

CUBANS CAPTURE A TRAIN

Surprise the Spaniards and Use Dynamite With Effect.

SUPPLIES TAKEN, BUT PRISONERS FREED.

A Cowardly Commander Who Was Afraid to Attack the Insurgents.

IN ALL ENCOUNTERS PATRIOTS ARE THE VICTORS.

No Action to Be Taken on the Belligerency Resolution Until Calhoun's Report is Received.

HAVANA, CUBA, May 24.—It is reported from Santiago de Cuba that the Spanish military train from El Ciego to Longo was attacked by 600 insurgents. The train was carrying troops to re-enforce the garrison at Longo. At the first shots of the insurgents the train was stopped and Lieutenant La Fuente, commanding the Spaniards, ordered the men to fire. At that moment several dynamite bombs exploded, killing La Fuente, twelve Spanish privates, and wounding thirty-two others. The locomotive and a car were destroyed. The Spaniards surrendered and the Cubans after plundering the train burned the remaining cars. Sixty Spanish soldiers and twenty other persons, employees of the railroad and officers of the Spanish Government, were made prisoners. Two hours later they were set free by order of General Garcia.

The Spanish military commander at Longo was afraid to go to the aid of the troops. He waited until they were released and the insurgents far away. Then he sallied forth and near the town killed two countrymen, one a non-combatant. He then returned to town, reporting a victory over the insurgents.

General Calixto del Rey, who, as reported last month, was recalled from Santiago de Cuba by Weyler on account of his dire defeat by Garcia at Guamo, embarked yesterday for Spain. He said Weyler is not the man to quell the revolution in Orient. In Rey's opinion 200,000 Spanish soldiers in the province of Santiago de Cuba alone could not subdue the Cubans in less than a year.

The commander of the Spanish gunboat Conde de Venadito intended to land some of his crew near Baracoa to attack the Cuban camp. He dispatched a boat for shore, but half-way on its journey two volleys from the Cubans killed several men in the boat and obliged the others to return. The gunboat fired three shots from cannon without hitting the Cubans. The latter answered with rifles, killing a Spanish sergeant and Reas Diaz, who was on the deck of the Conde de Venadito. The gunboat then retired.

McKINLEY'S FIRM POLICY.

