

**SPAIN SEEKING DELAY  
MAKES AN UNSATISFACTORY ANSWER.**

**The End of Diplomacy—The President Preparing a Message, Submitting the Whole Question to Congress—Intense Excitement in the House.**

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Spain's reply to the propositions of the President of the United States is said to be, in effect, as follows:  
The independence of Cuba means the parting or cession of Spanish territory, which cannot be done without the consent of the Spanish cortes, which is not in session, and will not be in session until April 24, and consequently no definite answer can be returned to the demand of the United States until the cortes assemble.

Then a counter proposition is submitted that the Cuban matter shall be settled upon a basis equitable among nations.  
The United States is asked to give Spain time to treat with the insurgents and ascertain what can be done in the nature of a peaceful settlement.

The reply is said to be very unsatisfactory to the President and that he does not believe that it will be satisfactory to Congress. Administration circles feel that after Monday Congress is likely to take matters in its own hands and fear is expressed that there may be a disagreement between the branches of the government, which would be unfortunate at this critical period.

No one at the capital has undertaken to speak for the President, although those who have seen him say that his hopes of a peaceful solution of the difficulty have been disappointed by the reply of Spain.

The following is an abstract from the telegrams received from General Woodford last night on the general situation in Cuba:

He informs the government of the United States that General Blanco has revoked the decree relating to the reconcentrados in the western provinces of Cuba, which are understood to be the provinces of Matanzas, Santa Clara, Habana and Pinar del Rio, and that the Spanish government has placed at the disposal of the governor general the credit of \$500,000 to the end that the country people may return at once and with success to their labors.

The Spanish government will accept whatever assistance will be sent from the United States to feed and succor the necessitous in accordance with the plan now in operation.

He proposes to confide the preparation for an honorable and stable peace to the Insular (Cuban) parliament, without whose concurrence the Spanish government would not be able to arrive at the final result, it being understood that the powers reserved by the constitution to the central government are not lessened or diminished.

As the Cuban chambers will not meet until May 4 the Spanish government will not, on its part, object to a suspension of hostilities, if asked for by the insurgents from the general-in-chief, to whom it will belong to determine the duration and the condition of the suspension.

The President will communicate with Congress as soon as he can prepare a message. The foregoing, including the last paragraph, was made public immediately after the cabinet meeting this afternoon.

In connection with this official statement, it can be stated on authority that the case as now made up by the negotiations between Spain and the United States will constitute the case as it will be submitted to Congress in a message from the President. There is no present intention of pursuing further negotiations which will change the status of the Cuban situation as now presented in the correspondence between Spain and the United States.

The circulation of the bulletin giving an abstract of the reply of Spain caused intense excitement in the House. Those members who have recently been in consultation with the President say that the announcement of an intended message means that there will be a review of the entire Spanish situation, and it no doubt would state that further negotiations to bring about a peaceful solution of the case were useless. Some think the President will advise intervention at once.

**"ROGER TICHBORNE" DEAD**

**An Australian Butcher Who Claimed an English Estate.**

LONDON, April 2.—Arthur Orton, widely known as the Tichborne claimant, died last night. The death of Orton recalls one of the most celebrated cases of the century in England, involving the ownership of property worth over \$100,000 a year.

Knights of Pythias for War.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., April 2.—The uniformed rank, Knights of Pythias of this state, are organizing a regiment for war. Already 500 men are enrolled.

A McNall Ultimatum.

TOPEKA, Kan., April 2.—Insurance Superintendent McNall will send an ultimatum to-day to thirty-four fire and life insurance companies doing business in Kansas, commanding them to either inform his department immediately as to the amount of salaries they pay their executive officers, or to pick up their traps and quit Kansas.

Li Heng Chang Empowered to Act.

PEKIN, April 1.—Li Heng Chang has been invested with full powers to proceed to Port Arthur to delimitate the territory recently leased to Russia by China.

**MADRID IS HOPEFUL.**

**Dispatches From There Very Peaceful—An Official Note Issued.**

MADRID, April 2.—The opinion is expressed from an authoritative source that it is believed that an agreement between the governments of Spain and the United States has been reached, including the Maine and the reconcentrados questions and also a means of arriving at a durable peace in Cuba.

