

EAGER EXPECTANCY.

That With Which Maine Inquiry Court Report is Awaited.

CAPITAL SUPPRESSED EXCITEMENT.

Secretary Gage Says If Spain Did in War Will Follow in Fifteen Minutes, But Also Says He Does Not Think the Deed Did—Unofficial Report of Fando's Capture by Garcia—Unofficial News of the Afternoon.

Washington, March 19.—The keenest expectancy is apparent in all official quarters in anticipation of the early receipt of the report of the Maine inquiry court. A cabinet officer said it would arrive early next week, but that no intimation as to its character had been received yet.

Warlike preparations continue with unabated vigor. Washington, March 19.—In the house, Dingley offered a bill reported unanimously by the ways and means committee for free entry of naval supplies and war materials until Jan. 1, 1899. The bill passed without division.

Inquiry Court Still in Session. Key West, March 19.—The court of inquiry is still in session on the Iowa. The Massachusetts and Texas leave for Hampton Roads today.

What Gage Says. Pittsburg, March 19.—Secretary Gage is here to attend the annual banquet of the chamber of commerce tonight. In an interview he said if it was shown conclusively that the Spanish government was responsible for the Maine disaster war would be declared in 15 minutes. However, he thought 90 per cent of the people believed that the explosion was an accident. He thought the report of the inquiry court would be in Monday.

FANDO CAPTURED BY GARCIA. Unofficial Report of Great Insurgent Victory.

New York, March 19.—A Key West special reports that Gen. Fando, of the Spanish army, has been captured by Gen. Garcia, the insurgent leader.

Mrs. Hodgson Barnett's Divorce. Washington, March 19.—Frances Hodgson Barnett, the well known novelist, has begun suit for divorce from Dr. Swan Barnett. The papers are suppressed.

Willard to Sick. Chicago, March 19.—E. S. Willard, the well known actor, has cancelled his dates. He is suffering from a severe attack of typhoid fever.

The Spanish Steamer. London, March 19.—The steamer sank with all on board Wednesday morning in collision with the British steamer Princess of Gabbard Lightship, is believed to be the Ville Danvers, a Belgian government training ship, having on board 60 cadets and 29 officers in addition to her regular crew.

Significant Withdrawals. Constantinople, March 19.—In consequence of the sultan's direct appeal, the czar has consented to withdraw his demand for \$3,375,000 arrears in the Russo-Turkish war indemnity. This, it is alleged, forebodes Turkey's acceptance of Prince George, of Greece, as a candidate of the czar as governor of Crete.

Further Little Blizzards. Paducah, Ky., March 19.—T. P. Farkey, the large tobacco dealer and banker, shot and killed himself as the result of recent business reverses.

England's Great Men. London, March 19.—The Pall Mall Gazette says Gladstone's condition is appreciably worse. The health of the marquis of Salisbury is greatly improved.

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COME AGAIN, BROTHER LAINE.

Fetch on Some More Evidence That Gen. Weyler is a Lunatic.

Havana, March 19.—Late Thursday night a correspondent saw Don Francisco de los Santos Guzman, to whom General Weyler is alleged to have written a letter, published in the New York Journal, apparently suggesting the destruction of the United States battleship Maine. The former president of the cortes was much surprised when asked if he had received such a letter. He said: "I have not received any such letter from General Weyler, and for that reason it is impossible that any one could have stolen such a letter from me. I am ignorant of the existence of such a letter and consequently of its alleged contents."



QUEEN REGENT MARIA CRISTINA. One of such a letter and consequently of its alleged contents.

