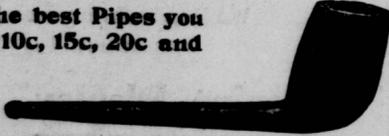


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Don't wait for them to come to dinner.

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B. CO. SPECIALLY CURED BACON.
The Best for Alaska.
FRYE-DRUM CO., Packers and Jobbers.

THIS MAN KNOWS OF MINES.

Electrical Engineer Has Important Information.

IS WILLING TO GIVE TESTIMONY.

In London Several Years Ago He Sold Peculiar Explosive Contrivances to Spanish Officers for Location in Havana Harbor—Maine Was Probably Destroyed by a Charge of 500 Pounds Gun Cotton

LONDON, March 5.—According to the statement of a man whose cards describe him as an electrical engineer, whose name cannot be disclosed, but has been forwarded to Washington, he sold to Spanish officers in London several years ago a large number of mines, eight or ten of which were placed in Havana harbor. He says they were made in a special way and had a specially peculiarly constructed cable, which he contends he can positively identify if the smallest piece is produced. Some of the mines, the man continues, were fixed so they could be fired from a fort, and two of them had bulbs, arranged so that they would explode on a vessel coming in contact with them. But the alleged electrical engineer adds that he does not believe the bulbs would be used in water as shallow as that of Havana harbor. He exhibited the plans of one of these mines, which, he pointed out, was the most likely to produce the effect described in the wreck of the Maine. It was numbered "2" and was constructed to contain 500 pounds of gun cotton. This is the story told by the man who gives one the impression that he has been sergeant of engineers, or has held some similar position. He was apparently thoroughly posted upon electrical matters and submarine mines. The man who made the foregoing statement is an Englishman, and he says he is willing to go to the United States as a witness.

IT WILL STARTLE AMERICA

Capt. Marx Intimates That the Experts' Report Will Be a Signal for War.

KEY WEST, March 5.—Capt. Marx, before sailing on the Mangrove today with the naval court of inquiry, referred to a statement that the court's investigation had failed to prove that the Maine had been blown up from the outside. "That's all bunk," he said. "Why can't they stop theorizing till we get ready to report. Then I assure you we will have some reading for the American people that will be interesting."

"Will it mean war?" was asked.

"That is a question I cannot answer now. Wait."

O'HIGGINS GOES TO SPAIN.

Chile's Fine Battleship Will Be Delivered to the Representatives of Madrid.

LONDON, March 5.—Further inquiries made on the subject confirm the report of the sale to Spain of the two cruisers which the Armstrongs have been building for Brazil. Inquiries further show that a representative of the Chilean government has been negotiating with a representative of the Spanish government for the sale of the battleship O'Higgins, and that the deal is practically completed whereby this splendid warship passes into Spain's possession. The ships which Spain has secured in France are two heavily armored defense vessels which Brazil ordered for service on the river Platte.

The Aguado Reaches Havana.

HAVANA, March 5.—The Spanish armored cruiser Almirante Aguado arrived in Havana harbor this morning from Spain. She received a hearty welcome from ferry-boats and tugs, on board of which were the civil and military authorities and different societies, which had been waiting for the warship's arrival. The docks were crowded with sightseers, rockets were sent up, and flags and other decorations were displayed from the vessels in port, public buildings and palaces. The Aguado made a fine appearance as she returned the salute from Fort Cabanas, and then saluted the fort and the admiral. Capt. Joaquin Lazas is in command of the Aguado.

SPAIN ASKED LEE'S RECALL.

The United States, However, Declined to Do This Under the Present Circumstances.

MADRID, March 5.—Senor Gullon, Spanish minister of foreign affairs, recently intimated to United States Minister Woodford that the Spanish government desired the recall from Havana of Consul General Lee, and that the American warships which have been designated to convey supplies to the relief of the sufferers in Cuba should be replaced by merchant vessels, in order to deprive the assistance sent to the reconcentrados of an official character. Minister Woodford cabled the request to the Washington government, which replied, refusing to recall Gen. Lee in the present circumstances or to countermand the orders for the dispatch of the war vessels, making the representation that the war vessels are not fighting ships.

