

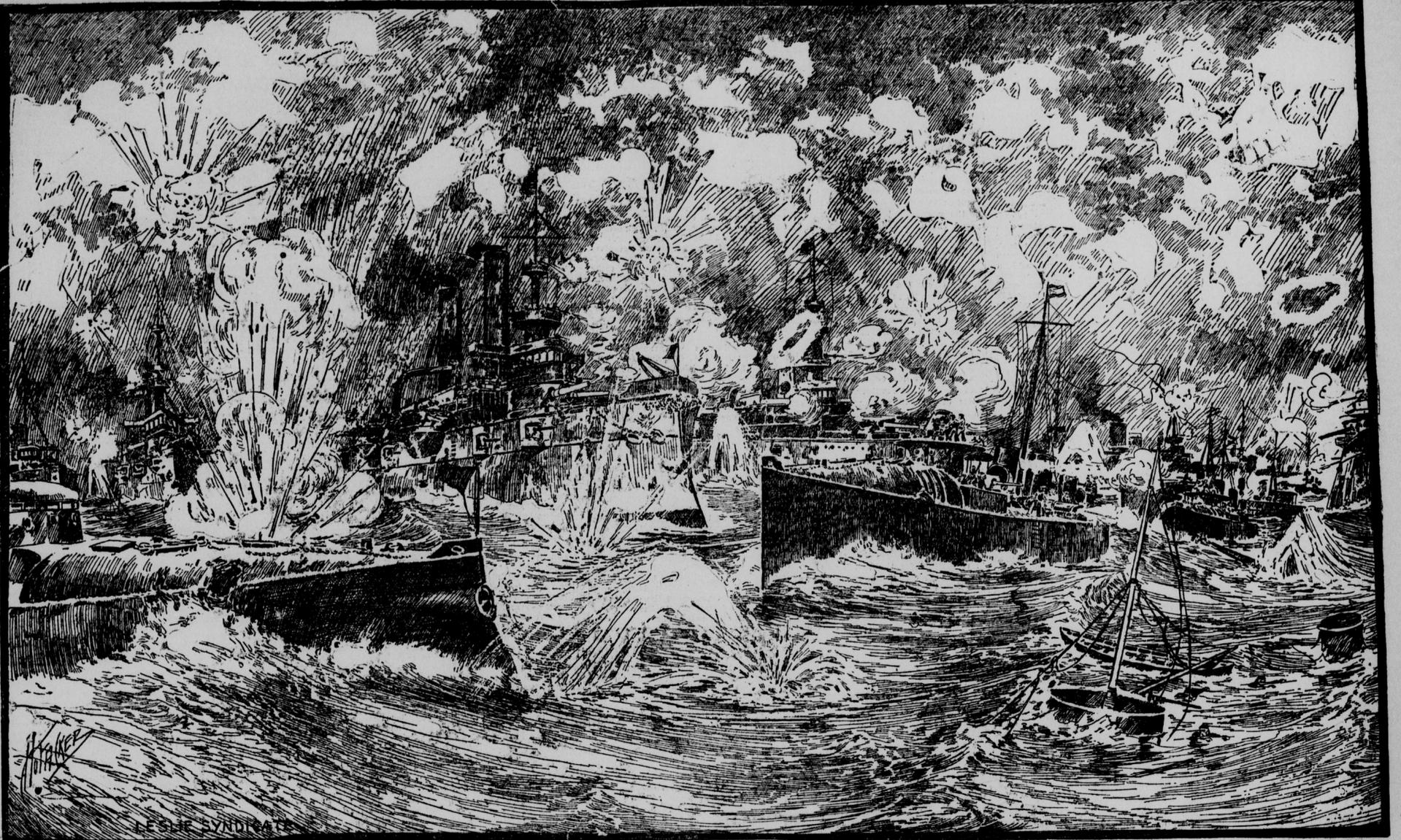
# SPAIN'S DREADED TORPEDO FLEET COULD STRIKE A FEARFUL BLOW

U. S. S. MINNEAPOLIS

U. S. S. NEW YORK

U. S. S. INDIANA

SPANISH TORPEDO BOATS AZOR AND RIETE



U. S. TORPEDO BOAT ERICSSON

U. S. S. IOWA

SPANISH TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYER FUROR

SPANISH TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYER TERROR

SPANISH TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYER PLUTON

U. S. S. MONTGOMERY

JUST HOW A GREAT MARINE BATTLE WOULD APPEAR BETWEEN SPAIN'S CRACK CRUISERS, ASSISTED BY HER BIG TORPEDO FLEET, AND THE AMERICAN BATTLESHIPS UNSUPPORTED BY AN ADEQUATE TORPEDO FLOTILLA. SPAIN'S TORPEDO BOATS ARE SHOWN TO THE RIGHT OF THE PICTURE RUSHING INTO THE MIDST OF OUR FLEET.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 4.—(Special Correspondence to The Herald.) Out of the present turmoil of preparations for war and striving for peace the United States will emerge whether the climax be war or peace, with many useful lessons learned. There have been strange rumors, emanating from high places, which have been speedily attituded, to the effect that Uncle Sam's "ready" is a bold bluff so far as many essential features of a nation in arms are concerned. Stories have been whispered about that guns, purchased at great cost, are useless because the carriages, without which the guns are no more formidable than bean

shooters, have not been provided, and cannot be got ready in time, should war be declared in the near future. The strength of our fleets has been enlarged upon, and the most made of the fact that we are more than a match for Spain with our navy pitted against theirs in one great sea fight. But the weakness of our fleet, as compared with that of Spain, has not been the subject of eloquent speeches and lengthy newspaper articles on this side of the Atlantic, although it has in Spain. It is well to face the truth, however unpleasant it may be to this patriotic people. We are entirely lacking in that small, but

terribly effective war craft, the torpedo boat destroyer. So important does Great Britain, the leading naval nation of the world, consider this type of fighting vessel, that she possesses nearly a hundred of them. Spain has seventeen and is building more, while all the nations have small fleets of "destroyers." They are inexpensive boats, when compared with the big fighting machines, but experience may prove that they can do an enormous amount of damage in a sea battle. In recent English naval maneuvers the eyes of the admiralty officials were opened to the importance of possessing a numerous contingent of this speedy,

