

AN ARMED TRUCE NOW EXISTS BETWEEN SPAIN AND AMERICA

The Administration Believes the United States Has Gained a Most Important Diplomatic Victory.

Spain's Torpedo Fleet Halted at the Canaries and This Country Ceases Hostile Demonstrations Pending Settlement of Questions at Issue.

NEW YORK, March 17.—The Herald's Washington correspondent telegraphs: The United States and Spain are halting at the brink of war. Important representations have, within the last few days, been exchanged between the two countries regarding the war like preparations of each and have resulted, I understand, in each power assuming a less war like attitude, pending further diplomatic negotiations for a settlement of the entire question.

Spain has stopped her torpedo flotilla at the Canary Islands and the United States will gradually withdraw the North Atlantic squadron from the vicinity of Cuba.

Behind all this is what amounts to practically a suggestion from Spain that the United States use its good offices to bring about peace in Cuba. The parties concerned in the negotiations which have brought about this status of affairs are all extremely reticent as to just what is contemplated. There is no doubt, however, that the frequent conferences between Assistant Secretary Day and Senator Polo y Bernabe, the Spanish Minister, coupled with the lengthy cipher cablegrams which have passed between the State Department and Minister Woodford, have been for the purpose of averting hostilities and with a view of bringing a speedy end to the Cuban rebellion.

Spain, I understand, has expressed a willingness to concede everything the Cubans demand except the hauling down of her flag and is now willing to have the United States use its good offices to bring about peace in the island.

Cuban independence the President considers to be written in the book of fate, and if the good offices of the administration are used to bring about peace in Cuba they will be used in this direction.

It cannot be learned whether the negotiations have passed beyond the point of agreeing to a temporary cessation of the contemplated naval demonstrations, but it is known that the administration

AMAZONAS WILL BE DELIVERED TO-DAY

LONDON, March 17.—The warship Amazonas, built for Brazil, but purchased by the United States, will be formally transferred to the United States Government to-morrow at Gravesend. Lieutenant-Commander Colwell, the United States naval attaché here, will receive the ship from her Brazilian commander. A crew from the San Francisco will then be marched on board, the Brazilian flag will be hauled down and the Brazilian sailors will be landed.

The executive officer of the San Francisco will probably take command of the Amazonas, and she will sail for the United States as speedily as possible under sealed orders. It is supposed she is going to the North American station, where her crew can be re-enforced. The Amazonas had been provisioned and coaled for her trip to Brazil, and the United States Government purchased all these supplies.

Commander Willard H. Brownson, the agent of the United States Department, who arrived here yesterday from New York, has been besieged by ship men and reporters. He says the reports of the object of his mission are incorrect, and that his errand is one of which he cannot speak. Apparently Commander Brownson is acting as adviser to Lieutenant-Commander Colwell.

A special dispatch from Rome says the Italian Minister of Marine, Admiral Brin, has informed the Spanish Ambassador to Italy, Count de Bonomar, that his request that Italy sell three warships to Spain will be discussed at the next Cabinet meeting. A special dispatch from Rome to-day says, however, that the Italian Government has sold the armored cruiser Varese to Spain.

According to a special dispatch from Sunderland, the United States Government has purchased a torpedo-boat destroyer from a shipbuilder named Duxford of that place.

considers that a great diplomatic victory has been gained by what has thus far transpired and that there is now a hope of settlement of not only the Maine disaster but of the entire Cuban question without hostilities.

The principal victory, the officials consider, is the decision of Spain to keep her fleet at the Canary Islands. From a strategical standpoint this would seem to be a big gain for the United States. The presence of a Spanish torpedo flotilla in Havana harbor would make the task of our naval fleet a much more serious and dangerous one if coming events should make it necessary to attempt the capture of that place.

At Hampton Roads the American fleet will be only thirty-six hours' sail from Havana. At the Canary Islands the Spanish fleet will be four weeks from Havana. By this agreement the United States has the Spanish Government in a position where the further westward movement of the torpedo flotilla could be considered an act of war, which would justify this country in intercepting the flotilla at sea and thus prevent it ever reaching Havana harbor.

