

enough to successfully resist any fleet that Spain could send to the Pacific.

Big Guns at Ballast Point. SAN DIEGO, Cal., March 5.—The third high-power gun for the Ballast point fortifications is being removed to the fortifications today. A large force of men is at work preparing the foundations for the big guns, but they will not be mounted at once unless orders to that effect are received from Washington, for it is proposed to allow the concrete foundation ample time to harden.

Examining Southern Fortifications. WASHINGTON, March 5.—The department of Gen. Wilson, chief of the engineering department, for the South is now admitted is for the purpose of inspecting fortifications and river and harbor improvements.

Getting Guns for Pensacola. NEW YORK, March 5.—A consignment of Gatling guns was sent to Pensacola today from the Brooklyn navy yard. They are intended for the naval militia of Florida. A consignment of other warlike supplies went with the guns.

LOOKING OUT FOR WARSHIPS

American Naval Representatives Negotiating for Vessels in England and the Continent.

NEW YORK, March 5.—A Herald special from Washington says:

The navy department has been carefully watching the construction abroad through the eyes of its naval attaches at London, Paris, St. Petersburg, Vienna and Rome. This surveillance has been maintained for two months, but more especially since the Maine disaster. Through the attaches and from the shipbuilders themselves the secretary of the navy has learned that he can purchase two small-sized battleships, two armored cruisers and four torpedo boats, all at comparatively low prices. The builders have promised that they can deliver the vessels to agents of this government at this time complete in every respect, and all that will be necessary for the administration to do will be to order the necessary details of officers and men to proceed to the ship yard, go on board the vessels and take them away to any point which may be desired. The builders have urged that the purchases be made at once, as they say that a declaration of war between the United States and Spain would result in the enforcement of the neutrality measure and prevent the sale of the ships.

The battleships and armored cruisers have been built by English and German firms for governments which are now unable to pay for them, and this government would be able to obtain the vessels by simply putting down the amount of cash.

The four torpedo boats have been offered by the Thornycroft Shipbuilding Company, whose boats are recognized by experts to be among the best in the world.

While your correspondent was unable to learn the names of the ships which have been offered to this government there is reason to believe that among them are three powerful ships under construction at the Vulcan Works, Stettin, Germany, for the Chinese government. These three ships are of 8,000 tons displacement, contracted to make 13.5 knots, and will be able to carry not less than 1,000 tons of coal in their bunkers.

There is also reason to believe that in case of trouble this government could purchase from Japan the Kasagi and the Chiosa, which are near completion, one at Philadelphia and the other at the Union Iron Works, San Francisco.

The official with whom your correspondent talked had no doubt that Japan would be willing to add the United States by selling the warships before the commencement of war.

NO OBSTACLES IN THE WAY.

Congress Undoubtedly Would Approve a Purchase of Warships at the Present Time.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Under ordinary circumstances the navy department would require authority from congress to purchase warships. There is no law which permits a larger exercise of authority in times of emergency than at other times. It is said, however, by the naval authorities that such emergency measures as might be required would have the subsequent approval of congress. A precedent is cited as to the purchase of a naval vessel in time of emergency without the assent of congress.

While Secretary Chandler was at the helm of the navy department, information reached here that the Greely Arctic expedition was in a perilous condition, and that relief was imperative without a day's delay, and it is now a matter of history that if the relief party had been twenty-four hours later in reaching Greely and his men the latter would have succumbed to starvation. None of the naval ships at the time were available. The Bear was offered for sale, however, and Secretary Chandler closed the contract for its purchase, stating at the time if congress failed to ratify the purchase and make the appropriation for the purchase price, he would hold himself personally responsible to the contractors. The Bear was soon on its relief mission and congress promptly ratified Mr. Chandler's course by an appropriation for the ship. She is now in the government service as a revenue cutter, on duty in Alaskan waters, having taken north the rescue party for the whalers. It is said this course of procedure would be followed in case of emergency at the present time.

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OREGON TO LEAVE AT ONCE.

The Huge Battleship Sails This Morning on Orders to San Francisco.

The battleship Oregon has received orders to proceed at once to San Francisco, and will leave her anchorage in the stream at the Puget sound naval station early this morning.

The Oregon, after being thoroughly overhauled and repaired, came off the drydock two weeks ago last Tuesday. Since then she has been at anchor in the stream. Her coal supply has been received from the steamer Rapid Transit.