Gen. Lee's Son at Havana.

HAVANA, March 5.—Fitzhugh Lee, Jr., son of Consul General Lee, was among the passengers who arrived today on board the Olivette.

Increase in Spain's Floating Debt.

MADRID, March 5.—The floating debt of Spain was augmented by 12,220,831 pesetas

COULD DECLARE WAR WITHIN 24 HOURS

American Government Considers No Public Question But the Loss of the Maine.

SPAIN MUST FERRET OUT PERPETRATORS OF THE CRIME.

Refusal Means an Outbreak of Hostilities, as Arbitration Would Be a Stain on National Honor—Spanish Court of Inquiry Will Give the Lie to Capt. Sampson—McKinley Has Options on Every Warship Under Construction Abroad.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Such a week as that which preceded the declaration of American independence, of the firing upon Fort Sumter, has been the one just closed.

The attention of the president and his cabinet has been devoted almost entirely to the Maine disaster and the consideration of what the immediate future may hold for this country.

The whole attitude of the administration can be summed up in a few words:

"Peace, if it may be with honor; war, if expected developments justify it, under usages of civilized nations."

The words of James G. Blaine to the minister to Chile at the time of the Baltimore incident have been frequently quoted:

"When you proposed arbitration, you evidently forgot that a matter affecting national honor is not a subject of arbitration."

There will be no arbitration. Spain must say for herself whether she will do what this government will demand: Express abhorrence at the murder of our blue-jackets and positive denial of any connection with or knowledge of the disaster, either before or after, and take active steps to ferret out and punish the criminals.

This done, there could be no war. No civilized nation at the close of the nineteenth century could proceed to thrash another after such an avowal.

These are the views of the administration. It has good reason to believe, however, that Spain will act very differently.

The American court of inquiry has discovered that the battleship was destroyed by an enemy. Who that enemy was, it is now trying hard to discover. The expected report may still be withheld for some time. Every method is being employed to get at the bottom facts.

Spain's court of inquiry, on the other hand, is ready to report. "Advices say the accident theory will be asserted by the Spaniards as a fact. The Spanish report will follow the American. This, internationally viewed, is the lie direct, and a casus belli. Hence the preparations noted in the press reports.

While congress is allaying excitement by adjourning from Friday to Monday, the party leaders in both houses have assured the president that a war measure could be passed in twenty-four hours.

Secretary of the Navy Long and Representative Hilborn, of the naval affairs committee, held a long interview with the president today. The secretary presented a vast amount of information collected by experts, including lists of all the war vessels in the world and their owners. No first-class battleships are for sale, but eight armored cruisers can be bought, with a number of torpedo boats, and the United States has already secured ninety-day options on every purchasable war vessel till the crisis is past.

More important, however, was the secretary's report on torpedo boats. Estimates from Bethlehem and the Carnegie Steel Works show that one hundred torpedo boats can be built and ready for service along the Atlantic coast in sixty days. The steel companies agree to furnish the plates for these boats in one week. These little destroyers are about one hundred feet in length. One of them is enough to protect any ordinary harbor from any battleship.

ALLAN B. SLAUSON.



Calderhead and the Real Head Enjoy Their Little Joke.

NOT A MOMENT IS BEING LOST

Preparations for Hostilities Continue Unabated.

EMERGENCY ORDER FOR COAL.

Secretary Long, Without Specific Authority, Contracts for 400,000 Tons, to Be Delivered at Key West Immediately—The Columbia to Go South at Once—Inspection of Ships Available in Time of War

PITTSBURG, March 5.—The Post tomorrow will say.

