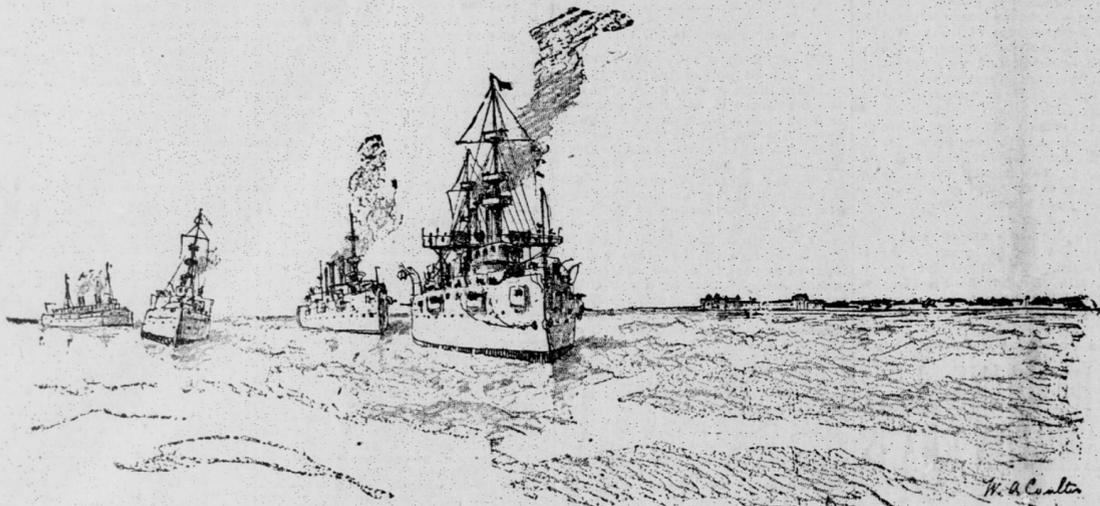


ON MONDAY AN ULTIMATUM WILL ANSWER SPAIN'S MENACE

THE HORNETS OF THE SPANISH NAVY ARRIVE IN PORTO RICO HARBOR

News of a Most Distinctly Warlike Character Causes Perturbation in the Minds of Naval Men.

Still the President Hesitates, but Urged On by Congress There Must Be a Facing of the Issue Not Later Than Monday.



COMMODORE SCHLEY'S FLYING SQUADRON.

Composed of the Battle-ship Massachusetts and the Cruisers Brooklyn, Columbia and Minneapolis. In Hampton Roads, Awaiting Orders for a Destination as Yet Unknown, but Presumed to Be Porto Rico. Old Point Comfort, With the Hotels and Fortress Monroe, Is Seen on the Right.

THE SPANISH CABINET WILL MAKE NO MOVE NOW TO SECURE PEACE

Sagasta's Organ Says It Lies With the President of the United States as to Whether the Two Countries Fight.

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MADRID, April 1.—It is generally accepted to-day that Spain, through the most liberal Cabinet she has ever known, has gone as far as a nation can.

The Liberal, Sagasta's organ, says: "Should President McKinley agree to it, the danger which threatens peace will cease, and the tension between the two countries will cease. Should he not agree, we accept with a tranquil conscience the trials which are in store in defense of our honor and our rights."

Following are some of the details of the negotiations which have been going on during the last three days, leading up to the present issue. Some days ago a note was sent to the Spanish Government, not, as has been stated, suggesting intervention, but urging the Spanish Government to think of some means by which the present unfortunate condition of affairs could immediately be brought to an end.

The reply made to this by the Minister of Foreign Affairs was that it was impossible. Senor Gullon is a somewhat haughty statesman, who sticks to the tradition that Spain is perfectly able to manage her own affairs, especially those which concern Cuba.

This gave an opening to the United States Government, and General Woodford pursued his course in the cause of peace by suggesting that an armistice be announced by the Spanish Government, he undertaking that the United States would obtain the acceptance of the same by the insurgents. He begged that a reply might be given at once.

Again there came from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs word that it was impossible. Nothing daunted, General Woodford, seeing his way, and this the only way, to honorable and just peace, satisfaction to Spain, the United States and Cuba, cabled on Sunday to the President, who gave General Woodford full power to act in the direction he indicated.

Spain failing to accept any of the plans, President McKinley authorized the Minister to break off diplomatic relations. This, of course, meant the certain intervention of the United States in Cuba.