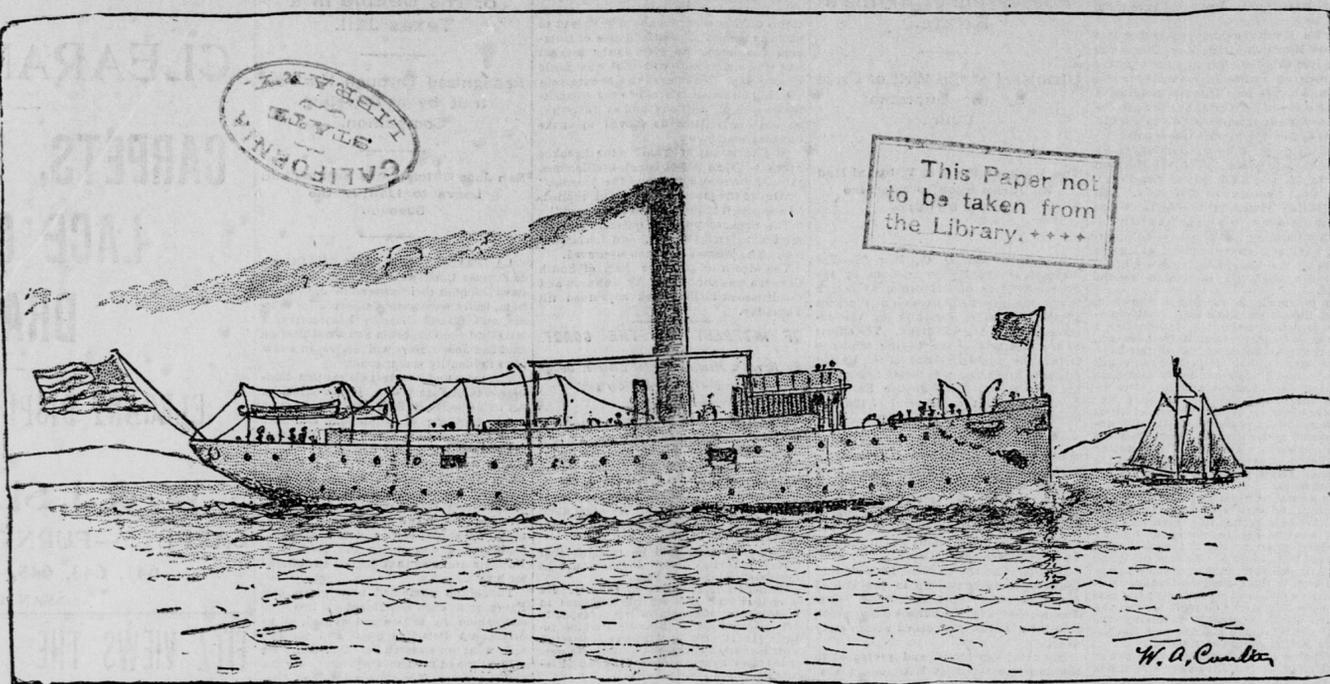
The President Intends to Secure Freedom for Cuba.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 24.—The President's Cuban policy is still a matter of much uncertainty. He has taken very few of his friends into his confidence on the subject, and even some members of the Cabinet claim to be entirely uninitiated. It is believed that, if any plan the President has decided upon, it appears to be certain now that no definite action of any sort will be taken prior to Calhoun's return, and while awaiting his report the President and Judge Day, who has special charge of Cuban affairs for the State Department, will carefully consider all information on file. Not a word was said about Cuba during the brief session of the House this morning, and notwithstanding the anxiety of the enthusiastic friends of the Cuban cause to secure action upon the Senate belligerency resolution, it is evident the Speaker, Chairman Pitt and Leader Dingley have resolved to prevent action on debate on the resolution until the President indicates his desires.

In the meantime all sorts of reports are in circulation as to the part the executive will play in ending the war and bringing about Cuban freedom. All that is definitely known, however, is that the intention of the President and Cabinet to use the good offices of the United States in some manner for the lasting benefit of the insurgents. Cuban independence is what the administration is evidently aiming at, and they will probably agree to the policy of intervention on the part of the United States if this be found to be what is needed.

There are indications that the President has already sounded the Spanish Minister on the subject of mediation based on the reports of Consul-General Lee and other representatives of the United States in Cuba, and that the tentative offer has been declined, as was Olney's about a year ago.

Congressmen who talk with the President daily do not succeed in learning much as to the details of his policy, but all of them represent him as enthusiastically in favor of the Cuban cause and determined to do all in his power to assist in making Cuba absolutely and forever free. Speaker Reed has decided upon the policy he will pursue respecting the Morgan Cuban resolution, which passed the Senate last week and is now on the Speaker's table. He has talked with a majority of the Republican members and has practically the solid support of his party. On the promise held out by Speaker Reed that the President would soon send a message to Congress on the Cuban question the ardent Cuban sympathizers have restrained



The Gunboat Wheeling Had Her Engineers' Trial Trip Yesterday Over the Measured Mile. She Made at Least Two Knots More Than the Contract Calls For, and Her Sister Ship Marietta Is Expected to Beat Even That Record on Her Trial To-Day.

QUEEN VICTORIA SEVENTY-EIGHT

Loyal Subjects Duly Celebrate All Over the World.

Much Rejoicing Throughout Great Britain and the Colonies.

Countless Messages of Congratulation Received by the Gracious Sovereign.

LONDON, ENGL., May 24.—To-day is the seventy-eighth anniversary of the birth of Queen Victoria, and the occasion was celebrated throughout the United Kingdom and the colonies with the ringing of church bells and the firing of salutes.

The formal exercises in this city will not take place until Wednesday, the Queen having expressly requested this postponement in order that she might gain an additional day's rest at Balmoral.