The huge vessel is in excellent condition for an extended cruise or a scrimmage. She is clean and fresh looking as though just from the hands of her builders.

DRAFTING THE MAINE MEN

The Survivors Able for Duty Are Being Distributed Among Other Vessels of the Fleet.

KEY WEST, March 5.—The Malory steamer Tampassa, which sailed for New York today, has on board five survivors of the Maine. They are Master-at-Arms Lead, Cook Schwartz, Topik Russida and two stewards. They will be taken to the receiving ship Vermont and from there will be transferred to other ships.

Marines and sailors of the Maine now here and fit for duty were today distributed among the vessels of the fleet. The commissioned and warrant officers of the Maine have not yet received orders, but it is said that the orders are here, and as soon as the naval court of inquiry definitely announces that it will not recall the officers they will be ordered to their homes on leave of absence.

The Marblehead, Montgomery, Iowa, New York, Detroit and Nashville, in the harbor, have each received a contingent of the Maine's survivors, while the Texas and the Indiana, at the Tortugas, have also added a few survivors of the disaster to their muster roll. Forty men in all were distributed among the fleet. The Maine's officers and men hoped that they would be assigned to one ship. The new kits for the survivors were provided for them at the naval station.

There are fifteen of the Maine's enlisted men still here, and it is expected some of them will be able to report for duty within two weeks.

Orders for a month's leave of absence for all the Maine's officers, excepting Lieuts. Holman and Catlin, have reached Admiral Sigsbee, but they are held pending the pleasure of the naval court of inquiry.

Lieut. Holman, the senior officer, will stay here, it is said, until all of the Maine's enlisted men have been drafted to other ships.

Lieut. Catlin probably will receive his leave of absence shortly.

TITLE IS NOT YET CLEAR.

The Government Has Unexpected Trouble at Point Wilson—All Money to Be Spent.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The war department is having some difficulty in obtaining the title to sufficient ground at Point Wilson, Wash., on which it is proposed to erect fortifications, because the owners of much of the land are scattered over the country and trouble has been experienced in securing their addresses. The matter is now in the hands of the department of justice, which is doing everything possible to settle the question. The nature and extent of the works to be erected will depend on the money available.

"We are pressing work on fortifications," said an official of the war department, "just as we have been since the permanent system of coast defense was inaugurated by congress about two years ago. We aim to spend all the money congress appropriates yearly, so that the legislative body will be induced to continue to authorize expenditures as a necessary adjunct of national defense. Naturally, the public is now taking great interest in all that is going on, and probably observes with closer scrutiny everything being done. This, coupled with the fact that no one except members of congress is allowed to enter the fortifications, and these only with the consent of the secretary of war, apparently makes it all the more mysterious."

"No, I would not be at liberty to tell of any steps that are being taken as the result of pending excitement even if I knew of such."

A member of the cabinet stated today that there should be no misunderstanding of the military activity of the government. He pointed out that movements of war material, particularly in the West, were simply in execution of plans long ago developed by the fortifications board for the defense of the coast. Thus, at Seattle, the war department recently purchased a tract of 600 acres on Magnolia bluff, a point regarded indispensable to the proper defense of Puget sound. This is being put in condition for the reception of heavy guns, and other work, it is said, should have been done long ago.

CONFLICT OF AUTHORITY.

Florida Threatens to Enforce Quarantine Against the Naval Vessels From Havana.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—There is promise of a new and unwelcome development of the Maine affair that in the end may lead up to an issue between the government of the United States and the state of Florida, if the officials of the state

indorse the stand taken by the local officials at Key West. The latter have notified Admiral Sigsbee that on the first of next month they propose to enforce the state quarantine law against all craft arriving from outside, as a measure of protection against the introduction of yellow fever. The notice indicates that the law will be applied to the naval vessels, and in view of the serious interpretations such interference with the free movements of his ships would cause, Admiral Sigsbee has reported the facts to the navy department and awaits instructions.

