

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

ADDRESS FROM M'KINLEY ON MAINE REPORT.

WAS A MISSION OF PEACE.

The Battleship Was Sent to Havana to Cement the Friendship of Spain and America—The President Trusts That the Queen Regent's Justice Will Cause Proper Action.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The President to-day sent the following message to Congress:

To the Congress of the United States: For some time prior to the visit of the Maine to Havana harbor our consular representatives of the United States to the Cuban waters in accordance with the purpose of the mission of protection to American interest, even though no immediate need therefor might exist.

SPAIN SHOWED APPRECIATION.

This announcement was received by the Spanish government with appreciation of the friendly character of the visit of the Maine and with notification of intention to return the courtesy by sending Spanish ships to the principal ports of the United States.

THE EXPLOSION OF THE SHIP.

At forty minutes past 9 in the evening on the 15th of February the Maine was destroyed by an explosion, by which the entire forward part of the ship was utterly wrecked.

THE NATION HELD ITSELF IN CHECK.

The appalling calamity fell upon the people of our country with crushing force, and for a brief time an intense excitement prevailed, which, in a community less just and self-controlled than ours, might have led to hasty acts of blind retribution.

FAIR INVESTIGATION MADE.

This mode of procedure is proceeded with in all cases of casualty or disaster to national vessels of any maritime state. A naval court of inquiry was at once organized, composed of officers well qualified by rank and practical experience to discharge the onerous duty imposed upon them.

PLACED BEFORE CONGRESS.

The findings of the court of inquiry were reached after twenty-three days of continuous labor, on the 21st of March instant, and having been approved on the 22d by the commander-in-chief of the United States naval force on the North Atlantic, was transmitted to the executive.

HOW THE MAINE WAS DESTROYED.

Its purport is in brief as follows: When the Maine arrived at Havana she was conducted by the regular government pilot to buoy No. 4, to which she was moored in from five and one-half to six fathoms of water.

SOME CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE.

That frame 17, the outer shell of the ship from a point eleven and one-half feet from the middle line of the ship and six feet above the keel when in its normal position, has been found up so as to be not about four feet above the surface of the water; therefore, about thirty-four feet above where it would be had the ship sunk upright.

ONLY A MINE COULD HAVE DONE IT. In the opinion of the court this effect could have been produced only by the explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame 15 and somewhat on the port side of the ship.

THE BLAME NOT FIXED.

Sigsbee and His Men Fully Exonerated, But the Responsibility for the Disaster Not Placed—As Had Been Anticipated, the Wreck of the Maine Was Occasioned by a Floating Mine.

SENT TO SPAIN'S QUEEN.

I have directed that the finding of the court of inquiry and the views of this government thereon be communicated to the government of her majesty, the queen, and I do not permit myself to doubt that the sense of justice of the Spanish nation will dictate a course of action suggested by honor and the friendly relations of the two governments.

SCHLEY TAKES COMMAND.

Cheers for the New Commodore—Ready to Move.

FORT MONROE, Va., March 29.—More than usual enthusiasm was displayed to-day by the officers and men of that portion of the American flying squadron already assembled here when Commodore W. S. Schley took command.

Commodore Schley stepped to the bridge of the Brooklyn and, showing his commission as commander, took possession. At the same instant his flag was broken from the Brooklyn's masthead and one of the big guns belched forth a salute which was answered from the Massachusetts, lying near.

LIBERALS WIN IN SPAIN.

Sagasta Will Have a Majority of at Least 108 in the Next Cortes. MADRID, March 29.—The elections for the popular branch of the Cortes passed off, on the whole, quietly. The indications are that the government of Senor Sagasta will have an enormous majority. It is estimated that he will have the support of 300 of the 432 members of the congress.

NEW POINT IN TESTIMONY.

The Maine's Position Was Never Changed After She Entered Havana Harbor. WASHINGTON, March 29.—One of the main points brought out by the testimony in the Maine case will correct an important impression which has prevailed all over the country.

GLADSTONE CANNOT LIVE.

The Present Illness of the Ex-Premier Must Soon Prove Fatal. LONDON, March 29.—The Westminster Gazette this afternoon, discussing the health of Mr. Gladstone, says: "It is no news, we fear to say, that Mr. Gladstone's illness must necessarily be fatal in a comparatively short time."

General Rosecrans' Successor.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—By unanimous vote of the executive committee of the society of the Army of the Cumberland, General David S. Stanley has been designated to act as president of the society, vice General Rosecrans, deceased, until the next annual reunion.

Fruit Jar Factory Burned.

MUNCIE, Ind., March 29.—One of the new tanneries at Hall Bros.' fruit jar glass factory No. 2 burst last night and the 320 tons of molten glass flooded the brick floor, spring the building, which was totally destroyed, entailing a loss of \$20,000, with but \$23,000 insurance.

THE MAINE REPORT.

FINDINGS OF THE COURT SENT TO CONGRESS.

THE BLAME NOT FIXED.

