CONFLICT WITH SPAIN IS NOW NEAR

MAINE'S STARBOARD TURRET LOCATED

Found to Have Been Blown Clear Off the Battleship by the Tremendous Force of the Explosion.

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HAVANA, March 6.—The Maine's starboard turret has been located by the divers, as already indicated by the Herald and Call. It is found to have been blown clear off the ship, and now lies upturned on its side and sunk deep in the mud. The present position is regarded as one more proof of the tremendous force the explosion exerted in the direction of port to starboard. The ship's carpenter, George Helens, who has been here since Wednesday under special orders, has made a careful inspection of the wreck. He was detailed to this duty because of his perfect familiarity on portions of the vessel. Though Helens has not yet made an official report or appeared before the court since he first testified a week ago, I understand that he has privately confirmed the statement of Ensign Powelson in reference to the present position of the Maine's bottom plates and the shattered condition of the ship's keel. Naval Inspector Hoover is aboard the Mangrove with the Court of Inquiry, and his views will also be consulted on points involving structural evidence.

The discontinuance of work by the tug Right Arm, I learn, was due to a disagreement between Captain Magee of that craft and Captain Sigsbee of the Maine. Magee, it is said, refused to let his men convey bodies as recovered from the wreck to the dead barge a few hundred yards away, asserting that the contract did not call for such duty. It was then decided to dispense with the service of Captain Magee and his boat. The wreck is now being dismantled rapidly, and work below the water line is made proportionately easier. Tons of copper pipe have already been removed. This material is said to be worth from 18 to 20 cents a pound, but there appears to be no intention to try to realize any revenue from it. In fact, orders are already issued to carry it several miles outside the mouth of the harbor, and there dump it in the sea. There is considerable criticism at this course. Among other suggestions, it has been proposed that such material should be saved and sold for the benefit of the families of the lost men on the battleship, but from all I can learn nothing of the sort is likely to be done.

The dispatch boat Fern will leave Havana harbor soon to carry relief stores to Matanzas and vicinity. Her place here will then be taken probably by the coast survey steamer Bache, which sailed for Key West again this afternoon, carrying five bodies of victims for interment there. The Ward Line steamer City of Washington, whose officers and passengers rendered splendid service on the night of the Maine disaster, was in port a few hours again yesterday, en route from Mexico to New York, and Judge Advocate Marix and several of the Maine's officers, who are still here, embraced the opportunity to make calls of courtesy on Captain Stevens and his men.

CRISIS HOVERS OVER THE NATION

Statesmen Believe That Developments of the Next Few Days Will Settle the Question of a Conflict With Spain.

Call Office, Riggs House,
Washington, March 6.

Talk of war with Spain was heard wherever groups of Congressmen congregated in public places to-night. The cry of New York extra papers by newsboys brought an unusual number of people down into the business part of the city, and the hotel lobbies were soon filled with members of Congress and Government officials.

The expressions of opinion heard to-night were diverse, but the general belief is that a crisis is at hand, and the developments of the next few days will settle the question of a conflict with Spain. The belief was expressed in some quarters that the President might send a special message to Congress to-morrow and lay before that body the correspondence of this Government with Spain concerning the request for General Lee's recall, and the countermanding of the order to the Montgomery and Nashville. But the prevailing belief among Congressmen is that he will send no message at this time, for there is no necessity for it. The President has, of course, full power to exercise his executive functions in both matters, and needs no authority or advice from Congress, besides it is believed that the sending of a special message would only aggravate the situation, by emphasizing its gravity and might incite Congress to hasty and ill-advised action.

