John P. Faure, Morris K. Jesup, Alexander E. Orr, A. S. Solomons, Frederick D. Tappen, George F. Shrady, T. Gaillard Thomas, A. Monal Lesser, William T. Wardwell, John D. Crimmins, Edwin Langdon, John Rockefeller, John S. Huyler, Jacob H. Schiff, William R. Stewart, Levi P. Morton, Charles Stewart Smith, Father Malone, D. Willis James, William G. Low, Edwin Gould, John S. Kennedy and Bishop Andrews.

Mr. Faure moved that a committee of three be appointed to establish communication between the Relief Committee and the United States Government. The motion was carried and the Chair increased the number to five, appointing Levi P. Morton, Dr. A. M. Lesser, Dr. George F. Shrady, Dr. T. Gaillard Thomas and William T. Wardwell.

Mr. Faure announced that Edwin Langdon, President of the Central National Bank, 320 Broadway, had given the committee the use of a room in the bank building and that room 309 had been selected. All inquiries can be addressed to the American National Red Cross Relief Committee there or at the Red Cross Hospital, 233 West 100th street.

Mr. Orr offered the Chamber of Commerce rooms for business meetings.

Mrs. Lesser received the following notification of her appointment as sister-in-chief yesterday:

"DEAR MADAM: I take great pleasure in informing you of your appointment as sister-in-chief of the staff of nurses and the hospital work of the American National Red Cross. This action was recently taken by the Board of Directors in confirmation of your informal appointment by Miss Barton at the time you joined her in the field work at Havana, Cuba.

"I beg to say that it is very probable Miss Barton will issue a call for you to join her in the near future, although I have no definite advice from her at this moment. You are, of course, expected to hold yourself in readiness to respond to her call with the least possible delay.

"Permit me to congratulate you upon this appointment as heartily as I congratulate ourselves that we have a lady so capable to serve us in this post of honor. Very sincerely yours,

"STEPHEN E. BARTON, Second Vice-President."

SHOT TWO MEN AND HIMSELF.

Farmer Schucker Attempts a Double Murder and Then Commits Suicide.

ERIE, Pa., May 5.—Peter Schucker, a well-known farmer, aged 50, shot and fatally wounded George Henderson and Edward Skinner near here this evening and then committed suicide. Henderson was pathmaster and was in charge of a road scraper in front of Schucker's house. Schucker warned him not to cut down a ditch, but it was thought necessary to do so. The work was going on when the infuriated man rushed into the barn and, securing a shotgun, opened fire on the men. The weapon was wrested from him and placed in the barn.

WAR WAS UNAVOIDABLE.

ON THIS THEORY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE APPROVES IT.

Resolutions Offered by Seth Low Pledging Support to the Government Adopted by the Chamber Yesterday—Mr. Low Delivers a Lecture on the Ethics of the Situation.

With the American and British flags decorating the platform, the Chamber of Commerce devoted the greater portion of its 130th annual meeting yesterday to patriotic oratory.

President Alexander E. Orr requested the suspension of the regular order of business temporarily in order that Seth Low might offer the following resolutions:

"*Whereas*, The people of the United States, by the almost unanimous action of their Government, are at war with Spain for the purpose of s curing for the people of Cuba a free and stable Government; and

"*Whereas*, Every instinct of humanity and patriotism demands that, in such a controversy, the people sustain the Government with all their power; therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, mindful of its own loyal and patriotic past, hereby pledges its unqualified and hearty support to the President and Congress of the United States in the conduct of the war.

"*Resolved*, That the Chamber will willingly and heartily bear its share of the common burdens, whatever they may be, to the end that such a peace may speedily be obtained as will inure to the benefit of our Cuban neighbors, and to the domestic quiet and prosperity of the United States.

"*Resolved*, That a committee of thirty members, of which the President of the Chamber shall be Chairman, be appointed to take such action as may, from time to time, be necessary, in order to give to this action of the Chamber its greatest possible efficiency and value.