Carrying out its part of the bargain, the United States battleships Massachusetts and Texas have been ordered to Hampton Roads and the remainder of the fleet will probably be ordered north within the next few weeks, unless new conditions should arise as a result of the receipt of the report of the Maine Court of Inquiry.

Spain has likewise held to the bargain and has retained at the Canary Islands the torpedo flotilla, which arrived at that point to-day from Cadiz.

Senor Don Luis Polo y Bernabe, the Spanish Minister, has made a statement as to what Spain might and might not regard as cause for war. Senor Polo y Bernabe was talking to-day about the relations between his country and the United States and expressed the hope and belief that war would not come. He was asked whether Spain would regard the recognition of the independence of the Cuban insurgents as casus belli.

"No," he replied, "such action would not necessarily be regarded as such. It would of course cause great indignation and result in the relations of the two countries becoming very much strained."

"But, suppose the United States intervened to end the war?" "I presume the only intervention that could be attempted would be armed intervention. That would certainly be casus belli."

Until the Spanish Minister spoke the general impression was that the recognition of Cuban independence would bring the two nations into conflict. Senor Polo de Bernabe intimates that there are conditions in which it might pass without serious trouble.

But there have been other notes struck to-day which are discordant and yet which may have only a momentary significance. The speech of Senator Proctor, who has been to Cuba, with his Yankee eyes open, was entirely unexpected. It was presumed that he

LONG LOST MINES OF PRECIOUS GEMS ARE FOUND AGAIN

Located in the Remotest Wilds of San Bernardino County and Marked by Strange Hieroglyphics.

Vast Deposits of Bright-Blue Turquoise That Cover Many Acres of the Earth's Surface---Doctor Eisen Calls It One of the Greatest Discoveries Made in California.

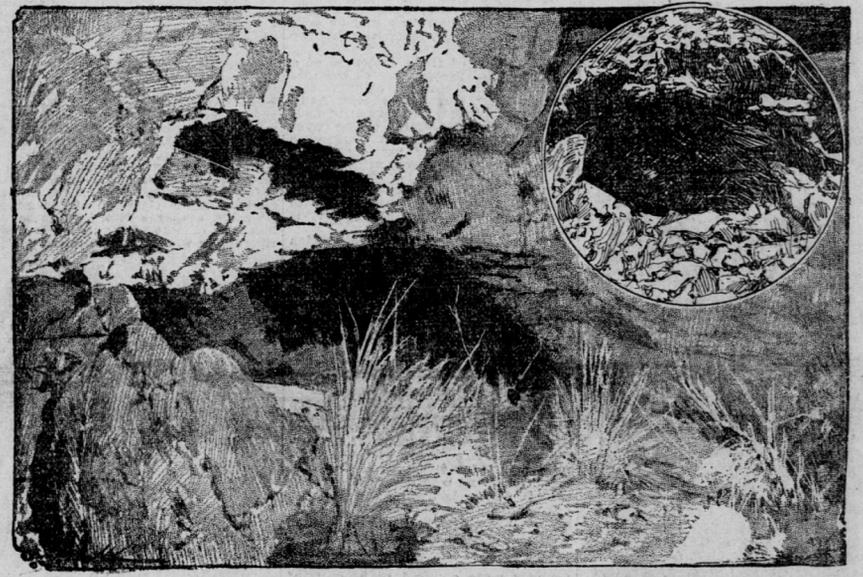
Archæology has been immeasurably enriched by the discovery just made by an expedition sent by The Call to the remote wilds of San Bernardino County. There have been found the mines of the ancients, long lost to knowledge, and so the secret source from which the Aztecs drew their supply of turquoise is no longer a secret locked in the mists of the past. The beds of precious stones have been located, and more interesting still the tools of the miners, left in the pits they dug with implements of stone, were picked up where they had been laid by hands that had for centuries been forgotten dust. With some inkling of the importance to be attached to the results The Call requested that Dr. Gustav Eisen of the Academy of Sciences become a member of the expedition and from a scientific standpoint analyze the bearing that whatever developed might have on archæology, a study to which he has devoted years and concerning which he is ranked as one of the highest authorities. In his own wear-out language Dr. Eisen presents his views.