It is also said that the government and Captain General Blanco are in accord with the peninsular government to assist in this work of peace.

Those who are best informed here believe peace is assured unless President McKinley's hands are forced, making him depart from the calm attitude he has assumed throughout the crisis. It is further semi-officially asserted that the Spanish government, "believing they correctly interpret the sentiment of justice and the lofty aims" of the President, assert that Spain "will not hesitate to do everything necessary to preserve peace without other limits than national dignity and territorial integrity."

These views are the substance of an official note upon the subject published here to-day. The Spanish government takes a bright view of the relations with the United States and believes peace is secured. The important newspapers comment upon the note in this strain. But inquiries made last night of the United States minister, General Stewart L. Woodford, failed to secure anything confirming the hopeful impression prevailing here. He has so earnestly been the friend of peace throughout that his silence now causes much anxiety in diplomatic circles.

The substance of the proposals made by the Spanish government yesterday the Associated Press correspondent learns:

First—That the insurgents should ask for an armistice, and not the United States.

Second—That the request for an armistice should be dealt with by the autonomist cabinet of Cuba, and without the intervention or good offices of the United States.

It is curious to note how little interest the general public took in yesterday's important conference. Only a few reporters witnessed the arrival and departure of the conferees.

General Woodford was the first to emerge, and, smoking a cigar, he walked quietly to his residence. The ministers soon followed and drove separately to their homes.

When informed of the proposed government measures for the relief of the reconcentrados, the queen regent announced that she would appoint a ladies' committee, over which she will personally preside, to take charge of and educate the orphans of the war, both Cubans and Spaniards.

LONDON, April 2.—A dispatch to the London Daily Mail, which was dated at 11 o'clock last night, says:

"I am assured that France and Russia have asked Spain to formulate the utmost limits of concessions she can make, the two powers evidently intending to mediate.

"The minister of marine has received hundreds of applications from Spanish and foreign ship owners for letters patent for privateers to act against America."

The Correspondencia, semi-official says: "Peace or war is hanging on a thread. The utterances of American opinion leaves little hope of peace. But the problem will have an immediate solution."

**AN AUTONOMIST APPEAL.**

**The Cuban Home Rule Authorities Make a Plea to President McKinley.**

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The Cuban government—meaning thereby the present home rule authorities in Cuba, and not the insurgents—have appealed to the people of the United States to respect the will of the majority of the people of Cuba. The appeal declares that the majority represents those in favor of home rule under Spanish sovereignty; that the insurgents are in the minority; that the majority has a right to rule its own destinies; that it would be an injustice for a foreign will, meaning the United States, to impose upon this majority a political regime contrary to its will, and that it would be a great wickedness to dispose of its lot without its own consent.

The appeal was placed in the hands of the President this morning and the statement was made that it was the direct expression of the Cuban government itself, without the inspiration or knowledge of the Spanish government either at Madrid, Havana, or elsewhere.

**AMERICANS TO QUIT CUBA**

**Citizens of the United States Ordered to Leave Havana at Once.**

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The state department has instructed General Lee to advise all Americans to leave Cuba at once.

It is predicted that by the end of the week Consul General Lee and a few newspaper correspondents will be the only Americans in Havana. General Lee will be the last man to leave the island.

**SLUMP IN SPANISH BONDS**

**London and Paris Investors Getting Rid of Spain's Holdings.**

LONDON, April 2.—Spanish 4s opened weak on the stock exchange to-day at 31 ex-coup, and rapidly declined to 49. The price then fluctuated widely, with the quotation reaching 53. Later there was a reaction to 46 1/2. The closing price yesterday was 53.

PARIS, April 1.—Spanish 4s opened very weak upon the bourse to-day at 80 1/16, against 82 1/2, the closing price yesterday.