Although most members of Congress believe that war is inevitable, a few were found to-night who argued that Spain's request for General Lee's recall need not aggravate the trouble, and they cited many cases wherein diplomats had been given their passports without causing any breach between nations. The Call correspondent asked a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House what would be Spain's probable course in dealing with the "obnoxious" Consul-General Lee, and he replied:

"When the presence of a diplomat becomes distasteful to the Government to which he is accredited, that nation need only express this fact, without stating the reasons therefor; and the objectionable diplomatic representative is usually recalled by his home government, but if the request for his recall is refused he is handed his passports. There have been several instances in which the United States expressed its dissatisfaction with Ministers resident and other nations have likewise asked this Government to recall its representatives. Notable cases being those of ex-Senator Henry W. Blair, whose rejection by China was made before he sailed for his post of duty. A case not so recent was that of Sargent of California, who was rejected by Germany. It is universally recognized that a nation has the right to reject any diplomatic representative who is distasteful without assigning any reasons for this displeasure, and it must be conceded that Spain has the same right to ask for General Lee's recall that we had for asking Spain to withdraw Senor De Lome. It is true that our reason in the case of De Lome was a valid one, for he was proven guilty of a flagrant breach of diplomatic propriety, while General Lee has not thus been guilty of any such impropriety. But that fact cannot be urged, for Spain in her note did not assign any reasons, merely declaring that they would like to have Lee withdrawn because his presence is felt to be prejudicial to Spain's interests. My opinion is that, following custom and precedents, the United States Government had no right to ask Spain to specify her reasons, and the President probably looked at it this way too. The flat refusal of President McKinley to comply with Spain's request would ordinarily result in nothing but the issuance of passports to Consul-General Lee, but the request of Spain that we transport supplies to Cuba in merchant vessels, and countermand the orders to the Montgomery and Nashville, is quite a different matter, and likely to lead to serious results, inasmuch as the President is determined to send these vessels to Cuba. What fate will befall them? Will they be regarded as men of war or as transports coming to Cuba on a humane mission?

"The President is, doubtless, right in his belief that the Spanish Government will not dare to harm them, for this would visit upon the head of that nation the detestation and condemnation of the whole civilized world. No, you may depend upon it, they will not be molested by any orders of the Spanish Government, but it is more than likely that President McKinley's reply to Spain, which, in fact, amounts to a defiance, will incense the Spanish Government, and that her displeasure will soon be manifested. President McKinley has practically said to Spain: 'It is your move.' I believe that Spain's answer will be a declaration of war."

The Call correspondent saw Senator Perkins and Congressman Hilborn to-night. Both of them, being members of the Naval Affairs Committee, have had several conferences with the President, and the fact that they are unusually reticent leads to the belief that they have been talking with the President about the emergency measures which the Secretary of the Navy is taking.

Hilborn said that Secretary Long would probably enlist the whole number of men asked for (1500) without waiting for the bill's passage. Eight hundred enlistments were provided for to-day. Hilborn saw the Chief of the Naval Ordnance Bureau, and endeavored to impress upon him the necessity of purchasing from foreign factories a large amount of smokeless powder before the foreign market is closed against us by the neutrality laws. Hilborn is fearful that the combined daily output of 2500 pounds by the Dupont factory and the California Powder Works would be totally inadequate to fill the magazines of our warships, and he believes that a large supply must be furnished from a factory in Sweden. A letter received by him from the Santa Cruz, Cal., company stated that the factory would soon be ready to turn out a thousand pounds a day, and twice that amount by working nights also. But even if they have been working steadily for the last few weeks, they cannot have a very large supply on hand, and at the rate of 1000 or 2000 pounds per day it would take several months to furnish any considerable quantity. Therefore he insists that it is absolutely essential that a supply be purchased abroad as soon as possible. He says the powder produced by the Santa Cruz company is of excellent quality, manufactured exactly according to the Russian formula, which was experimented upon at Newport, R. I., but that the Dupont Company has not yet succeeded so well, and the powder produced by them is of inferior quality.

From a remark made by Hilborn to-night, it is believed that President McKinley and Secretary Long have been sounding members of the Naval Affairs Committee on a proposition to build a large number of torpedo boats, which can be constructed in this country within the next few months.

ENGLAND WOULD SUPPORT AMERICA

In the Event of a Conflict With Spain the United States Would Have Great Britain's Good Will.