"*Resolved*, That the thanks and congratulations of the Chamber be offered to Commodore Dewey and the gallant officers and crews of the Asiatic squadron, who, by one blow, struck under circumstances of peculiar heroism, have relieved our Pacific coast from fear of attack, freed our merchant ships in the East from dread of capture, and, while adding new lustre to the brilliant annals of the American Navy, have helped importantly to shorten the war."

In speaking to the resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, Mr. Low said:

"As long as there was a hope of bringing about a permanent settlement of the questions in dispute by peaceful means, it was natural and becoming that the influence of this Chamber should have been thrown strongly into the scale in favor of a solution of the problem by the resources of diplomacy. But, for loyal Americans, the day has gone by for the discussion of that aspect of the trouble, except as an historical question. Our appeal has been taken 'to the considerate judgment of mankind;' and history never renders her verdict until time has illuminated and tested events. In the meanwhile, this, at least, may be said—that neither the Spanish Premier nor our own President desired war; and yet neither of them could avoid war.

"I have heard it said, nevertheless, in many quarters, that the war is needless and ought to have been avoided. In the same way it was said to me, not many months ago, that our civil war was needless and ought to have been avoided. Statements like these, in view of the event, seem to me to carry but little weight. The fact is that war has not been avoided and the reason why is not far to seek. Events beyond our control have created in both countries a public feeling which has rendered the people of each country, for the time being, probably incapable of doing full justice to the other. Under these circumstances war has come; and, in view of these circumstances, it seems to me it may justly be said that war was inevitable.

"For myself, I believe that history will sustain the attitude taken by the United States. Spain has shown herself a cruel mother to Cuba and a bad neighbor to us, and the most earnest opponent of the war can point to no circumstance in Spain's long dealings with her colonies to justify a hope that under her dominion the history of Cuba in the future would in any way differ materially from what it has been in the past. I firmly believe, therefore, that the United States, in this contest, is fighting the battle of humanity and the battle of civilization. And may God speed the right."

The resolutions were seconded by Levi P. Morton, William E. Dodge and Abram S. Hewitt.

President Orr announced the appointment of the following as the committee authorized by Mr. Low's resolutions: Seth Low, Levi P. Morton, J. P. Morgan, Abram S. Hewitt, Carl Schurz, Whitelaw Reid, John A. Stewart, Charles S. Fairchild, William E. Dodge, John Sloan, Morris K. Jesup, Charles S. Smith, J. Edward Simmons, John S. Kennedy, Jacob H. Schiff, John Claflin, Richard A. McCurdy, John A. McCall, Samuel D. Babcock, John Crosby Brown, John Harsen Rhoades, August Belmont, William L. Strong, Thomas T. Eckert, John D. Rockefeller, William L. Trenholm, Henry B. Hyde, Henry W. Cannon and Isidor Straus.

THAT PUBLISHER DRUNK AGAIN.

Magistrate Deuel Thinks Human Nature a Deep, Uncertain, Unfathomable Quality.

When Magistrate Deuel was going downtown in an elevated railroad train, on his way to Essex Market Court, yesterday morning, a friend showed him an account of the arraignment on the day previous in the Centre Street Police Court of a publisher, who was charged with intoxication. It told how Magistrate Wentworth, when discharging the prisoner, made some comment on the whiskey-drinking habit among highly respectable men visiting the club of which Magistrate Wentworth is a member. After reading the story Magistrate Deuel remarked to his friend:

"I am pleased to read of such judgment on the part of my brother Magistrate. A Magistrate can accomplish lots of good in bringing men to a realization of the degradation and shame of being brought to a police court. The probabilities are that, if this man had been simply fined, the lesson would have been lost. By appealing to him in this manner Magistrate Wentworth undoubtedly made a deep impression on him. The chances are that this man will never again be seen in a police court."

When Magistrate Deuel took his seat on the bench in the Essex Market Court a short time afterward one of the first prisoners arraigned before him was the aforesaid publisher, who had been arrested Wednesday night by Detective Livingston of the Eldridge street station, who said that he found the prisoner intoxicated on the Bowery.