**Condition of State Banks.**

Secretary Hall of the state banking board has completed a statement showing the condition of state banks at the close of business February 25. At that time there were 391 incorporated, private and savings banks in the state. Secretary Hall says the improvement is extraordinary. The report compared with a previous report called for three months ago, shows that deposits have increased \$1,590,597.45. The legal reserve has increased \$1,011,539.83. On the other hand bills payable and bills discounted, representing money borrowed by the banks, has decreased \$70,291.98. The legal reserve required by law ranges from 15 to 25 per cent, but the consolidated report shows that the reserve on hand has increased from 41 per cent to 43 per cent. The total decrease in the number of banks since November 30, is seven. The total increase in all resources is \$1,358,205.55, an increase of 2 per cent. The comparative statement prepared by Secretary Hall is as follows:

	Feb. 26, 1898.	Nov. 30, 1897.
<b>RESOURCES.</b>		
Loans and discounts	\$15,764,517.92	\$15,405,374.05
Overdrafts	191,522.50	229,424.46
Bills, securities, stocks, judgments, claims, etc.	342,266.81	330,316.05
Due from nat'l, state and private banks and bankers	4,837,229.50	3,761,611.91
Banking house furniture and fixtures	1,247,724.67	1,266,121.71
Other real estate	905,210.18	891,501.22
Current expenses and taxes paid	287,746.05	444,798.64
Premium on U.S. and other bonds and securities	2,494.89	2,119.01
Cash items	124,359.26	111,079.69
Cash	1,048,983.39	1,573,002.06
Other assets	127,832.08	108,554.42
<b>LIABILITIES.</b>	\$25,373,868.76	\$24,115,063.22
Capital stock paid in	\$ 7,801,278.70	\$ 7,855,279.78
Surplus fund	918,118.35	882,896.32
Undivided profits	786,432.83	1,028,150.42
Dividends unpaid	6,857.55	7,749.29
General deposits	15,499,537.81	13,907,949.36
Notes and bills rediscounted	135,324.69	148,328.74
Bills payable	229,044.41	286,232.25
Other liabilities	3,274.51	3,287.14
	\$25,373,868.76	\$24,115,063.22

**NEWS OF NEBRASKA.**

**SUCCINCT SUMMARY OF A WEEK'S EVENTS**

**Most Important Happenings of the Past Seven Days Briefly Mentioned—All Portions of the State Covered—A Thorough Resume of Nebraska News.**

Representative Dave Mercer from this state sent to the secretary of the navy a petition signed by the entire Nebraska delegation praying that one of the new battleships about to be authorized be named after the state of Nebraska.

Omaha German-American survivors of the Franco-Prussian war held a meeting recently to organize a regiment to do battle with Spain. Seventy-five were present, and temporary organization was effected by choosing Peter Penner temporary colonel.

The elections throughout Nebraska Tuesday were generally fought out over the license and no license issue and were only of local interest. The republicans of Lincoln made a clean sweep except for councilmen, the first, second and seventh wards being captured by the fusionists.

The work of tearing down the walls of the blocks burned in Lincoln the other night was done the fore part of the week. It is said that Mr. Richards, and Mrs. Lewis of California, joint owners of the building, will construct a handsome six-story structure on the site of the old block.

Rev. H. W. Trueblood, chairman of the executive committee of the Nebraska State Sunday School association has sent out a circular to the Sunday school workers of the state calling their attention to the fact that the executive committee has designated May 1, 1898 as "State Sunday School Day."

The World-Herald Cuban relief bureau has collected \$10,077.48 in cash and twenty-two car loads of provisions. The cash, which will be added to from several points yet to hear from, will be used to purchase supplies. The relief will be sent by a special train to the central Cuban relief committee in New York. This is considered a pretty good thing for a state that two or three years ago was in the soup to some extent herself.

Governor Holcomb, in response to eastern queries as to how much money and how many men Nebraska will supply in case of war with Spain, has answered that Nebraska will furnish 1,500 well armed and equipped national guardsmen instantly and thousands of volunteers. In regard to money he said that the legislature would not meet until next January, but that war defense appropriations suitable to the exigencies of the occasion would be asked for by him in case of war.