NEW YORK, March 6.—A Washington special to the Herald says: In view of the possibility of war between the United States and Spain, there has been a great deal of speculation in Washington as to the attitude likely to be assumed by other European powers, and especially by Great Britain. There has been no idea that Great Britain would be actively drawn into such a war in any way, and it is now generally believed that the United States would have her moral support and sympathy.

The news of the Maine disaster was received in Great Britain with almost as much horror as in the United States. It was noted at the time that the first expression of sympathy received at the State Department was from Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Embassador, who, without waiting to learn whether the Spanish Government was in any way involved, called in person at the State Department. This was followed by a message from the Queen, a message from the Prince of Wales and from many high officials and officers of the army and navy.

An American naval officer of high rank, who has just returned from a cruise during which he associated a great deal with English persons and with officers of the British army and navy, referring to the warm feeling that the English have for the United States in this crisis, said to me:

"To the observer of current events in this country and in England no more striking thought makes itself felt than the good fellowship evidenced by the average intelligent Englishman for American and most things American. Without a doubt, there is more friendship felt and expressed in England for America than in America for England. For, unfortunately, it is become the fashion to deride everything English and to scoff at England and the English from whatever point of view the thought takes its rise. But, soberly speaking, it would seem, aside from any tinge of sentimentality, that the two English-speaking nations of the world should properly stand shoulder to shoulder in any future contest from a military, commercial or political point of view."

POWELSON'S CLEAR PROOF AS TO CAUSE

Continued from First Page.

this case is Senor Du Bosc, the Spanish Charge d'Affaires. Du Bosc had received no instructions on this subject, and was in complete ignorance of the demands made through Minister Woodford. The other suggestion of the Spanish Government, that relief supplies should not be sent in warships, did not come through Minister Woodford, as the Madrid dispatches state, but was presented by Senor Du Bosc to the State Department last Friday.

The responses in both cases went direct to Minister Woodford. There was no loss of time, however, in assembling a special session of the Cabinet, or even in any general conference between the President and his Cabinet advisers individually. In the protest against the Montgomery and Nashville Judge Day conferred with Secretary Long, who in turn called in Captain Crowninshield, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

There appears to be no reason why a change should be made in the plan for sending these ships on their mission, and without attaching significance to the request of the Spanish Government the answer was made that the plans for the trip were completed, and that the stay of the ships would be brief and of the most pacific character.

In response to the request for General Lee's recall the President does not seem to have deemed the subject open to such discussion as would require the views of his Cabinet associates, and after a brief exchange between the White House and the State Department the negative answer was dispatched to Minister Woodford. One phrase of the incident that tends to show the firm stand taken by the administration is the expedition with which the action was accomplished. Such a matter ordinarily is laid before the Cabinet, the views of all its members personally given, and the fullest opportunity afforded for discussion. But in this case, the press bulletin furnished to some members of the Cabinet was the first information that General Lee's service was open to question. Before the Cabinet meeting, no hint or complaint of any kind relating to General Lee had been made.

The ground on which General Lee's recall was asked is not officially disclosed. It is known, however, that the Spanish Government has chafed for some time over General Lee's presence in Havana, although it had never taken the form of a definite protest prior to the present time. It began to assume a more serious aspect shortly after the arrival of the Maine at Havana. At that time General Lee escorted Captain Sigsbee on his round of official calls. These were made with due formality, but the Spanish officials took offense when the calls were restricted to General Blanco, Admiral Manterola and the representatives of the military arm of Spain's service, and did not include Premier Galvez and his associates of the Autonomist Cabinet, who represented the new civil regime which Spain is seeking to enforce. The matter came to the attention of Senor Dupuy de Lome, the Spanish Minister at Washington, and although there was no protest the situation doubtless reached the State Department, as suitable amends were made by Captain Sigsbee's calling on Dr. Congosto, the civil secretary general, Premier Galvez and his associates.