Magistrate Deuel recognized the prisoner, who did not deny his identity. A fine of $3 was imposed. The prisoner was unable to pay the fine and was locked up until a friend came to his rescue.

Turning to Clerk Adams, to whom he had narrated his conversation on the train, the Magistrate said: "Adams, human nature is a deep, uncertain, unfathomable quality, is it not?"

TICKER ORDERED OUT.

Customer Sues the Company, Which Pleads a Stock Exchange Mandate.

Henry M. Quinn & Co. of 150 Broadway moved before Justice Bischoff of the Supreme Court, yesterday, to make permanent a temporary injunction restraining the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company from removing a ticker from their place of business. It appeared that the defendant company has a contract with the New York Stock Exchange by which it is obliged to take away the ticker from any patron if the exchange so directs. The Exchange, it was said, required the removal of the ticker from the office of the plaintiff. It was urged that the exchange has no control over its news when it gets into the possession of the defendant, and that, any way, the ticker could not be removed, as the plaintiff has paid rent for the current month in advance. Decision was reserved.

Charge Against Broker Not Sustained.

The Governing Committee of the New York Stock Exchange, at a meeting which began at 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon and lasted until 7:40 o'clock, considered the charge preferred on April 21 against Charles Stokes, the Exchange member of the firm of Carley, Stokes & Co. It was stated after the meeting that the charge had not been sustained. The specifications were not made public, but the charge is believed to have some connection with the expulsion of E. R. Willard for reporting fictitious purchases on orders he received from Carley, Stokes & Co.

CAB TOLLS ON THE BRIDGE.

Commissioner Shea Will Demand an Increase from the Railroad Companies.

Bridge Commissioner John L. Shea is to have a conference soon with representatives of the Brooklyn trolley companies in reference to a proposed increase in the tolls for crossing the bridge. He contends that the present rate of five cents per car is inadequate and will probably ask that it be increased to ten cents. Should the companies refuse to increase the rate Mr. Shea will refer the whole matter to the Corporation Counsel with a view to legal action. Mr. Shea said yesterday:

"It is not expected that the railroads should pay the entire cost of maintaining the bridge, yet they should be willing to pay a fair proportion and meet the bridge officials half way, especially as they are operating on the bridge at a profit. It is not my intention to be hard on the railroads or to make them pay an excessive rate simply because they are corporations. It is my intention to make the bridge what it should be, self-supporting."

This is a part of the report submitted by the bridge engineers to Mr. Shea in regard to the new traffic system on the structure:

"Under the present contracts the average number of trollers crossing the bridge daily is 3,200, which, at 5 cents per car, gives the bridge a yearly revenue of $58,000. The estimated number of elevated cars that will cross the bridge under the present contract is 1,600, which, at 12½ cents per car, will afford a yearly revenue of $73,000. In addition to this the bridge will, with both trolley and elevated cars running, have an estimated income from its local railroad of $329,000, and, furthermore, its income will be increased by $107,000 from rentals and $84,000 from the roadways; or a total yearly income of $652,000. Last year the revenue of the bridge was $1,240,000, and, on the basis of the above figures, the bridge officers have, under the contracts with the local railroads, a deficiency of $588,000 to face. In addition to this there are bridge bonds outstanding to the amount of $17,768,566.66, on which the yearly interest amounts to $921,591.66."

AMUSEMENTS.

"Battles of the Nation," a Show Meant to Catch the War Spirit of the Time.