The department officials cannot tolerate with equanimity the stoppage of such craft as the Mangrove and Fern on their errands of mercy, nor delays that may result in the prosecution of the work of the wreckers engaged on the Maine's hull and in the work of the court of inquiry. The president himself probably will communicate with the governor of Florida, with a view to securing an abatement of the law so far as it is proposed to apply it to naval vessels, this being the speediest manner of dealing with the case. Although it may be stated that the national government never has recognized the right of any local authorities to stop its vessels in case their movement were deemed necessary. The warships have voluntarily submitted to quarantine when returning from any port suspected of infection, but this is asserted to be merely a concession and not the recognition of any lawful right on the part of the state authorities.

In view of the fact that the officers on our warships, with the aid of capable surgeons, naval officers feel that they may be safely able to run their ships between Havana and Key West without restriction. As an evidence of the care exercised to avoid carrying contagion, the officials point to the fact that, without suggestion from any of the health officers of Florida, Admiral Sigsbee caused the wounded survivors of the Maine disaster to be detained for several days at Tortugas before allowing them to go to Key West.

AWAKE TO THE SITUATION.

England Realizes That the United States Is Getting Ready for War With Spain.

LONDON, March 5.—Now that time and opportunity for reflection have been allowed by a temporary cessation of the patriotic and bellicose statements, which since the wreck of the Maine have been the chief feature of the special cable dispatches from the United States, Englishmen are beginning to realize the depth of the pro-Cuban feeling in the United States, with which the thoughtful element here cordially sympathize, although they still believe the Maine inquiry will absolve Spain from complicity in the disaster. An impression, almost amounting to conviction, prevails that public opinion will compel the government of the United States to acknowledge the Cubans as belligerents and to intervene between Spain and Cuba. The very calmness and patience of the people of the United States tends to confirm the conviction here that Americans have become aware that their government is preparing to satisfy the country's aspirations when the auspicious moment arrives.

Everyone in this country acknowledges the dignity and self-possession with which the cabinet of President McKinley has been handling this most difficult affair, and this attitude of the United States government has had a great effect in influencing opinion on this side of the Atlantic. Americans express themselves as being much gratified at the friendly attitude which the British government has evinced toward the United States. By advice of the British government, shipbuilders and dealers in munitions of war still insist practically upon cash payments in the case of all orders booked by Spain. It seems that the Spanish embassy, when bargaining with the shipbuilders and other firms, indirectly suggested that Great Britain sympathized with Spain. This came to the ears of the British government, and the latter lost no time in putting the firms which are in the habit of doing government work on their guard. Another rumor which has decidedly pleased Americans was that the government had succeeded in obtaining complete plans of the principal Spanish harbors and their defenses.

In short, both Americans and Englishmen have about concluded that the present calm has been brought about by President McKinley in order to allow the completion of preparations for defense and for possible initiative action, and few here will be sorry when a decision is reached and the long standing tension is ended. Operators on the stock exchange are inclined to leave American securities alone until the crisis is settled. They burned their fingers during the past week, the net result of the see-saw movements being that London lost considerable to New York, and although there is no doubt as to the final outcome, it is feared that the struggle will cause the trade of the United States to suffer severely. Hence, the London purchases at present are not likely to be appreciable.

An exemplification of the feeling here is contained in a long article published by the Statist. After complimenting President McKinley, "whose powers are perhaps greater than those of any European sovereign," upon having exhibited "admirable firmness of character and independence of judgment," the Statist points out that "however strong the president may be, he is finally to obey the will of the people." Continuing, the Statist says: "It would be the gravest mistake to suppose that because the English, who have discredited themselves by reckless charges which they were unable to substantiate, have failed to move the president, public sympathy for the Cubans, which is very real and very widespread, will also fail."

Commenting upon the financial aspect of the situation, the Statist says: "The withdrawal of gold for New York at this season of the year is noteworthy," and it gathers therefrom a corroboration of the belief that "most of the recent speculation in American securities conducted by the United States was financed

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by the New York banks; hence the latter are now in no position to part with much money to the agricultural districts without calling in loans. Continuing the Statist says:

"Another circumstance has powerfully contributed to the stringency. If there should be war the expenditure would be upon an enormous scale, and the government would have to borrow immense sums to meet this enormous expenditure. It would not be surprising, therefore, if the banks were taking precautions, and were increasing their holdings of gold."

The Spectator believes that both Washington and Madrid "expect war without desiring it," and "both are arming as rapidly as they can." The Spectator says:

"Both are cogitating upon possible alliances. Spain with France and Russia, and America with Japan, which wants the Philippine Islands and can double the American fleet at a few hours' notice if Russia permitted."