There was like irritation over a dinner given by Consul-General Lee to the officers of the Maine. The list of guests on that occasion is said to have omitted some of the Spanish naval officers, and to have included, quite conspicuously, the names of a number of American newspaper correspondents who were regarded by the Spanish officials at Havana as antagonistic to them. This was also brought to the attention of the officials, but was not made the basis for any action, but rather of unofficial Spanish criticism of General Lee's general mode of procedure.

Within recent days it has been understood by officials here that the feeling against General Lee has been smoothed over, and the request for his recall was for that reason in the nature of a complete surprise. There are circumstances which clearly disclose the grounds for the recall, although it is not known that Spain has made any exact specification of complaint. Since the Maine disaster a report has been circulated that General Lee held the personal opinion that the explosion was due to external causes. No official report of this character was ever sent to Washington so far as is known, but the mere circulation of the report at Madrid attributing such views to General Lee has been the source of much feeling in Spanish official circles. The press dispatches from Madrid also disclose that General Lee is held accountable at the Spanish capital for the project of the purchase of Cuba by the United States from Spain as well as for a general sentiment of sympathy toward the insurgents. The suggestion of the Imparcial, a leading Government organ, that the next sitting of the Cortes will consider the case of General Lee, shows the strong influences which induced the Sagasta Cabinet to ask for his recall.

In this connection the fact is noted that Senor Dupuy de Lome is due in Spain at this time. His enforced retirement on a demand of the United States is felt to have awakened a counter sentiment at Madrid which finds expression against Consul-General Lee. There is little doubt also that such advice as Senor de Lome would give to the Government or to the press in public in Madrid would not be conducive toward the retention of General Lee. There is little doubt, however, that the main cause of Spain's action is the sympathy General Lee has shown for the Cuban sufferers. It is known that his active and open sympathy with the people who have suffered so greatly during the present insurrection, American citizens as well as native Cubans, has not been accepted by the Spanish officials in Cuba as an exhibition of disinterested officialism, such as is expected of Consular officers. There were complaints of his conduct during General Weyler's administration, but never in full official form.

As a matter of fact Spain required no formal excuse for the dismissal of a Consular officer, according to international law. These officers are not endowed usually with diplomatic privileges, and they exist entirely by the sufferance of the nations to which they are sent. It is not necessary nor usual to request their home Government to recall them. They live officially only through an exequateur granted by the Government to which they are accredited, and this may be withdrawn at any moment. So Consul-General Lee may be dismissed from his post at the pleasure of the Spanish Government, and this would not violate any section of international law. But he is in one respect unique, in that he is endowed with semi-diplomatic powers, by the wish of our Government and by the consent of the Spanish Government. The request of the Spanish Government for his recall may, therefore, be regarded as tantamount to a demand for the recall of objectionable Ministers—such, for instance, as was Senor Dupuy de Lome. There must be some substantial or satisfactory reason for such a demand in such cases, and as those presented against General Lee probably were confined to the acts he has so far performed with the full sanction and approval o. President McKinley, the demand was not entertained, as is clearly shown in the statement given out by Assistant Secretary Day. Under such circumstances the incident would close unless Spain took the decisive step of insisting on General Lee's recall, and, this failing, giving him his exequateur.

This radical course is not expected, however, and all the indications reaching officials here are that Spain will not proceed further with the incident.

The action regarding the cruiser Montgomery and the gunboat Nashville is looked upon by officials here as much less grave than that affecting General Lee. Secretary Long said to-night he did not regard the question as to what ship should carry the relief supplies as serious in any way, or as likely to present any perplexing issues. The desire of the Navy Department, Mr. Long said, was merely to get the supplies to Cuba on the most available vessel. There were three of these now at Key West—the Montgomery, Nashville and Fern—alike available for the service, and one of these, Mr. Long said, would be designated for the trip. The Fern is a dispatch boat, an unarmed naval vessel, and her availability for this mission had not previously been suggested. Her choice would probably remove all ground for objection, as she has none of the characteristics of a war vessel. Mr. Long said, however, that the only decision thus far reached was that one of the naval vessels—Montgomery, Nashville or Fern—should make the trip.