Sigsbee and His Men Fully Exonerated, But the Responsibility for the Disaster Not Placed—As Had Been Anticipated, the Wreck of the Maine Was Occasioned by a Floating Mine.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The following is a full text of the report of the court of inquiry:

United States Ship Iowa, First Rate Key West, Fla., Monday, March 21, 1894.—After full and mature consideration of all the testimony before it, the court finds as follows: That the United States battleship Maine arrived in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, upon the twenty-fifth day of January, 1898, and was taken to buoy No. 4, in from five and a half to six fathoms of water, by the regular government pilot.

THE DISCIPLINE EXCELLENT.

The state of discipline on board the Maine was excellent, and all orders and regulations in regard to the care and safety of the ship were strictly carried out.

SPECIAL CARE WAS TAKEN.

The waste was carefully looked after on board the Maine to obviate danger. Special orders in regard to this had been given by the commanding officer.

AS TO THE COAL BUNKERS.

The coal bunkers were inspected. Of those bunkers adjoining the forward magazines and shell rooms four were empty, namely: B3, B4, B5, B6. A16 had been in use that day and A16 was full of New River coal.

AFTER-BOILERS WITH LOW PRESSURE.

The two after-boilers of the ship were in use at the time of the disaster, and for auxiliary purposes only, with a comparatively low pressure of steam and being tended by a reliable watch.

THE FIRST EXPLOSION LIGHT.

The first explosion was more in the nature of a report, like that of a gun, while the second explosion was more prolonged and of greater volume.

Another Cruiser Bought.

BERLIN, March 29.—Lietenant Commander Niblack, the United States naval attaché, has returned here from Kiel. It is understood he has conditionally purchased for the United States government a protected cruiser building at the German yards for a South American government.

Fast Printing His Invention.

SALEM, Mass., March 29.—Abner Cheney Goodall died here yesterday, aged 93 years. He perfected the first printing press that printed on both sides in one operation.

CLEARLY THE WORK OF A MINE.

In the opinion of the court this effect could have been produced only by the explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame eighteen and somewhat on the port side of the ship.

REFERRED WITHOUT DEBATE.

There was an outburst of applause in the galleries and upon the floor when the message was concluded, immediately afterward the death of Representative Simpkins was announced.

SPANISH BOAT MISSING.

The Audaz's Sister Ship Has Not Been Heard From Since the Storm. NEW YORK, March 29.—A dispatch to the New York World from Waterford, Ireland, says:

Plans to Care for American Citizens in Havana.

NEW YORK, March 28.—A Key West correspondent of the New York Herald says: "It is now said on good authority that the Mangrove, which sailed for Havana on Friday, went there ostensibly to bring away material saved from the Maine, but in reality to be on hand in case of an outbreak in Havana, so that Americans could take refuge on the vessel."

TERRITORY STORM SWEEP.

Three Families Believed to Have Been Killed in a Cyclone. SOUTH McALESTER, I. T., March 29.—At least fourteen people were killed and much loss of property resulted from a cyclone that struck Lehigh and Coal Gate Saturday night and mowed a path about half a mile wide almost to this city.

MRS. PARNELL DEAD.

Burns She Received at Her Home in Ireland Prove Fatal. LONDON, March 29.—Mrs. Della Tudor Parnell, daughter of the celebrated American naval officer, Rear Admiral Charles Stewart, and mother of the late Charles Stewart Parnell, died last night at Avondale, Rathdrum, County Wicklow, Ireland, as the result of burns received from the igniting of her clothing while she was sitting before a fire.

Oklahoma Cattle Suffer.

GUTHRIE, Okla., March 29.—The cold and wet weather of the past week has caused suffering among the large herds of cattle recently brought into Osage, Kaw, Otoe and other Indian reservations from the South, and hundreds of them have died from exposure.

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Have Sailed for America.

LONDON, March 29.—The United States cruisers San Francisco and New Orleans (formerly Amazonas) sailed at 1:40 p. m. yesterday for New York.

NOW TALK OF PEACE.

A REASSURING MESSAGE FROM SPAIN.

WOODFORD IS HEARD FROM.

The Strained Relations May Yet Be Satisfactorily Relieved—It is Understood That Spain is Willing to Make Important Concessions to the United States on Conditions.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The cabinet meeting which was called at 10:20 o'clock to-day was largely devoted to reading of the President's message sent to Congress at noon.

There was an outburst of applause in the galleries and upon the floor when the message was concluded, immediately afterward the death of Representative Simpkins was announced.

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NEGRO TROOPS FOR CUBA.

Ordered From Montana to Dry Tortugas—Is a Significant Move. WASHINGTON, March 30.—By direction of General Miles, commanding the army, orders were issued to-day for the transfer of the Twenty-fifth regiment to the Dry Tortugas.

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FANNY DAVENPORT. CHICAGO, March 28.—Fanny Davenport, the actress is dying.

F. E. KELLOGG NAMED.

The Rich Hill Man Given the Kansas City Collectors' Chair. WASHINGTON, March 28.—F. E. Kellogg of Rich Hill has been named as collector of internal revenue for the Sixth, or Western, district of Missouri, at Kansas City, to succeed Webster Withers.