The Spectator continues: "Great efforts are being made on both sides to be in time, by McKinley because the armaments are not full, and by Premier Sagasta because he must elect a Liberal parliament."

"The French foreign office, dreading a financial crash in Paris, is suggesting mediation, but it will, in the end, make a mistake in threatening a people who at heart believe there is nothing strong in Europe except Great Britain."

The consul general of Spain, is responsible for a curious advertisement which has appeared in the London newspapers calling upon Spanish deserters, fugitives and youths who have not yet drawn lots for military service to come to the consulate and acquaint themselves with an important royal decree of pardon which concerns them. This far there has been no response.

A pastoral letter of Cardinal Cascajares, archbishop of Valladolid, has added another danger to the long list threatening Spain, by giving such a boom to Carlism that no student of Spanish history would be surprised were an outbreak to occur shortly in the northern provinces. The text of this letter shows that it practically amounts to a manifesto in favor of legitimism, as the sole remedy for the manifold evils existing in Spain. The Carlists are using the manifesto for all it is worth, declaring it to be one of the blackest yet most truthful paintings of the condition of Spain under the reign of Maria Christina.

The Correo, organ of the Carlists, calls the pastoral letter "an outburst from a soldier's heart suffering for the miseries of the fatherland, and indignant at the insults offered to the Spanish flag by the North American merchants; from the heart of an apostle filled with compassion for our brave soldiers fighting and dying without glory, the victims of treachery," and says:

"The prelate clearly points out that the Carlists are the only party with the necessary cohesion, strength and faith to carry on the glorious traditions of Spain."

Even the Liberal Imparcial stoutly commends the cardinal's action.

STONE OF SPANISH PAPERS.

Some of Them Demanding That War Be Declared Against This Country Immediately.

Correspondence of the Associated Press. MADRID, Feb. 22.—Discussing the rumors of the possibility of war between the United States and Spain, the Imparcial says that the Spanish government is "not allowing itself to be hurried by alarmist statements in the Madrid and foreign press."

It quotes a minister, who said on yesterday that the pessimistic views of the Spanish papers were "but an echo of the sensational statements in the Yankee Press."

"Now, more than ever," he is said to have added, "we are assured that the Washington cabinet desires and will do all it can to prevent anything occurring to alter the excellent relations existing between both governments. The American government, especially McKinley, by his energetic action, has succeeded in postponing to a better occasion the proposals of a few partisans of the filibusters, while public opinion is more and more placing confidence in the course adopted by the government which is most interested of all in the successful development of public affairs."

"But in spite of these statements," continues the Imparcial, "it does not escape the attention of certain members of the government that the United States are making some preparations, although these are attributed to orders issued some time ago."

"From other members of the government came the statement that at six o'clock a blow must be struck at the rebellion before the beginning of the rainy season, as otherwise Spain will suffer incalculable loss."

"Information is to hand from sufficiently official sources that if the rebellion is not suppressed in May, America will intervene with or without the consent of Spain. In the meantime the United States will attempt to lull our government to sleep with friendly and courteous phrases, which our government receives as evidences of respect and consideration from those who lose no occasion of showing that they are ignorant of what those words mean."

In an article in its issue of February 22, the Imparcial, defending itself against the charge of being pessimistic, says: "They are the pessimists who place no confidence in the manhood of our race, and not we who from the very beginning of the war have urged that money should be found to strengthen our navy and crews, in order to render them capable of imposing an effective neutrality on the great republic, which would allow Spain to end the Cuban revolt. They are the pessimists who do not believe that now, after the loss of so much money, we can afford to let the commerce of the Yankee and save the honor of the flag, the future of Spain."

The Liberal says that in Madrid official circles it is denied that the apparently warlike preparations being made in the United States have the object attributed to them in certain quarters. It is alleged these are only measures of reform agreed upon long ago. In its leading article, which only refers to the present relations between the two countries, the Liberal deals in a sympathetic spirit with Washington's birthday, and hails with approval McKinley's speech on the occasion in his rebuff to those who seek to embroil the United States in a war with Spain. It then expresses the hope that the president's action will accord with his words, adding:

"June will tell; but for the present we ought to cry a truce to suspicions and animosities not fully warranted by experience, in honor of the memory of that great man who, in addition to laying the

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