

### WILL ABANDON TRIP

President McKinley Will Return Here From Frisco.

### HIS WIFE'S CONDITION IS SERIOUS

He Will Not Start Until Her Health Improves.

### SEC. LONG'S DAUGHTER ILL

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15.—It is learned that Mrs. McKinley's condition is considerably improved by the physician attending her. Doctors Rixey and Hirschfelder were in consultation this morning, and another physician will be called in this afternoon. It is probable that if she recovers Mrs. McKinley will be unable to leave San Francisco by next Monday, when the stay of the presidential party was to have terminated. The president will remain here with Mrs. McKinley.

### SAN FRANCISCO, May 15.—At 10 o'clock this morning Secretary Cortelyou informed the Associated Press that Mrs. McKinley's serious illness had compelled the President to abandon his proposed visit to other states, to which he had looked forward with so much pleasure. As soon as Mrs. McKinley's health permits he will return to Washington by the most direct route.

### ORDER GIVEN TO CAPTAIN'S SON

Sultan of Turkey Compliments the Commander of the Kentucky.

### ANTI-LANCHING ACT VALID

Ohio Supreme Court Passes on the Anti-Lanthing Case.

### TO REMODEL SHAMROCK II

Gang of Platers and Riveters Summoned to Southampton.

### HARD TO GET A JURY

Beginning of Trial of S. D. Stokes at Williamson, Va.

### SHOOTING AFFAIR IN DENVER

Mrs. Ewart Fires Two Shots at Joseph K. Choate.

### WILL BE TRIED IN SAVANNAH

Judge Brown Orders Removal of Green and the Gaynes.

### ANENT CHINA'S OFFER

Foreign Ministers at Peking Differ as to Terms.

### ONE SAYS IT IS RIDICULOUS

Thinks the Powers Should Exact the Last Centime.

### VIEWS OF SOME OTHERS

PEKING, May 15.—The foreign ministers refuse to allow themselves to be quoted for publication regarding the Chinese government's answer to the indemnity demand, but three of them have expressed their personal views of the matter.

### Important Point Involved

BERLIN, May 15.—Officials here, discussing the answer of the Chinese peace commissioners, say that the fact of prime significance is that the commissioners agree to the indemnities as demanded, and the withdrawal of the troops can now proceed forthwith, but that not all the foreign forces will be withdrawn at once.

### Change in Ships' Plans Approved

The Navy Department has approved plans for a change of construction of the new armored cruisers and battle ships.

### Naval Orders

Pay Director D. A. Smith has been detached from the Buffalo and placed on waiting orders.

### Inspection of Batteries

The War Department has issued a set of regulations for the inspection of all batteries or emplacements turned over to the artillery and of all appliances pertaining thereto which may be transferred to the artillery arm of the service.

### Musicians Elect Officers

DENVER, Col., May 15.—At the convention of the American Confederation of Musicians the following officers were elected: President, Joseph M. Webber of Cincinnati; secretary, Owen Miller of St. Louis; treasurer, Otto Wolford of St. Louis; first vice president, George N. Bachman of Baltimore; second vice president, Frank Spiegel, Denver; third vice president, John Thoburn, Denver; fourth vice president, L. G. Herie, Syracuse.

### Five Perished on the Paducah

ST. LOUIS, May 15.—Developments show that not more than five lives were lost in the wreck of the steamer City of Paducah on Mississippi river Sunday night.

### Fire at Woodsville, N. H.

WOODSVILLE, N. H., May 15.—Property in the business section of Woodsville, valued at about \$90,000, was destroyed by fire early today. Among the burned buildings were Music Hall and the Young Men's Club.

### Admiral Schley's Son Better

NEW YORK, May 15.—The condition of H. Winfield Schley, the son of Rear Admiral Schley, is said to show improvement today.

### Mechanics Strike at Seattle

SEATTLE, Wash., May 15.—The mechanics strike is in full swing in Seattle, the men in seven factories having gone out. They demand a nine-hour work day with the same pay as now, working ten hours per day.

### Mr. Uhl in Comatose Condition

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., May 15.—Edwin F. Uhl still lingers in a comatose condition, but the end is expected at any moment.

### RECIPROcity WITH CUBA

SUBJECT OF CONFERENCES AMONG OFFICIALS.

### Senator Platt of Connecticut Has a Long Talk With Acting Secretary Hill.

Senator Platt of Connecticut, who is chairman of the Senate committee on Cuban relations, had a long informal talk today with Dr. Hill, acting secretary of state, on the general subject of the Cuban situation. The senator is here on other business, but being much interested in the Cuban question, visited the State Department and the insular bureau of the War Department to talk over the situation with reference to present and possible future conditions. Yesterday he had a long talk on the subject with Col. Edwards, chief of the insular bureau.

### Improving the Potomac

Practical Completion of the Embankments on the Reclaimed Area—Deposits Left by Freshet in April.

### Good Progress in Dredging the River.

Colonel Allen, the engineer officer in charge of the improvement of the Potomac river, has made a report to General Gillespie, chief of engineers, in regard to the progress of the work in his charge.

### Col. Suter's New Duties.

Ordered to New York as President of the Board of Engineers.

### Large Residence Site.

Another spacious residence site has just been purchased. The ground adjoining on the east the home of the Misses Patten, on Massachusetts avenue between 21st street and Florida avenue, has been sold.