Down in the northeast corner of San Bernardino County are the abandoned turquoise mines of a prehistoric people. This fact has been settled beyond doubt by an expedition sent out by The Call to investigate the matter, and the discoveries made by the party must be conceded to be the most important, from an archæological point of view, that have yet been made in California. Much light is thrown on the lives of the aborigines of the Pacific Coast, and it would appear as though a few mysteries had been cleared up. At any rate a rift has been made in the clouds of the past, and no doubt future scientific research will make all as clear as such matters can be made.

The tales the prospectors had told were glowing in the extreme. There were miles and miles of volcanic rock, carved with strange signs; there were hundreds of caves that showed evidences of having been inhabited long ago; there were extinct volcano craters, strange springs of water, mysterious passages cut through the rock, ancient implements lying about, and hundreds of acres of the earth's surface covered with outcroppings of turquoise. And all that the prospectors had told

has been found to be true by The Call's expedition. In fact, the prospectors greatly underrated the importance of the things they had told about. The Call's party left San Francisco about two weeks ago and have just returned, after having spent several days in the locality. The out-of-the-way location of the mines and the lack of traveling facilities made it a difficult matter to go and return, so that most of the time was spent on the road. But the trip has amply repaid for the effort and the hardships necessary to undergo to obtain the information.

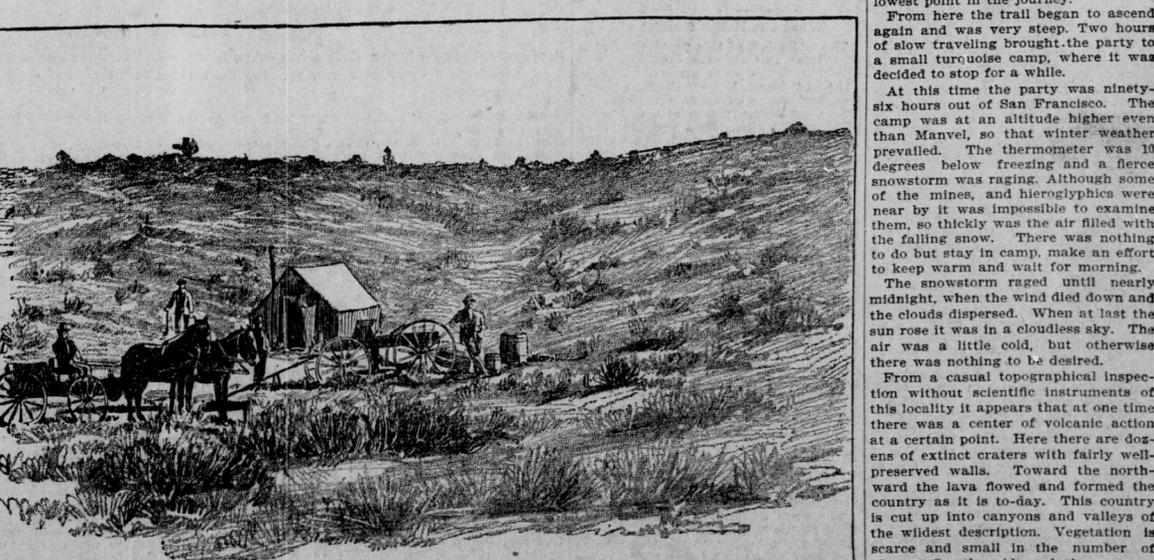
In order to reach the locality it was necessary to take the railroad to Blake, a small station on the Santa Fe road about twenty-five miles this side of the Needles. From here there is a plug road that runs to Manvel, a supply station in the mountains. To reach this point consumed forty-four hours, and the journey had just begun. Here a team and wagon were obtained and the start to the mines was made. J. W. Stine became one of the party at this point to act as guide. By wagon trail (roads there are none) the distance to the mines is said to be sixty miles. The fact that Manvel is nearly 6000 feet above sea level made the weather very cold. A wind came from the north that cut like a knife and drove the clouds of sand raised by the wagon into eyes and ears with relentless fury. Six hours' traveling, through mountain canyons, down and across the Ivanpan Sink and up into the mountains on the north brought the party to Mescal, an abandoned silver mine. A storm had come up by this time and a



CAVES OF PREHISTORIC PEOPLE IN CLIFFS. The ancient dwellings are in the rocky wall at the top. Some of the caves can be entered to a depth of twenty-five feet, while others are very shallow. At the same time there are evidences to show that the caves were much deeper and at one time served as homes for large numbers of people.