As this is the first time public mention has been made of the Fern in connection with carrying the supplies it might be inferred that she will make the trip. The official orders, however, continue to stand as they were originally made, designating the Montgomery and Nashville, but these could be changed readily if the Fern was believed to be best suited for the work.

The naval officers have felt from the first that the Montgomery and Nashville were illy adapted for carrying supplies. They are essentially fighting machines, and every inch of available room is taken by their own supplies of cordage, canvas and coal. This was so apparent that the plans contemplated putting the relief supplies on deck, covering them with tarpaulins and trusting to the weather and a quick trip to keep the provisions and clothing from damage. The Fern, not being essentially a fighting machine, but more of the type of a yacht for the speedy conveyance of naval dispatches, has considerably more room for the stowing of supplies, both below and on deck.

The Cuban relief committee counted on sending seventy-five tons to Key West, but this has now been increased to one hundred tons. It left New York on one of the Mallory line of boats yesterday and is due at Key West next Wednesday. The transfer will take a day, and the plan has been to have the Government ship start next Thursday for Cuba.

The decision of the administration to send supplies to the reconcentrados in Cuba was arrived at early in the week. General Lee had represented that he had been unable to distribute the goods that had been received in answer to the proclamation of the President to the American people. He reported that many tons of these supplies were stored in Havana and could not be forwarded to the eastern end of the island. The United States Consuls at Matanzas and Sagua la Grande had come in person to Havana to seek for relief after reporting to the State Department the terrible conditions existing in their respective districts.

The State Department immediately instituted inquiries, and, learning that the original decree of the Spanish Government authorizing the free admission of supplies applied only to the port of Havana, obtained permission for the free reception of these supplies at all ports.

The next obstacle met was the difficulty of transhipping the goods from Havana eastward, there being only a semi-weekly service by steamship and that subject to many vexatious local restrictions. When the United States cruiser Montgomery returned from her cruise, which included the Cuban ports of Matanzas and Santiago, the officers brought harrowing tales of the distress existing there. Captain Crowninshield, the chief of the Navigation Bureau of the Navy Department, an officer of the soundest discretion and judgment, was on the ship, an accidental passenger. He told President McKinley directly what he had learned. The result was the immediate decision of the Navy Department to accede to the request of the relief committee in New York to forward its supplies to the eastern ports of Cuba. One of the American lines of steamships running to New York had offered to take the bounteous contributions of the American people to Key West, and the President himself gave the order for their carriage to Eastern Cuba by any of the available ships of the North Atlantic squadron.

The announcement by the press of the purpose of the Government to send supplies to Cuba on naval vessels was made last Wednesday. Within twenty-four hours there were signs of resistance on the part of the Spanish Government. At first this took the shape of an informal inquiry by the Spanish Charge d'Affaires as to the correctness of the report, the inquiry being couched in an incredulous tone; and later, when the affirmation came, there was lodged, not a formal protest, but rather an insinuation that the movement of the naval ships would not be acceptable; that it would be construed into an act of active sympathy on the part of the Government of the United States with the insurgents. But the President had satisfied himself that the course he had chosen—that of sending the supplies in a naval vessel—was the only one that promised sufficient and prompt relief. There was no time for polite diplomatic exchange of notes when, according to General Lee's advice, people were perishing from hunger by hundreds every day in Cuba, and the Spanish Charge was so informed.

Senor du Bosc, when seen at the Spanish Legation to-day, could add little to the fund of information on the two subjects which were attracting so much official and public attention. He had received no word from his Government concerning General Lee, and he stated positively that no suggestions concerning General Lee's retirement had been submitted to him by the State Department. As to the sending of relief supplies by the Montgomery and Nashville, Mr. Du Bosc said he felt that merchant vessels were much better equipped for such service, and their use was not open to that misconstruction possible in sending supplies by vessels of the navy.