Senor Francisco Diaz, the reporter of the Union Constitucional, who is said

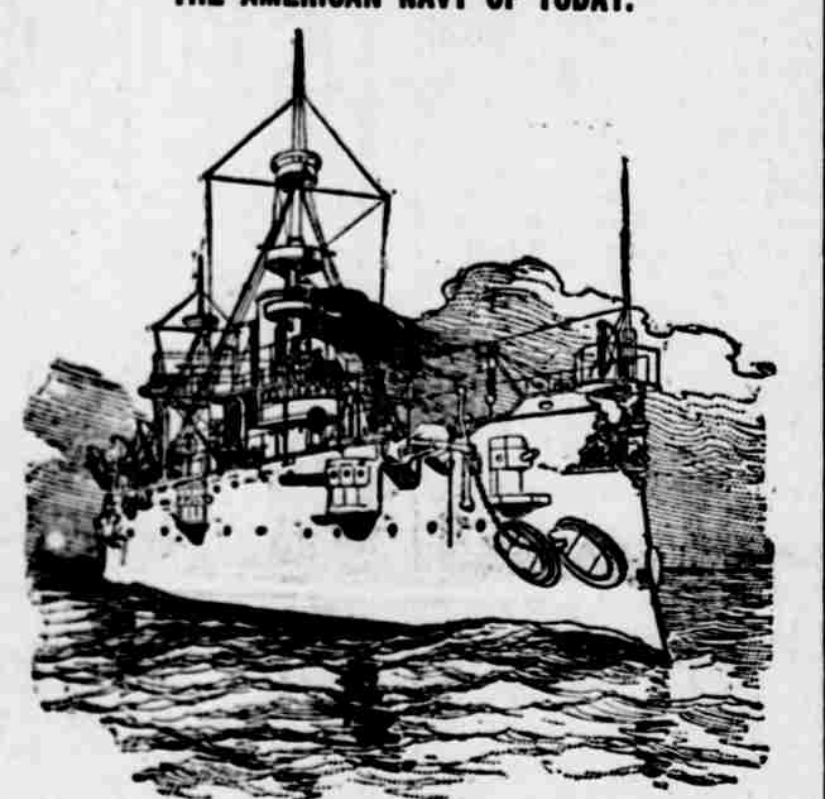
M'KINLEY SAID HURRY,

And That Is All That Is Known Regarding the Report on the Maine Disaster.

MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK, PERHAPS.

Long-Expected Document May Be Published, But Don't Gamble on That—Alleged Austro-Spanish Alliance—Europe at Work to Avert War Over Cuba—Figures Purporting to Give Spain's Military Strength—Correspondent Laine's Story Denied by the Havana Parties.

Washington, March 19.—All that is known regarding the report on the Maine disaster is that the president has suggested that the report be made as soon as possible, and in consequence it is expected to reach this city in the course of two or three days. The cabinet yesterday talked over the matter and the time stated was the general opinion of the members when they had heard all that Secretary Long had to report on the subject. A cabinet officer expressed the belief that the report will require careful consideration on the part of the president and his cabinet before being given to the public, which would seem to postpone publication to some time about the middle of next week, although nothing is certain on that point. Beyond the Amazonas, her sister ship Abreulla, and the Mayflower no purchases of ships have been made by the navy department. The Amazonas was formally turned over to the United States yesterday at the British ship-



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to have given a copy of the alleged letter to a Journal correspondent at Havana, was even more surprised when questioned on the subject. He said: "It is the first time I have heard of such a letter from General Weyler or from anyone else. This being true, of course I could not have given the alleged copy to any one."

STRENGTH OF THE SPANISH ARMY.

What We Would Have to Fight on Land in Case of War. Washington, March 19.—Seventy thousand men is the number of Spanish soldiers who have been killed, wounded and otherwise incapacitated for duty during the present war in Cuba. These figures have been received in this city recently from reliable sources, and are said to be as nearly authentic as it is possible to obtain them without recourse to the records kept by the Spanish government. From the same source considerable other information bearing on the military strength of Spain and her dependencies is obtained. The present force of Spain in Cuba is composed of 135,000 regulars, of which it is estimated, 80,000 are effective for military purposes. There are about 30,000 members in what is known as the volunteer army. These are mostly in the province of Havana, and are largely in the nature of home guards, corresponding to our state militia.