THE FINDING OF THESE TURQUOISE MINES, TOGETHER WITH THE RELICS OF A PREHISTORIC PEOPLE, IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ARCHÆOLOGICAL DISCOVERY EVER MADE IN CALIFORNIA.

By this time the party was ninety-six hours out of San Francisco. The camp was at an altitude higher even than Manvel, so that winter weather prevailed. The thermometer was 10 degrees below freezing and a fierce snowstorm was raging. Although some of the mines, and hieroglyphics were near by it was impossible to examine them, so thickly was the air filled with the falling snow. There was nothing to do but stay in camp, make an effort to keep warm and wait for morning. The snowstorm raged until nearly midnight, when the wind died down and the clouds dispersed. When at last the sun rose it was in a cloudless sky. The air was a little cold, but otherwise there was nothing to be desired. From a casual topographical inspection without scientific instruments of this locality it appears that at one time there was a center of volcanic action at a certain point. Here there are dozens of extinct craters with fairly well-preserved walls. Toward the northward the lava flowed and formed the country as it is to-day. This country is cut up into canyons and valleys of the widest description. Vegetation is scarce and small in the number of plants. On the sides of the canyons are high cliffs filled with caves. In examining this country The Call's expedition started from one of the low points in the canyons, and worked upward toward the craters. It is in the valleys between the can-



VIEW OF TURQUOISE CAMP AND SURROUNDINGS. The hills back of the tent will give an idea of the kind of land in which the turquoise is found. FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

NEWS OF THE DAY. Weather forecast for San Francisco: Fair on Friday; fresh westerly winds. Maximum temperature for the past twenty-four hours: San Francisco, 60 degrees; Portland, 48 degrees; Los Angeles, 54 degrees; San Diego, 56 degrees. FIRST PAGE. Spain and America at Truce. Lost Turquoise Mines Found Again. SECOND PAGE. Some Strange Indian Writings. THIRD PAGE. Court of Inquiry Not Yet Ready. Cubans Reject Autonomy. San Diego Bay's Defenses. New Charter for Los Angeles. FOURTH PAGE. Senator Proctor on Cuba. A Squadron at Hampton Roads. Divers Work on the Maine. Plot to Destroy the Maine. FIFTH PAGE. Tragedy of the Napa Wilds. To Fight Sea at San Jose. The Corona at Port Townsend. SIXTH PAGE. Editorial. The Defeat of Annexation. Ships That Don't Pass. Scapegoats Not in Demand. The Jury Box Scandal. Sealers of Weights and Measures. The Law and the Dope Fiend. Stories From the Corridors. Answers to Correspondents. SEVENTH PAGE. News Along the Water Front. Testing the Copyright Law. Developments of the Hoff Case. EIGHTH PAGE. Sam Wall's Trip to Fort Yukon. Tanana Indians Starving. Rich Ore on American Soil. NINTH PAGE. Uncle Sam's Reindeer Sold. Mining Men Are Swindled. Money Burned by a Maniac. Almost Beasts Linger. Trial of Fratfield Clark. TENTH PAGE. St. Patrick's Day Celebration. Opium Evil and the Law. ELEVENTH PAGE. Opposed to the Weight Law. Colon Tries to Evade. Beer May Go Higher. TWELFTH PAGE. The Commercial World. THIRTEENTH PAGE. News of Army and Navy. News From Across the Bay. FOURTEENTH PAGE. Racing at Emeryville. FIFTEENTH PAGE. Births, Marriages and Deaths. SIXTEENTH PAGE. Footloose for Women. Death of T. J. Bass.