Finding Senor Gullon non-compliant, General Woodford applied, through the Minister for Foreign Affairs, for a conference with Premier Sagasta, asking Senors Gullon and Moret to be present. This most solemn meeting, which really meant peace or war, was held, as I announced, on Tuesday. The conference, which will be recorded on a page of history, was truly remarkable. General Woodford had, it is said, intended to have delivered notes of the requests, which he had written down, and retire with a few words, but he changed his mind, and after reading the requests made, which are summarized above, he pro-

SPANISH CRUISERS SAIL TO JOIN THE FLOTILLA.

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HAVANA, April 1.—The Spanish cruisers Vizcaya and Oquendo sailed to-night in a manner that may be termed mysterious. As you had already been informed, it was suspected that these two vessels would leave this port sooner or later. This had been the rumor here. Nevertheless few were prepared for the fact of their actual starting to-day. They went out to-night with few to observe them.

No official information could be obtained with regard to the destination of the cruisers, but there is good reason for believing they are on their way to Porto Rico to protect the torpedo flotilla. When it was learned that the big cruisers were going out great excitement prevailed in Havana. Thousands flocked to the wharves and shores, but they saw nothing. The ships were under steam all day and watchers guessed something was about to happen. In the city to-night little else is talked of but the departure of the Vizcaya and Oquendo. Spaniards are saying they will soon be back with the flotilla under convoy.

Heeded in his own eloquent manner, so well known in the United States courts, to plead good reasons upon the score of humanity, commonsense, economy and peace, which made it evident that Spain had but one course to adopt.

The Call office at San Francisco was to-day and will hereafter be connected by direct wire with the Call's office at Washington, D.C., which is in communication by wire with the White House and the State, Navy and War departments. The arrangement is one readers of The Call will readily appreciate.

peace, a peace safeguarding the honor of Spain, and which would be satisfactory to Cuba and to the large interests held there by the United States. A reply will be given on Thursday, which I feel confident will be satisfactory, and, therefore, I beg you to take no action until I shall have communicated that reply to you.

On Tuesday a Cabinet council was held at which the discussion was very keen. That evening, beyond the Queen, no one outside the ministerial circles knew what the result was going to be.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—In the open session of the Senate to-day Mr. Chandler of New Hampshire called up the resolution he introduced yesterday requesting the President to send the Cuban consular correspondence to the Senate and at his suggestion it was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. Immediately afterward, however, he introduced another resolution, which went over, calling on the Secretary of State for the same information.

After the passage of a few bills the Senate went into secret executive session, the proceedings occupying the greater part of the afternoon and devoted to a discussion of the wisdom of purchasing the Danish West India islands.

It was decided finally that the bill for the purchase of the Danish islands should not be pressed any further now, as it was apparent to its friends that it could not pass until after long debate. It has, therefore, been practically withdrawn.

DECLARES SPAIN WILL REJECT ALL PROPOSALS.

Semi-Official Statement Issued at Madrid in Response to Cuban Independence.

MADRID, April 1.—A semi-official statement has been issued which says: "One of the most immoral devices which is being employed at the present moment to injure Spain and mislead opinion in the United States is that of supposing Spain would be disposed to recognize the independence of Cuba in return for the payment of indemnity. Already, on the basis of jingo fancies, the people have been led to believe that President McKinley based his proposal on this idea. The impression has been utilized in Wall street by various means to attract speculators into jingo circles and to compel them unconsciously to aid in spreading untruths."

"It is our duty to declare in the most authoritative manner that this is untrue; that no proposition containing the slightest allusion to the independence of Cuba, either with or without indemnity has been made to the Spanish Government. The Government would straightway reject any such proposition and there is no party or statesman in Spain disposed to listen to such a solution."

MAY GET SHIPS IN ITALY.

LEGHORN, Italy, April 1.—Commander W. B. Brownson, U. S. N., inspected the ships that are in process of construction at the Orlando yard, and is said to have decided to buy the Borsoli, which is being built for Morocco. Commander Brownson has gone to Rome to confer with the Minister of Marine, Admiral Brin.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

- Weather forecast for San Francisco. Cloudy and unsettled weather on Saturday, with occasional light showers; fresh westerly wind. Maximum temperature for the past twenty-four hours: 62 degrees. San Francisco: 62 degrees. Portland: 60 degrees. Los Angeles: 68 degrees. San Diego: 64 degrees. Sacramento: 64 degrees.