A show entitled "Battles of the Nation" was given at the Academy of Music last night. It was meant to catch the war spirit of the time. The scenes began just prior to our war of the Revolution, and extended through that of 1812 against Great Britain, of 1847 against Mexico, and of 1861 against the South, down to that of 1898 against Spain. The long succession of battle views, some painted on canvas and others alive with men in the uniforms of the various armies concerned, were interspersed with patriotic songs, characteristic dances, and allegorical tableaux. But in all there was not the touch of an artistic hand. Everything was crude, and many things were ludicrous. The performers were clumsy. The mimic encounters were ridiculously unimpressive. The tableaux gave less opportunity for blunders in the execution, but the illumination was so badly managed that no illusion was attained. Dr. G. E. Conterno was by all odds the most successfully spectacular exhibit. He was the arranger of the affair, and in personally conducting the large orchestra he stood on a rather high platform. Thus conspicuously displayed, he wore a white suit, coat fitted snugly to the curves of his back and waist, while his breast was gay with medals and badges. He was a resplendent figure, calculated to drive the comparatively dull and common Sousa out of the business. He was a wholly satisfying object to gaze upon. But "Battles of the Nation," while it might have been tolerable as a patriotic outbreak in Schenectady for the diversion of its participants and their friends, was a foolish impertinence in New York as an entertainment fit to sell to the general public.

TROLLEY LINE TO SARATOGA.

Signs of the Extension of the Electric Railroad from Albany and Troy.

ALBANY, May 5.—An increase of the capital of the Stillwater and Mechanicsville Street Railway Company from $60,000 to $250,000 was approved to-day by the State Railroad Commission. The increase is to be used by the company in the construction of a new line to run from Mechanicsville to Waterford, where it is to connect with the Troy City Railway. This is taken to mean that it is only a question of time when an electric through line will extend from Troy and Albany to Saratoga Springs.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.

Sun rises.... 4 54 | Sun sets.. 7 01 | Moon rises. 8 21

HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.

Sandy Hook. 7 03 | Gov.Isl'd. 7 35 | Hell Gate.. 9 28

Arrived—THURSDAY, May 5.

Ss Norge, Knudsen, Copenhagen April 19 and Christiansand 22d.
Ss Oldenburg, Gathemann, Bremen April 23.
Ss Mayfield, Goode, Madeira.
Ss Methley Hall, McQuarrie, Rotterdam.
Ss Cedardene, Balls, Cardiff.
Ss Horda, Svendsen, Bremen.
Ss Elise Marie, Reimers, Hamburg.
Ss Washington, Dincklage, Hamburg.
Ss Strathisla, Osborne, Swansea.
Ss Lydarhorn, Hammersa, Shanghai.
Ss Hindoustan, Fiawe, Hamburg.
Ss Heathfield, McKenzie, Funchal.
Ss El Dorado, Baker, New Orleans.
Ss Chattahoochee, Lewis, Savannah.
Ss Gate City, Georgias, Boston.
Ss Richmond, Hiller, Norfolk.
Ss H. M. Whitney, Hallett, Boston.

[For later arrivals see First Page.]

ARRIVED OUT.

Ss Germanic, from New York, at Queenstown.
Ss Mohawk, from New York, at London.
Ss Fuerst Bismarck, from New York, at Southampton.
Ss Laughton, from New York, at Curacao.
Ss Amsterdam, from New York, at Rotterdam.
Ss Mississippi, from New York, at London.
Ss Patria, from New York, at Hamburg.
Ss August Korff, from New York, at Cuxhaven.
Ss Peconic, from New York, at Trieste.

PASSED.

Ss Lackawanna, from New York for London, passed the Lizard.

SPOKEN.

Ship St. Frances, from Plymouth for New York, April 27, lat. 47 north, long. 18 west.
Bark East African, from New York for Sydney, N. S. W., April 12, lat. 27 south, long. 37 west.
Bark Laurelbank, from New York for Shanghai, March 29, lat. 5 north, long. 31 west.
Bark Firth of Lorne, from New York for Dunedin, April 11, lat. 24 north, long. 36 west.

SAILED FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

Ss Minnewaska, from London for New York.
Ss Olivedene, from Trinidad for New York.
Ss Obdam, from Rotterdam for New York.
Ss Alexandra, from London for New York.
Ss Aral, from Shields for New York.
Ss Charlois, from Rotterdam for New York.

SAILED FROM DOMESTIC PORTS.

Ss Excelsior, from New Orleans for New York.

OUTGOING STEAMSHIPS.

	Mails Close.	Vessel Sails.