In the remaining cities of Great Britain, however, patriotic exercises were held in the schools, and receptions and banquets were given in the evening under the auspices of the various municipal corporations.

The Queen herself spent the day quietly at her old castle, her advancing years rendering it inadvisable, if not impossible, for her to take an active part in these annual observances, as has been her custom in years gone by.

Countless messages of congratulation have been received by Her Majesty during the past twenty-four hours from the heads of almost every Government, as well as from the representatives of the court of St. James.

Several of the members of the Cabinet gave full dress dinners and receptions this evening in honor of the anniversary, and during the afternoon there were military parades throughout the Kingdom, the near approach of the diamond jubilee festivities in no way serving to overshadow the brilliancy of the events.

MONTREAL, CANADA, May 24.—The birthday of Queen Victoria was generally observed throughout the Dominion. Business was generally suspended, and the religious services of the morning were followed by all manner of spring festivities, and concluded with brilliant fireworks in the evening. This anniversary is regarded as marking in a measure the opening of the summer season, and so, apart from its original significance, has come to be a period of general merrymaking and rejoicing, being possibly more enthusiastically observed than in the mother country.

NEW YORK, N. Y., May 24.—The Queen's birthday was celebrated to-night at the Holland House by the British schools and universities' club with a dinner attended by most of the prominent Englishmen of this city. Rev. Dr. Parker Morgan, who presided, responded to the toast, "The Queen."

"No kinder woman," said Morgan, "ever reigned. She was the first to sympathize with this country when Garfield was shot, and among the first to send a message of condolence to the widow of Grant. Such little actions have won for her the love and respect of the entire world. If the Queen had been on the throne the revolution and separation between this country and England would not have occurred. She would have prevented the words from being uttered which created the bitter feeling which could not be allayed."

PORT TAMPA, FLA., May 24.—The celebration of Queen Victoria's birthday drew thousands. The British warsip Pallas and American cruiser Montgomery are here. All the shipping in the harbor is decorated in gay colors. By special permission of President McKinley 100 armed men from the Pallas were permitted to land and take part in the parade.

CHICAGO, ILL., May 24.—The British-born residents of Chicago did honor to the sovereign of their native land by a banquet at the Victoria Hotel this evening in recognition of the fact that to-day was the seventy-eighth anniversary of the birth-

day of Queen Victoria. Invitations to participate in the celebration were extended to Premier Greenway of Manitoba; Mr. Sutherland, Minister of the Interior, and other prominent Canadians.

CELEBRATED IN THIS CITY.

Her Majesty's Loyal Subjects Drink to Victoria's Health.

Queen Victoria on her birthday was not entirely forgotten in this distant land of the setting sun by her subjects, although the majority of those who honored her memory yesterday are citizens of this Republic.

At 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon about fifty of San Francisco's prominent citizens assembled at 303 California street and drank long life to her Majesty across the Atlantic.

Snort addresses were made by Consul-General Joseph W. Warburton, Vice-consul Wellesley Moore, H. H. Highton, William Doxey, Rev. W. W. Bolton, Rabbi Nieto, James McNab, George Marsh, Captain Metcalf, Joseph Trouser, Edward Oliver and others.

New Railroad for Mexico.

VICTORIA, MEXICO, May 24.—All the arrangements have been completed for

building a railroad between this city and Matamoros on the Rio Grande. The road will pass through extensive asphaltum fields a hundred miles northeast of here which were recently acquired by the American company. The railroad will also be built by American capital.

CAPTAIN ROMEYN PARDONED.

But in Extending Clemency the President Severely Reprimands the Officer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 24.—Final action was taken by the President to-day in the case of Captain Henry Romeyn, U. S. A., recently tried at Fort McPherson, Ga., on a number of charges growing out of his criticisms of the conduct of Mrs. Michael J. O'Brien, wife of the lieutenant who represented this country in the Ohio-Japan war. The court-martial sentenced Romeyn to dismissal from the service. This sentence is disapproved by the President on account of the officer's record of long service and approaching retirement. A severe reprimand of Romeyn is contained, however, in the President's decision. Romeyn is restored to rank and duty. He will be placed on the retired list for age on June 1.