wicked little craft, and the British shipbuilders are at present engaged in building many of an improved type that will shortly be added to her majesty's navy. The torpedo boat destroyers possessed by Spain are mostly of the newest type. The Furor and Terror, two destroyers built to order for the Spanish government, in a British shipbuilding yard, are splendid little craft. They have a length of 220 feet, a breadth of 22 feet, and a depth of 13 feet and displace 350 tons. When equipped for service they are armed with two 14-pounder rapid fire guns, one forward, above the conning tower, and the other aft; two six-pounder guns, one in each broadside,

and two automatic machine guns, 1½ inch diameter. They have two torpedo tubes on the upper deck from which torpedoes can be fired on either side. Each vessel carries four torpedoes. The great value of these small boats lies in their speediness. They can easily make twenty-eight knots an hour. Seventy tons of coal will be sufficient to carry the little craft from Spain to Porto Rico or Havana, and this amount of coal they can easily carry. Seventy men usually comprise the crew of a destroyer. With their rapid fire guns and their torpedoes, these small boats are threatening enough, but they are useful in more ways

than one. They can take chances that would be madness for a larger craft to attempt; stealing up to an enemy's boats under cover of darkness, and flitting around when the big ships are in action, awaiting the first opportunity to discharge a torpedo at the nearest enemy, protecting the cruisers and battleships from the attack of torpedo boats by engaging and destroying those dangerous craft; running the blockade of closed ports and acting as dispatch boats when a small fleet of marine messengers is needed. Their usefulness is incalculable, and yet the United States navy is without them. We have some splendid torpedo boats,

but Spain has nearly a score of the destroyers, which are in reality a larger torpedo boat, while we have nothing of the kind to oppose them. There is a possibility that Captain Brownson, who is now abroad on a ship-purchasing expedition for the United States, may be able to secure some torpedo boat destroyers. When it is remembered that \$400,000 will buy a destroyer capable of steaming at dashing speed it is not too much to hope that Captain Brownson will be able to send back a whole fleet of destroyers—say enough to give us one of the useful little boats for every one of the useful little boats for money well invested.