The news concerning General Lee aroused the deepest interest, and no little excitement throughout Washington, and for the time being the usual quiet of Sunday evening was put aside. In hotel corridors, at the clubs and in all public places it was the absorbing topic, and not since the Maine disaster has such widespread popular interest been evinced in the Spanish situation.

LIKELY TO LEAD TO SERIOUS RESULTS.

NEW YORK, March 6.—General Daniel E. Sickles, who was Minister of the United States to Spain from 1869 to 1874, during which period occurred the strained relations between that country and the United States over the Virginius affair, said to-day that Spain's request for the recall of Consul-General Lee was a serious move and likely to lead to serious results.

"Is not such an action at this time, following as it does, close upon the De Lome incident and the Maine disaster, sure to precipitate a war?" General Sickels was asked.

"Not at all. It is merely a diplomatic incident. President McKinley is at liberty to refuse to recall General Lee, and in that case Spain would be perfectly justified in handing him his passports on the single ground that he is persona non grata.

"Do you consider that this move on Spain's part puts this country nearer war than it was over the Virginius affair?"

"Not at all. If anything, we were nearer war at that time than now. I do not regard the request as a casus belli, and it is no more than their right to demand that if we send supplies to these people, they shall be sent by merchant vessels. The use of war ships at such a time might justly be regarded as a hostile act upon our part."

STATESMEN APPLAUD M'KINLEY'S COURSE.

His Refusal to Recall General Lee Gives Satisfaction in Every Quarter.

WASHINGTON, March 6.—Speaking of the Madrid dispatch made public by Assistant Secretary Day, Chairman Davis said:

"It is a circumstance which, added to the present strained conditions, makes things more vexatious. I approve the President's action in every particular."

Senator Pettigrew said: "I certainly approve the President's course in the matter. I should judge the request to recall our Consul-General is somewhat unusual and under other circumstances would be complied with, but the conditions precedent to this case took it out of the usual rule and justified the President's action. I think that, in view of the fact that it is conceded the Maine was blown up, the President would be justified in sending battleships loaded with combustibles, as well as food, and filled with armed men. It seems to me we cannot accept any settlement short of the independence of Cuba."

Senator Cullom said: "I regard the course pursued by the President in answer to the Spanish Government as right, justified by all the conditions and the American people will indorse him in the position he has taken. I have believed for some time that we were nearing a crisis from day to day, and it has seemed to me that the Spanish Government was endeavoring to bring on a conflict between that Government and ours. Whether this Government desires it or not, on this account, it would be almost forced into war with Spain. I do not well understand, in view of the manifestation of interest this country has taken in the conflict which has been going on between Spain and the Cubans, how a withdrawal of any kind could be thought of, either from the point of view of national interest or of common humanity. Our people do not want war, neither does the President, but neither the President nor the people will submit to any humiliation at the hands of the Spaniards. I think it is another step on their part into forcing an issue between that Government and our own."

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formulate certain predictions which I believe will be verified in all essential particulars. The court is practically certain to report that the Maine disaster was not an accident. I believe it equally certain to indicate clearly facts which prove the primary explosion to have been under the ship's bottom and not over it. The court is not likely to fasten the act on any person or persons, much less to attribute it directly to any representatives of the Spanish Government. Its report will probably be unanimous. On this last point there is some controversy among naval officers. Captain Chadwick is by common report believed to have assumed a more conservative attitude toward Powelson's evidence than any other member of the court, though the best information available at present represents him as being now thoroughly in line with his colleagues and convinced as they are that no interior explosion wrought the destruction.

It is believed by some well informed officers, however, that Lieutenant Commander Potter might not unnoticeably be influenced by the judgment of Captain Chadwick, who is his immediate and only superior in rank in command of the flagship at Key West, Potter being the executive officer.