Judge Tibbets, the referee appointed by the Governor to hear the charges of Victor Rosewater against Messrs. Herdman, Peabody and Gregory, police commissioners for the city of Omaha, went to Omaha Friday to hear testimony in the case. Edward and Victor Rosewater, after entering a protest denying the authority of the tribunal, refused to present testimony. The accused members of the board, however, submitted testimony in their own behalf. The referee will submit the same to the governor that he may make a finding.

Mamie Mears has begun suit against W. C. Fleury proprietor of the Grand hotel, Lincoln. Her complaint is, that while she was a guest at the Grand hotel her purse containing \$90 was stolen from her room. She now sues Fleury to recover the loss of the pocket-book, relying on the provision of the law requiring that all hotel keepers must have a safe in which to keep the valuables of the guests, and that suitable notification of the fact must be made to them, else the keeper is likely to be held responsible for all losses that may occur.

Governor Holcomb is busy these days answering numerous letters from Nebraskans offering their services in event of war with Spain. It keeps him hustling, for there any number of loyal citizens anxious to scrap with Spain.

Sunday's rain, which was pretty general in Nebraska, has greatly helped weat and grass. Everybody feels revived over the prospects of good crops.

Two hundred trees will be set out in the state house lawn to take the place of the dead and dying.

The students of the state university in a burst of patriotism hung Spain in effigy.

A twelve-year-old son of Wm. Rowe, living in the southeastern part of Washington county, had a hand mashed in a feed grinder.

Ruby McMartin, a young lad of Fremont, was thrown from a horse with such severity the contact with the ground caused internal injuries.

E. C. Van Horn of Lexington broke an arm and dislocated a wrist by taking a header for terra-firma from a buggy to which a runaway team was attached.

Major Edmund G. Fechet has severed his connection with the Nebraska national guard and has gone to Ft. Robinson to join his troops. Mrs. Fechet has gone to Columbus, O., to remain during the present unsettled condition of the army.

John Miller of Thurman, Ia., upon retiring at night in his room in the State hotel, Omaha, blew out the gas. He was later found unconscious from asphyxiation. All efforts at resuscitation failed. It is believed he blew it out through ignorance, as he was sober when he went to bed.

Auditor Cornell has warned insurance companies not to issue policies on property in Nebraska except through regularly appointed and licensed agents residing in the state. This warning is the result of complaints made to the auditor. The insurance department will make an effort to stop soliciting by mail, as such a course defrauds the state of tax on premiums.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 2.—A \$200,000 fire raged at Eleventh and O streets from 9 p. m. last night until 3 o'clock this morning, destroying the A. M. Davis and Richards blocks and badly damaging the Lamaster block. Nearly all contents of these three blocks were burned, save part of Mrs. Gosper's stock and some office fixtures. The Carter block was damaged. About \$200,000 damage was done. Insurance will figure about \$100,000.

It is expected that Attorney-General Smyth will go to Washington in a short time to make an application in the supreme court for an order to permit of a showing being made in support of a motion to modify the decree in the maximum rate case. The modification asked for will be to permit the board of transportation to make and enforce rates which are shown to be reasonable under the conditions which now exist and which will be a reduction from the present local freight rates.

The promoters of the Nebraska whist association feel very much encouraged by the number of favorable responses to their suggestion of an organization of the whist clubs of Nebraska, and have issued a call for the first meeting Friday and Saturday, April 15 and 16, at the rooms of the Union-Commercial club in Lincoln, for which the following program has been prepared: Friday, 10 a. m., April 15, business meeting, temporary organization, and appointment of committees. Friday, 2 p. m., first play of trophy contest for teams of four, conducted under Howell's modification of Mitchell's progressive system. One team of four from each club only admitted.

The announcement has been made upon authority of the chief architect of the trans-Mississippi exposition that all construction work will be finished in ample time for the installation of exhibits and the perfection of concessions by the opening day—June 1. The large buildings are nearly ready for the artistic decorations, save the fine arts building and the immense structure which the United States government is building. On the latter the staff work is nearly done, and the dome is receiving the finishing touches. The concessionaries are pushing construction work rapidly, as are the various states, fifteen of which are erecting buildings.