## WILL REMEMBER THE COWBOYS

Full Particulars of the Novel Plan to Organize the Heroes of the Plains

Here's the most strikingly novel offer yet made the war department. Twelve troops of cowboys to fight Spain. Judge Torrey of Wyoming makes the offer in good faith. He will be chosen their commander. Judge Torrey is known throughout the country as the author of the Torrey bankruptcy bill. He is now at the head of one of the biggest cattle outfits of Wyoming, and hence is in intimate touch with the cowboys of the northwestern country. He formerly commanded a battalion of militia in Missouri, and was assistant adjutant general of the eastern district of that state during the administration of two brigadier generals.

WRITTEN BY JUDGE JAY L. TORREY  
At the beginning of the last war the zouave regiments which were first organized were received with great popular enthusiasm and did much to arouse the martial spirit. Now the war with Spain seems imminent, the military enthusiasm seems likely to be aroused for quite a different kind of organization and yet one which bids fair to be equally picturesque. I refer to my voluntary offer to organize a regiment of cowboys for service against the Spaniards. I was presented by Senator Warren of Wyoming the other day to the president and asked authority to immediately organize twelve troops of cowboys, urging their known loyalty and admitted bravery as a reason why they should be called into service and referred to them as hardy men, perfect horsemen and able to cope with all difficulties and competent to provide for themselves under all circumstances. The president expressed his thanks and without making any promises assured both Senator Warren and myself that in any case of necessity the cowboys should be remembered. We also called upon General Nelson A. Miles, commanding the army, and canvassed the situation and considered at length the subject of the organization of the cowboy rangers. Upon the subject General Miles said: "The services of such a regiment would prove invaluable to the government. The cowboys are able in a pre-eminent degree to take care of themselves. They are always at home and know where they are; even a blizzard is unavailing to lose one of them. They are the best horsemen in the world and do not know what fear is." In reply to the inquiry as to what might be done in a preliminary way towards getting ready, he said: "Pick out your subordinate officers and find out where your men are in the event they are required."

I telegraphed Governor Richards of Wyoming, asking if he would approve the organization of a regiment of cowboy rangers and the governor answered that he would. It is not proposed by the organization of the new regiment to interfere in any way with the Wyoming militia for actual service in the event of war, but to simply organize the additional regiment so that there may be a distinct cowboy organization for mounted service wherever needed. If it transpires that special legislation is needed in order to provide for the desired regiment, I have no doubt it will be passed with the same unanimity as the appropriation for fifty millions of dollars. As to the probable effect of such legisla-

tion it will no doubt provide for the election of the troop officers by the men. They are all men of independent characters and would not consent to be commanded by officers other than those of their own choice. The field officers could be chosen by the troop officers. In this way every officer would be the choice of the men and in consequence would be much nearer to them than they would be if appointed. The usual "newspaper cowboy" is quite different from the real article. When a rowdy puts on spurs and acts in a disgraceful way he is sometimes improperly heralded in the newspapers as a "bad cowboy" in this way a wrong impression is given out of the true character of the genuine cowboy. As a class they are fearless,

adventurous, absolutely truthful and always reliable. I never have known a class of men who can be so thoroughly relied upon. When it is time to have fun they have it; but when the time for business arrives they attend to it thoroughly and well. Concerning the uniforms and equipments of the men the plan is to have a distinct uniform which will be both serviceable and ornamental and characteristic of them. They are men of taste and appreciate good clothes. In my judgment, their equipment—that is, saddles, bridles, etc.—are the best that the world has ever seen, and I have no doubt but that they will be permitted to retain them. As to arms, I shall endeavor to avoid everything that is useless except for ornament, in-

cluding sabers, and have the men furnished, if possible, each with a couple of sixshooters and a long range rifle. In close quarters they can guide their horses with their knees and handle a six-shooter in each hand. In this way they would be more effective than if they were required to use a sabre. As to the time needed to get organized I have already communicated with good true men in all parts of Wyoming and they are busy, in a quiet way, getting the names of the boys and making ready so as to respond immediately, if occasion shall require. Regarding the horses likely to be used, they would of course be native Wyoming horses. Our boys would not ride plow