The President's decision says: "The proceedings, findings and sentence in the case of Captain Henry Romeyn, Fifth Infantry, are approved, but upon recommendation of the majority of the members of the court-martial and consideration of his long and honorable service, of his wound received in battle, of the medal of honor held by him for distinguished gallantry in action, of the fact he will by operation of law be retired for age on the 1st day of June, and of his appeal to the executive for clemency the sentence awarded by the court is remitted. In doing so, however, I cannot fail to express my condemnation of the conduct of which Romeyn is found guilty, and regret that he failed upon the occasion to control his temper in a manner becoming his service and age."

Smart of the "Globe."

LONDON, ENGL., May 24.—England having emerged with a whole skin from her recent dispute with the United States the Globe deems it proper to make this remark in the course of an article: "We have heard so much of late from cultured ambassadors of the brotherhood of England and the United States that we are apt to forget that cultured Americans are unhappily few in number and devoid of political influence."

TURKS RUSHING IN MORE TROOPS

Threaten to Resume Hostilities Against the Greeks.

So the Powers are Asked to Hasten Their Negotiations for Peace.

Germany Refuses to Join the Other Powers Unless the Hellens Accept Terms Agreed Upon.

ATHENS, GREECE, May 24.—The Government in adhering to its resolution not to treat directly with the Porte for peace has urged the diplomats to hasten their negotiations because the Turks threaten to resume hostilities. They are bringing re-enforcements into Thessaly and occupying strategic positions. It is reported that 20,000 Ottoman troops embarked at Smyrna recently.

The Greeks have formed a second line of defense at Thermopylae. The Cretan insurgents have empowered Colonel Siatkas, who commanded the Greek army, to inform the Greek Government that they have decided, despite the withdrawal of Greek troops, to continue their efforts to bring about a union of Crete and Greece, but before taking final steps they will invite instructions from Greece.

CONSTANTINOPLE, TURKEY, May 24.—The Government's edict expelling Greeks from Turkey has been suspended.

The identical note which the representatives of the powers will present to the Porte informing the Turkish Government of the decision of the powers in regard to the Turkish demands upon Greece were drawn up yesterday but has not yet been presented. The delay is due to the fact that the British and German representatives, who are still awaiting instructions from Berlin, to which he referred the matter last Wednesday.

LONDON, ENGL., May 24.—There has been an informal exchange of views between the Greek Government and the foreign representatives, in the course of which the diplomats were told that payment of indemnity by Greece was a sheer impossibility, as the resources of the country were exhausted.

VIENNA, AUSTRIA, May 24.—Germany refuses to join the other powers in respect to the negotiations in regard to Greece and Turkey as long as Greece declines to accept beforehand the decision of the European governments.

STRUCK BY A TORNADO.

The Little Town of Qerral Blown From the Map.

PERRY, O. T., May 24.—The little town of Qerral in the Chickasaw nation was struck by a tornado Sunday and almost wiped out. Nearly every residence and business house was blown down. Several persons were injured. Most of the population were in storm-caves at the time and were saved. A deluge of rain followed and did great damage to farms.

Received by Hanotaux.

PARIS, FRANCE, May 24.—Hanotaux, Minister of Foreign Affairs, to-day received General Horace Porter, the new American Ambassador. General Porter will be received by President Faure to-morrow, when he will present his credentials. Henry Vignaud, secretary of the American embassy, to-day presented to Hanotaux Admiral Stevenson, Senator Wolcott and General Charles Faine, the American commission appointed to visit Europe in the interest of bimetallism.

May Release Political Prisoners.

DUBLIN, IRELAND, May 24.—The feeling is general here that Irish invincibles now serving sentence and political prisoners in British prisons will be released before the celebration of the Queen's diamond jubilee.

European Greed for American Gold.

NEW YORK, N. Y., May 24.—That the European demand for American gold continues is shown by the fact that \$2,500,000 in gold will be shipped by to-morrow's steamer.

THE NEW GUNBOAT A FLIER

Excellent Time Made by the Wheeling on a Trial Trip

OVER THE NEW MEASURED COURSE.