Governor Holcomb commuted the sentence of William Trester of Greeley county. Trester was serving a sentence of three years in the penitentiary and this was commuted to one year, two months and eleven days, which gave the prisoner his liberty Tuesday. Trester recently attempted to secure his liberty by habeas corpus proceedings in the district court.

Wm. Reed Dunroy, of "Corn Tassels" fame, is recovering from a very severe siege of sickness which has confined him to the hospital for a couple of months.

**FAR FROM PORTO RICO**

**THE SPANISH FLOTILLA HAS HARDLY STARTED.**

**Anchored at the Cape Verde Islands South of the Canaries—The Vizcaya and Oquendo Sail Under Sealed Orders—Bound for Porto Rico.**

MADRID, April 4.—The statement cabled last night that the torpedo flotilla of Spain has arrived at Porto Rico was taken from a newspaper here.

Investigation shows the announcement to be erroneous. The Spanish flotilla has arrived at the Cape Verde islands, off the coast of Africa, and it is said will proceed after coaling.

As it has taken the Spanish torpedo flotilla nine days to make the Cape Verde islands from the Canary islands, which they left March 24, it should, going at about the same rate of speed, take the flotilla about twenty-six days from now to reach Porto Rico from the Cape Verde islands. This is under the supposition that the flotilla will coal and start again to-day, which is not probable.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—The navy department up to 10 o'clock had no information concerning the arrival of the Spanish torpedo flotilla fleet at Porto Rico, as reported in a Madrid cable. Doubt was expressed that it would make such fast time. It is said, however, that it would arrive without interference, as no moves have been made to intercept it, a course advocated by many naval officers.

NEW YORK, April 4.—The Evening World prints a dispatch dated April 1, on board the dispatch boat Triton, via Key West, which says: "The Spanish warships Vizcaya and Oquendo no longer lie like big watch dogs across Havana harbor. They are on their way to Porto Rico. The dispatch boat followed them until this was made certain."

They left their moorings at 3 o'clock this afternoon and started eastward along the north coast of Cuba. For days both of the big Spanish cruisers have been ready to sail at an hour's notice. Their coal bunkers were filled almost two weeks ago.

"Late last night a package of sealed orders were sent out to the two warships from the office of the Almirante. Early this morning preparations for their departure were begun. Boat after boat, loaded down to the gunwales with provisions of every kind, started out from Havana wharves for the Vizcaya and Oquendo."

The correspondent boarded the Vizcaya at 10 o'clock. He was received most courteously by Captain Eulate in his cabin. "All I know about it," said the Vizcaya's commander, "is that we are going away, but where I have not the faintest idea. Our orders are sealed, and I shall not open them till I am several miles out at sea."

A correspondent was put on board the Triton with orders to follow the cruisers. His narrative continues: "As soon as the two ships reached the open gulf they turned to the westward and ran three or four miles down the coast in that direction. After they had reached a point on the coast about five miles westward of Havana they turned completely around and headed for Moro again. Under a speed of about eleven knots an hour they passed Moro for the second time, the Vizcaya leading the Oquendo by half a mile."

Down the coast to the eastward of Havana the two men-of-war passed in procession. At a distance of seven miles from land the Triton paralleled their course, sailing at about the same rate of speed. As the sun dropped down below the horizon the Vizcaya and Oquendo became lost to view in the shadow of the long green hills of the shore.

"The two ships had increased their speed a little by this time and were jogging along at about fifteen knots. They kept well within the five mile limit. Most of the time they were not more than a mile from shore. The Triton followed the Vizcaya and Oquendo until they rounded Point Guanaco."

"Point Guanaco is twenty-eight miles to the eastward of Havana. Had either of the two men-of-war had any idea of going to United States ports they certainly would have turned north at Point Guanaco. But they did not. At a speed of sixteen knots an hour they kept on to the eastward. The course that they followed is indicated on charts as being the most direct route to Porto Rico."

**THE ARMY BILL.**

**Mr. McKinley Anxious to Have the Measure Made a Law.**

WASHINGTON, April 4.—Senators Wolcott of Colorado, Elkins of West Virginia, Spooner of Wisconsin, Gear of Iowa, and Representative Hull, chairman of the military affairs committee had brief interviews with Mr. McKinley this morning.