There seems to be some doubt now whether the Maine's guns, even after they have been recovered by the wrecking apparatus, will ever be fit for service. During the fire that swept through the battle-ship after the explosion they were subjected to an intense heat. A practical expert in Key West recently told me that to render them fit for use again they would have to be annealed and practically recast. This would involve considerable expense, but without it my informant said he doubted whether any gunner in the fleet would care to assume the responsibility of firing one of them either at target practice or in active service.

Ten arrests on political charges have been made in Havana between midnight Friday and Saturday, and there is some excitement in consequence. Aside from Honore Laine, whose second incarceration I reported yesterday, the more important suspects detained are Senor Estrada, who was released under the amnesty proclamation not long ago from Chafarinas, and an alleged former insurgent named Pardo. The other prisoners are for the most part accused of participating in rebellion.

This renewed activity of the police is regarded as foreshadowing the more stringent policy of the autonomist government against political offenders. Laine, it is said, will probably be permitted to leave the island on the next steamer. He is a French subject.

The Herald of February 17 printed a sectional view of the American battle-ship, showing the location of the magazines, coal and stores. The plan was reproduced here in the Diario del Ejercito, February 19, and yesterday a clipping from the latter was posted in the Havana Produce Exchange, and under it was written a notice to the effect that it is time all loyal Spaniards took note of such information concerning American ships. Reliable persons who were among the crowd which welcomed the Oquendo yesterday heard cries: "Let more Maines come to Havana now."

A letter received at the American Consulate for Joseph H. Lane yesterday was marked under the address, "Probably one of the survivors of the Maine." A blue pencil mark of the Spanish postoffice under the address announced some postage still due and the same pencil wrote under the survivor words "I hope he is not." Lane was one of the wounded men taken to Key West. He says the roar of rockets and cadence of the military awoke Havana this Sunday morning, and at sunrise the harbor was alive with all craft summoned by signals flying at Morro, announcing the arrival of another ship. It turned out not to be the expected cruiser Cristobal Colon, but the Alfonso XIII of the Spanish line. Her decks were thronged with fifteen hundred soldiers from Spain. As she moved to anchorage tugs shot out from the piers with crashing bands on board and rocket batteries afloat and ashore roared a welcome to the new regiments which Spain pours to the Western world to the wonder of all nations.

Tugs circled the Alfonso XIII, the bands playing patriotic airs. The soldiers replied with a mighty cheer as the ship crept by the trim cruiser Vizcaya and Oquendo, and across the smooth water from Morro and Cabanas and the awakening city floated the music of bugles and far-flung cheers with which Havana greeted the friends in need. The officers and sailors on the Mangrove and Fern at anchor under the cruiser's guns hung over the rails and silently watched the Alfonso steam to her berth, and here and there a light-hearted American tar waltzed to the Spanish music. Altogether it was a spirited spectacle. I could but notice that troublous times made the welcome of the soldiers warmer and longer sustained than it would have been a few weeks ago. For an hour rockets and batteries were never silent and the bugles sang the accompaniment of the steeple bells ashore. Sleep had given place to activity in all craft in the harbor, except two. These were the shattered Maine under the half-masted Stars and Stripes, and the barge laden with coffins, which lies at anchor near by, awaiting the battle-ship's unrecovered dead.

The wreckers on the barges beside the Maine began once more to work, which even Sunday does not interrupt, and the Herald-Call dispatch boat moved out again past Morro, leaving the city as peaceful as the waters of its land-locked harbor.

CONSUL BARKER SAID TO HAVE RESIGNED.

Apathy of the American Government Is Given as the Probable Cause.

NEW YORK, March 6.—Walter B. Barker, United States Consul at Sagua La Grande, says a Havana dispatch, has resigned, it is said, because of dissatisfaction with the policy of the American Government. The dispatch says that the Government's apathy is expected to result in other resignations.

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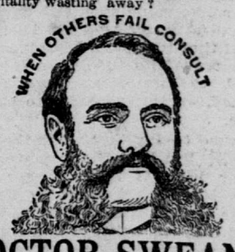

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