The strength of the Spanish army at home and including her nearby possessions is 100,000 men, which in times of demand for additional soldiers may be increased as follows: First reserve, 50,000; second reserve, 100,000, all of whom are instructed in military tactics, and a third reserve the members of which are not instructed of 30,000, making in all a grand total of 610,000 men. Since these figures were received here recent drafts of 15,000 men to strengthen the army in Cuba have only 35,000 men of Spain's regular army now in the peninsula, the Balearic Islands, the Spanish possessions in North Africa and the Canary Islands.

In the Philippine Islands Spain has an army of 32,000 men, which includes about 15,000 native troops. Several regiments of the latter were disbanded during the time of the late insurrection in the islands and in time of war, it is said, they are of very little use to the Spanish government. In Porto Rico there are 5,000 Spanish troops, which, in the event of hostilities could be supplemented by 4,000 volunteers.

SAMPSON DOES NOT KNOW

When the Maine Report Will Be Ready and Refuses to Surmise.

Key West, Fla., March 19.—The court of inquiry is diligently continuing its sessions on board the battleship Iowa, and judging from statements made by members it is quite probable how many more days will pass before the public learns its conclusions. By the courtesy of Rear Admiral Sigsbee the correspondent of the Associated Press was yesterday enabled to escape the rigor of the recent rule forbidding correspondent to go on board warships, and was the first civilian to interview the members of the court of inquiry since they secreted themselves on Wednesday on the Iowa. Captain Sampson said: "The court is still hard at work. I have just left my conferees. It is utterly impossible to say when our report will be ready. If I surmised the date and you reported it I am afraid something might occur that would defeat the expectation and only serve to disappoint the anxious

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public. When the report is ready it will not be for us to make the announcement. Washington, I presume, will do that." If a preliminary report had already been sent to Washington, Captain Sampson apparently knew nothing of it.

VIEW OF A CUBAN AUTONOMIST.

Present Scheme for Cuban Government Fills the Bill for Him.

Washington, March 19.—A distinguished assemblage of officials representing in their several capacities the Spanish government and the new insular government of Cuba met here yesterday. They included the Spanish minister, who in this instance acts as the special plenipotentiary of Spain to negotiate commercial treaties; Senor Manuel Ralael Angulo, special delegate of the Cuban government; Senor Leonida Varela, secretary of the chamber of commerce of Havana, joint commissioner, and Senor Cadran, of the Cuban finance division, joint commissioner. They are here to open negotiations for commercial treaties between the United States, Spain and Cuba. Senor Angulo talked freely of the autonomy scheme for Cuba.


He said that the Cuban people desired self-government. Heretofore they had felt that Spain was not willing to grant real autonomy. When, however, Spain put into force the present autonomous plan it was accepted by the most advanced autonomists in Cuba as fully meeting their aspirations. He and others who had always belonged to the radical autonomist wing were convinced, he said, that when the passions of the moment passed away all Cubans would accept autonomy as giving them home rule in its fullest sense.

As a member of the radical autonomist party Angulo said it was his deliberate opinion that the plan now offered by Spain was a complete system of local self-government, although like every human effort it was subject to certain improvements in its administrative features, which he believed Spain would agree to. He had no doubt that the Cuban problem would be solved without a conflict between the United States and Spain. It would have been settled before this time, he said, if the present agitation had not influenced those who were about to accept autonomy and induced them to adopt an expectant attitude. When asked as to the present war preparations and the prospect of a conflict between the United States and Spain he said:

"I do not believe there is to be a conflict between the United States and Spain over Cuba, because, since the death of Canovas, the policy has been such that the United States can have no pretext or cause of resentment, neither as a nation nor as a defender of the rights of the people of the western continent in their conflicts with the European nations; because Spain, in use of its sovereign will and following the suggestion of the United States government, has granted to the people of Cuba all the liberties compatible with the historical rights of Spain over the island of Cuba, as recognized by all civilized nations, the United States included."

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