NEW YORK, April 2.—The Herald's Washington correspondent sends the following: "I am informed that at to-night's Cabinet meeting it was practically decided to send an ultimatum to Spain insisting upon an immediate and complete compliance with all of the President's demands."

TORPEDO FLOTILLA SENT OUT BY SPAIN REACHES PORTO RICO

NEW YORK, April 1.—A Washington special to the Herald says: Spain has achieved an important advantage over the United States in getting her torpedo flotilla to this side of the Atlantic before the commencement of hostilities. If all the vessels of the flotilla have arrived at Porto Rico Spain now has at that island thirteen torpedo vessels, representing the most advanced ideas on the line of torpedo-vessel construction. There are three torpedo gunboats—the Dona Maria, De Molina, the Marquis de la Victoria and the Don Alvaro de Bazan, each of 825 tons displacement and capable of steaming at the rate of 20 knots an hour.

The torpedo-boat destroyer type is represented by six vessels—the Furor, Terror, Audaz, Osada, Pluton and Prosperina—each of 400 tons displacement and rated as 30-knot vessels. There are four torpedo-boats in the squadron. Of these the Halcon and Azor are of 108 tons displacement and 24 knots speed, while the Ariete and Rayo displace ninety-seven tons each and have a speed of twenty-six knots.

The announcement of the arrival of the flotilla was a surprise to the officials of the Navy Department, for it had not been expected that the torpedo-boats would be able to make a high rate of speed on a prolonged sea voyage with the necessity of frequently receding from the attendant collier. The naval authorities have not received official information of the arrival of the flotilla, but they believe the announcement is probably correct and regard the arrival of the flotilla as a demonstration of the ability of torpedo-boats to make long ocean voyages speedily and safely and of their usefulness in conducting distant naval operations.

Some days are yet expected to elapse before the arrival at Porto Rico of the armored cruisers Cristobal Colon and Maria Teresa and the torpedo-boat destroyer Destructor, which have been dispatched from Spain to reinforce the torpedo flotilla, but before their arrival it is possible that the armored cruisers Vizcaya and Oquendo, which sailed from Havana to-day, will arrive at Porto Rico and add their strength to that of the flotilla.

Then when the other vessels arrive Spain will have in one squadron four first-class armored cruisers, three torpedo gunboats, seven torpedo-boat destroyers and four torpedo-boats. It is understood that the forces on this side are to be still further strengthened by the addition of the second-class battleship Victoria and the protected cruiser Alfonso XII, and by other armored protected vessels and more torpedo vessels as rapidly as they can be prepared for the voyage.

Naval officers see in these Spanish preparations for the strengthening of their fleet on this side of the Atlantic every reason why Spain should endeavor by all the resources of diplomacy to delay the final clash with this country. Many of them, believing that war was inevitable in the end, favored action by this country which would precipitate hostilities before Spain's plans for concentrating her fleet could be carried out, pointing out that the fleet of vessels at Havana could be first overcome and then the torpedo flotilla would be intercepted and the entire Spanish navy could be destroyed in detail.

There is little doubt that an effort will be made by the Spanish authorities to bring the flotilla and cruisers to Havana before the breaking out of hostilities. Strategists would like to intercept them on the way. It is about the same distance from Hampton Roads to Havana as from Porto Rico to that city, but the Brooklyn, Columbia and Minneapolis could probably reach Havana from Hampton Roads in less time than would be taken for the Spanish flotilla, though it is not probable that they could if the slower battleships of the flying squadron should accompany them. It is possible, therefore, that there may be a temporary combination of all or part of the vessels of Captain Sampson's squadron with the squadron under Commodore Schley for operations against the Spanish squadron.

Captain Sampson's vessels, from their neighboring base of supplies at Key West, could readily combine with vessels of the flying squadron which might be used to prevent the Spanish squadron entering the harbor of Havana.

bers went before the Cabinet and explained that a junction between the Spanish war vessels at Havana and the torpedo flotilla ought to be prevented at all hazards if this country is going to fight. They recommended the dispatch of the flying squadron immediately to intercept the flotilla and a blockade of Havana harbor by the North Atlantic Squadron to prevent the departure of Spain's two cruisers.

The Cabinet saw that both of these steps would be acts of war, and in view of the fact that Congress had the right to declare war, it was decided that neither of these steps should be taken until Congress had acted.

The President is now waiting again. The expectation that the country is surely to be plunged into war is enter-