The United States government, by Secretary John D. Long, of the navy department, has just closed a contract with Peal, Peacock & Kerr, coal operators in the new Pittsburgh district, for delivery at Key West within forty days of 400,000 tons of coal. This contract is unauthorized by congress, but is made under the emergency clause, which permits the heads of national departments to make large expenditures on the national credit without specific authority when the occasion arises therefor. The contract calls for the delivery of 10,000 tons of coal per day at Key West for forty days, shipment to commence on or before April 1.

Cruiser Columbia Ordered South.

LEAGUE ISLAND, March 5.—It was reported at the navy yard this evening that Commandant Casey had received orders from the navy department today to send the cruiser Columbia south as soon as possible. The Columbia will be ready to leave the yard by the 15th inst. The tug Samoset, now at League Island, it is said, will accompany the Columbia and will probably be used as a dispatch boat by the squadron at Key West.

Brushing Up the Old Monitors.

PHILADELPHIA, March 5.—Work was begun today on the old monitors which for years have been lying at the League Island navy yard. There are eight of these old fighters—the Nahant, Lehigh, Jason, Montauk and Catskill, each of 1,375 tons' displacement, and the Canonicus, Mahopas and Manhattan, of 2,100 tons' displacement. Men were placed at work in the interior of the monitors. The machinery of the vessels will need but little attention. It is said that the monitors will be hauled out into the main channel, so that it can be ascertained just how they will respond to the working of their machinery. While this test is being made, the turrets will be turned and the guns put in operation. In the turret of each monitor are two 15-inch smooth-bore guns, capable of throwing a 500-pound projectile.

Inspecting All Available Vessels.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—A visit to the navy department today by Lieut. Kelly, of the United States navy, caused the immediate circulation of a report that the government was undertaking the inspection of all vessels of our merchant marine that might be available for naval service in case of need. Without doubt, the public excitement of the last few weeks has induced vessel owners seeking to take advantage of the subsidy act to submit their ships to the navy department for examination now, and this has resulted in unusual activity on the part of inspecting officers.

The Armored Cruiser Brooklyn Arrived at La Guayra, Venezuela.

The Newport, with the Nicaragua canal commission, arrived at Colon yesterday. The training ship Essex has sailed from Fort Monroe to Tompkinsville. The torpedo boat Winslow, which has been under repairs at the Norfolk navy yard, sailed today for Key West to join the flotilla.

Signing Every Available Seaman.

VALLEJO, CAL., March 5.—Admiral Kirkland has received telegraphic orders to instruct Capt. Louis Kempff, of the receiving ship Independence, to sign all the able-bodied seamen he can possibly pass. The Charleston, Yorktown and Philadelphia are the best ships now here, but little work is being done on them at present. Admiral Kirkland says that he can prepare these vessels for sea within six weeks. There are 500 men employed in the construction department, and orders have been issued for the employment of additional laborers.

The Olympia Will Not Come.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—It was decided this afternoon to abandon the projected order to the flagship Olympia to return to San Francisco from Hongkong. Without this fine ship the Asiatic squadron would be made up of gunboats and unprotected cruisers, without any great degree of defensive and no offensive force against armored ships. The cruiser Baltimore, now at Honolulu, has been selected to take the powder to be brought to that port by the Mohican further along to Hongkong for the vessels of the Asiatic squadron. Whether or not the ship will be attached to the squadron permanently has not yet been determined.

Could Resist Any Spanish Fleet.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 5.—Increased supplies of ammunition for high-power guns have been ordered by the war department from the Benicia arsenal to the forts at the Presidio and Lime point. Today twenty tons of powder and a large supply of projectiles will be placed on barges at Benicia and towed to the Presidio wharf. The supply of munitions at the arsenal, which will be almost exhausted by this shipment, will be replenished by a train load of ammunition from the East. Veteran army officers stationed at the Presidio are confident that the works at Fort Point and Fort Baker are now strong

—With Acknowledgments to Homer Davenport.