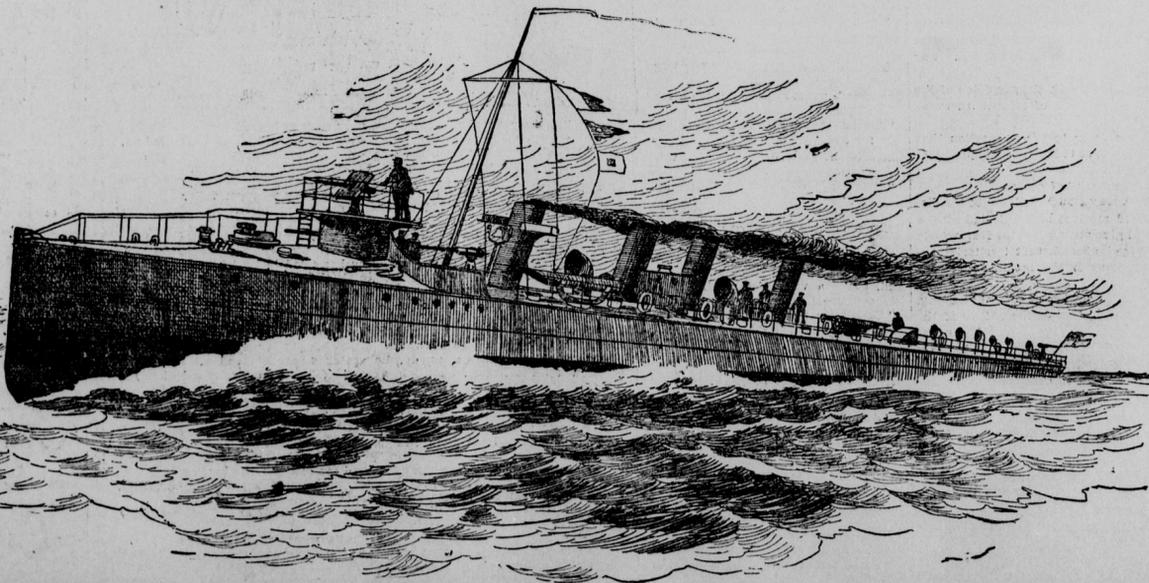
horses. We have, I believe, the best on earth. Last year a deputy sheriff summoned an outfit of our boys to go with him and covered thirty miles in one hour and fifty minutes. They would prove to be ideal fighters. They have all had experience on the frontier, and first and last most of them have had experience in charging and retreating under difficult circumstances and know all about Indian fighting. If the method of the warfare of the Spaniards in Cuba is a fair sample of their fighting capabilities they would be able to secure a liberal education by facing our boys.

### His Servant Was Well Trained

At an auction sale of snuffboxes which enlivened London some time ago one of the most valuable mysteriously disappeared and has not yet been recovered. The loss has brought up a host of similar occurrences, and one newspaper correspondent recalls a story current two generations ago, the Duke of Sussex being the hero. He had presided at a dinner of virtuosi, and a distinguished diplomatist among the company produced a snuffbox set in precious stones, the gift of a crowned head to one of his ancestors. The precious souvenir was handed around for everyone to examine, while the conversation went merrily on. Presently the owner said to his next neighbor, "Kindly hand me the snuffbox." The inquiry went around the table, but nobody knew what had become of the article. A thorough search of the room and the servants failed to reveal any trace of it, and the party broke up in a gloom. Some months after the duke had occasion to dine once more the particular uniform worn on this occasion, and, putting his hand into one of the pockets, felt a bulky substance and drew out the missing box. "You rascal," he said to his body-servant, "you must have noticed it when you put away my coat." "Yes, your royal highness," was the reply. "I noticed, and indeed I saw your royal highness put the box in your pocket." "And you never mentioned it?" "Certainly not. I hope I know my duty to your royal highness better than that."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

### His Trust in Her

"Before I go to war, Louise, I have a few words to say to you—a trust to place in your hands." "Speak, Arthur; tell me all!" "Take good care of my whet while I'm gone."—Chicago Record.



PERFECT TYPE OF THE TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYER. THE UNITED STATES IS IN SORE NEED OF MORE VESSELS OF THIS CHARACTER TO SINK SPAIN'S FLEET