Will Probably Exceed by Several Knots the Required Speed.

MAY BEAT THE NASHVILLE'S RECORD.

To-Day Her Sister Ship, the Marietta, Will Be Sent Over the Official Course.

The new gunboat Wheeling made her first trial trip yesterday morning over the new measured course just fixed by the United States Government for the purpose of trying the speed of the Wheeling and its sister-boat, the Marietta. The course begins at the new beacon on the north shore of Raccoon Strait and extends a distance of 6080 feet straight, just beyond California City.

On the second attempt the Wheeling crossed the distance in four minutes one second, making 894 revolutions. This was at the rate of 15 knots an hour, which is considered a most remarkable performance for a ship leaving her dock for the first time. Her lowest speed was 13 knots. The maximum revolutions of the engine were 246, minimum 220. The Wheeling gives every promise of exceeding by considerable on her official trial the average speed of 13 1/2 knots required by the Government.

The Wheeling and the Marietta are two of a group of six gunboats ordered by the Government March 2, 1895. They are of light draught, composite structure, and have a displacement of about 1000 tons. Both vessels are fitted with twin screws and will carry very little canvas.

The two gunboats differ in regard to their boilers, the one being fitted with Howden boilers and the other with boilers of the Babcock & Wilcox type. The trials of the two vessels now being made will be of particular interest as showing the superiority of one or the other of these two types of boilers.

The boats are of composite structure, the steel framing and plating below the water-line being covered with 4-inch pine and teak planking, thus enabling them to remain at sea for considerable time without docking.

Following are the dimensions of the vessels: Length on load water line, 174 feet; beam on load water line, 34 feet; draught, normal, from under side of keel, 12 feet; displacement, normal, 1000 tons; indicated horsepower, 800. The armament consists of twelve rapid-firing guns, six 4-pounders, four 6-pounders and two 1-pounders. Ammunition will be carried as follows: For the 4-pounders 900 rounds, for the 6-pounders 2000 rounds and for the 1-pounders 1200 rounds.

The engines are vertical, triple-expansion and direct acting, consisting of a high-pressure cylinder 12 inches, intermediate cylinder 18 1/2 inches and low-pressure 28 inches. The stroke is 18 inches.

The engines were expected to make about 200 revolutions per minute with a steam pressure of 180 pounds in the boilers.

The Wheeling and the Marietta were launched simultaneously at the Union Iron Works on the 18th of last March. It was said to have been the first recorded instance of two vessels being launched at the same time from the same yard by different ways.

To-day the Marietta will be sent over the official course to standardize or fix the value of the revolutions of her screw. That having been definitely ascertained she will be run to-morrow for four consecutive hours. The revolutions will be carefully counted, and using the value of the revolution thus obtained as standard her speed will be figured from that.

The two boats will undoubtedly exceed the designed speed by three knots, and may establish a record ahead of that made on Long Island Sound about a week ago by the gunboat Nashville, which made an average speed of 16.76 knots.

"SILVER DICK" BLAND.

Says the Money Question Will Be a Greater Issue in 1900 Than During the Last Campaign.

ST. LOUIS, MO., May 24.—"Silver Dick" Bland passed through this city to-day en route to Hannibal, where he will participate in the campaign in the First Congressional District. He said: "The money question will be a more intense issue in 1900 than in the last campaign. The people by that time will begin to realize more than ever that they need bimetallism. They know it now, and I believe an election to-day would result in a victory for a Democratic Presidential candidate."

Of the Sound Money Democrats Bland said: "Any man who voted against Bryan is not a Democrat. It makes no difference how many Jeffersonian cradles he was rocked in, if he failed to stand by the Chicago platform he is not a Democrat. There is no compromise to be made with the bolters. There is no disposition to prevent them from coming back into the party, but they should understand that in order to be Democrats again they must do the coming back themselves. I see no more reason for compromising with Palmer and Buckner than with a man who voted for McKinley."



HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY, QUEEN VICTORIA, Whose Seventy-Eighth Birthday Was Celebrated Yesterday.