Representative Hull's conference related to the army organization bill. The President expressed his desire that the bill should be enacted into law at the earliest possible moment. It will undoubtedly be passed Monday.

Railroad Men Are for Peace.

ATLANTA, Ga., April 4.—Railroad men in this territory are against war unless there is absolute necessity for it. Almost to a man they are for peace with honor, and a majority of them say that the recognition of Cuban independence is as far as the United States should go at this stage. If Spain wants to fight on that ground, then let war come.

One Man's Idea.

She—What is your idea of happiness? He—Being "next" in a crowded barbershop.

**AT WORK ON THE MESSAGE**

**Preparation of War Document Begun—Long Conferences Held.**

WASHINGTON, April 4.—At 11 o'clock this morning a cabinet officer said that there was no change in the situation from that shown by yesterday's developments, and that he expected events would move along the present lines until the President's message should be sent to Congress early the coming week. The preparation of the momentous message was begun by President McKinley at a comparatively early hour this morning, after long conferences with his cabinet advisers and public men upon the lines it should take in order that the position of America in this crisis may stand forth in a clear, intelligent and justifiable way before the present and future generations.

The advice proffered most urgently upon the President has been recognition of the independence of Cuba and intervention at once to end the horrors of the situation. This course has been urged especially by senators and members of the House. The President has listened to all these views, but has not expressed his own so freely.

It is stated upon trustworthy authority that the Senate committee on foreign relations has decided to embody in the resolution for armed intervention, which it will report Monday, a statement that the Spanish government is responsible for the destruction of the Maine.

The resolution will be drawn up by Senator Foraker. Sensational developments growing out of the alleged suppression by the administration of the testimony taken by the court of inquiry are expected.

Some of the members of the committee are disposed to regard as positive the proof of Spanish duplicity in the Maine affair and to resent it as an act of war. There is good reason for believing that there has been more or less discussion in the committee upon the advisability of a declaration of war on account of the explosion, rather than a recognition of Cuban independence merely. At any rate, the Maine incident will be thoroughly exploited and made the basis of much that may be said. The committee feels this is the safest course in view of Spain's recent action concerning the reconcentrados.

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**SPAIN BOLDLY DEFIANT.**

**No Proposition Involving Cuban Independence Will Be Listened To.**

MADRID, April 4.—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 jingoist fancies, the people have been led to believe that President McKinley based his proposals on this idea. This 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 uneasiness."

"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."

**DUEL TO THE DEATH.**

**Brann of Iconoclast Famed, Shot and Mortally Hurt.**

WACO, Texas, April 4.—In the midst of busy preparations for city election meetings, while bands were playing and scattering handbills from their decorated vans, calling the people together, W. C. Brann, editor of the Iconoclast, and Captain M. T. Davis met and fought a revolver duel to the death.

The combatants met just at 6 o'clock last evening, on South Fourth street, in front of the Cotton Belt ticket office, and after exchanging a few words, both began emptying their revolvers into each other's body.

When the battle was over, Brann was found to be perforated in the left lung, and left leg and the right foot, and Davis was shot through the right lung and through both his arms. The surgeons say both men are likely to die.

W. H. Ward, Brann's business manager, was shot through the right hand, the bones being shattered. A wild bullet hit Motorman Kennedy on the knee. Kennedy was passing on his car. Another wild bullet hit Eugene Kepler in the foot. The wild bullet wounds are not serious. Kepler and his partner, Prince, are touring the world on a wager, and had just reached Waco.

At a late hour both men were alive but appeared to be sinking.

His Light.

Policeman, to inebriated citizen—Come, get a move on you. Citizen, unsteadily—I guess not; I pay my rent.

Spain Has French Sympathy.

PARIS, April 4.—The French International Arbitration society has sent letters to the Spanish minister for foreign affairs, Senor Gullon, and to the American secretary of state, Mr. John Sherman, urging the advisability of the arbitration of the differences between Spain and the United States. The sympathy of Frenchmen incline rather to Spain, and the hope is still clung to that some peaceful issue will be found through the "sound sense" of the two governments and the good offices of the powers.