### Commander Roper's Funeral.

Navy Officers Will Go Over to Annapolis to Attend Services.

### Movements of Naval Vessels.

The Massachusetts has arrived at the New York navy yard. The Scorpion has arrived at Greenport, Miss. The Indiana has left Hampton Roads for Annapolis.

### French Dramatist Has New Additional

It is possible that Edmond Rostand, the noted French dramatist, may visit America during the stay in this country of his sister, Madame de Margerie, the wife of the new first secretary of the French embassy. Rostand has been quite ill of late, but when seen in Paris just before Mr. de Margerie started for this country, he was quite recovered and was busily engaged on a new play for Madame Bernhardt. He expects to be pressed to come to America, and it is hoped that his inclination will take definite form at a later day.

### Gen. Van Rensselaer Designated.

Surgeon General Van Rensselaer of the navy has been designated to represent the navy at the meeting of the American Association of Military Surgeons at St. Paul on May 27, and at the American Medical Association meeting at St. Paul on June 4.

### Postage Stamp Books Initiated.

Edwin C. Madden, chief assistant postmaster general, has been informed that the plan inaugurated by him of selling postage stamps in books has been adopted by the postal administration of Austria-Hungary.

### MURDER OR SUICIDE

Mysterious Death of Census Office Clerk in Hotel Room.

### HORRIBLE DISCOVERY THIS MORNING

Shots Fired at Midnight and Woman Seen on Fire Escape.

### DETECTIVES INVESTIGATING

James Seymour Ayres, twenty-one years old, who was employed as a clerk in the census office and was a resident of Port Austin, Mich., was found dead in his room in the Kenmore Hotel on North Capitol street, near the Capitol, about 5:30 o'clock this morning.

### Theory of Suicide.

Policeman Brady and several guests of the hotel felt satisfied that the young man had committed suicide, although they assigned no motive. It was stated that he had attended the dental school of Columbian University and had been considerably worried about his examination. He was in excellent spirits when he retired last night, it is stated, and those who saw him about midnight declare he was in no frame of mind likely to cause him to take his own life.

### Headed Pistol Shots.

Among the several persons in the house who heard the reports of the pistol shots fired from the room of the deceased, Mr. Wiggins said he heard the shots in rapid succession, and I left my room to make inquiries. I saw what I thought was a man's head on the fire escape at the window of Ayres's room, but it turned out to be a skull.

### Regarded as Important Witness.

The most important witness found by the detectives was Mr. Thomas M. Baker, a clerk in the office of the fish commissioner, who boards at the house of Mrs. Lancaster, adjoining the Kenmore.

### Repairs to the Post Office.

Controller Tracewell has ruled, in regard to the appropriation of \$1,300 for repairs to the Washington post office, that if day labor is to be hired the appropriation will not be applicable after the close of the present fiscal year.

### Commissary at Washington Barracks.

Capt. Morton J. Henry, commissary, recently appointed, stationed at Philadelphia, has been ordered to this city for duty as commissary at the Washington Barracks.

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### FOR COAST DEFENSE

Chain of Torpedo Boat Headquarters to Be Established.

### NAVAL BOARD LEAVES FOR THE SOUTH

Members Will Consider Best Points to Be Selected.

### LARGE FLOTILLA COMPLETED

The members of the naval board appointed to devise a scheme of practical usefulness for the torpedo flotilla rapidly nearing completion left today for Pensacola, Fla., where they will hold a meeting Saturday morning and consider the establishment of a series of torpedo headquarters along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts. Although the plan is still in embryo, it is now practically decided to begin with the establishment of three main divisions; one along the north Atlantic at some central point, say New London, Conn.; another at a convenient point on the south Atlantic, probably at Port Royal, and a third on the Gulf of Mexico, probably at Pensacola.

### Purpose of the Trip.

These points are merely suggested thus far, and it is the purpose of the trip to determine more definitely what points offer the best facilities as central rendezvous for a group of torpedo boats. When these chief points are located, the purpose is to gradually add other stations contiguous to the main points, until there is a line of torpedo headquarters extending along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. In time of peace, these points would serve chiefly as yards and depots where the small craft could be drawn up and stored, and in time of war they would be part of the strategic defense of the country, giving the entire coast protection in case of attack from the sea.

### Many Boats Practically Completed.

The statement issued by the Navy Department yesterday on the condition of vessels under construction shows that thirty more torpedo boats and destroyers were practically completed, many of them being so far advanced that they are undergoing their final trials. These will all be added to the flotilla within the coming summer, and with the large number already in commission, about fifteen, the torpedo board will determine upon a general line of policy as to the number of boats to be ordered, and will also determine the full resources of that branch of naval defense. Associated with him is Lieutenant Chandler, at present in charge of the construction branch of the navy, and a recognized authority on the use of torpedoes in naval warfare.

### SAFELY DEMOCRATIC.

What Mr. McCree Says of the Blue Grass State.

### Army Orders.

Capt. M. J. Henry, commissary, recently appointed, now at San Francisco, has been ordered to duty for duty at the Washington Barracks.

### Personal Mention.

Capt. T. V. Walker, Company C, 4th Battalion, D. C. N. G., who has been sick since the past month, is now able to resume his duties at the Post Office Department.

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