

WAR IS NOW VIRTUALLY ON

Spain in Fact Inaugurates It by Presenting Minister Woodford His Passports

A REFUSAL TO RECEIVE ULTIMATUM

This Considered a Declaration of War by the Authorities at Washington.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—War between the United States and Spain is a fact, though not yet officially declared so by congress.

The stirring events of Wednesday were succeeded yesterday with rapidity of others of equal importance, culminating in the afternoon in order for the departure of the North Atlantic squadron for Havana.

This practically is an act of war, so that the war between this country and Spain may fairly be said to date from today, April 21, 1898.

Two minutes after the opening of the State department came word from Minister Woodford that the Spanish government, having anticipated and prevented his intention to present the president's ultimatum, he had asked for his passports.

The administration in a public statement announced that it regarded the action of the Spanish government as rendering unnecessary further diplomatic action on the part of the United States, and further stated that it regarded the course adopted by Spain as one placing upon that country the responsibility for the breach of friendly relations.

Mr. Woodford's telegram resulted in the calling of a special cabinet meeting to arrange an outline of a plan of campaign, or rather to determine how to begin the execution of the plan of campaign already prepared by the strategic boards of the army and navy departments.

The North Atlantic squadron, under Captain Sampson's command, makes a splendid array of fine vessels, comprising battleships such as the Iowa and Indiana, monitors like the Puritan and Terror, armored cruisers like the New York, flagship; protected cruisers like the Cincinnati, Marblehead and Montgomery, gunboats like the Vicksburg, Wilmington and Annapolis, regular torpedo boats such as the Ericsson, Cushing Winslow and the like, and not to speak of the large number of fast yachts and other vessels that have been added to the fleet by purchase.

This force is quite complete to blockade all the ports in Cuba, or at least all of the ports connecting by rail with Havana, and so likely to be used to supply that place in the event of siege with food and munitions of war.

This statement is to be taken with the understanding that it does not contemplate the coming to Cuban waters of the Spanish fleet. In such case, however, the probable policy would be to abandon the blockade and endeavor to force the Spanish fleet to battle.

Minister Woodford's action during the day as reported to the State department in a late telegram, indicated that he was following a carefully prepared program. A significant feature of his message was the statement that the Spanish government notified him that it regarded its withdrawal of Minister Polo as terminating diplomatic negotiations, showing that it was not disposed to accept the expressed intention of our government to continue Mr. Woodford as a medium of communication until Saturday noon.

Mr. Woodford also announced that he had instructed Consul General Bowen, at Barcelona, to cause all the American consuls in Spain to immediately withdraw from the country.

The ambassador, Rt. Hon. Sir H. Fry Drummond Wolff, is not at present in Madrid, so American interests will be confided to the British charge, Sir George G. F. Bonham, bart.

To all intents and purposes this relieves the State department from further negotiations as to Cuba, save those relating to privateering, neutrality observances, and the like.

It was found necessary to frame a notice to the powers of the intention of our government to establish a blockade of Havana, notification required by international law.

WOODFORD GETS PASSPORTS.

Notice Previously Given that Diplomatic Relations Were Ended.

MADRID, April 22.—The ultimatum of the United States was received early yesterday morning in English. The Spanish government immediately broke off diplomatic relations with the United States, notifying the United States minister to this effect before he was able to present any note.

The newspapers here applaud "The energy of the government and the enthusiasm of the public at the advent of war." The Liberal says: "The government will make no reply whatever to the ultimatum."

The Liberal points out the advantages that Spain may derive from the use of privateers, in which connection, however, nothing has yet been officially decided.

The news of the rupture was received calmly. There was no excitement apparent anywhere.

Spain's action is considered a virtual declaration of war and hostilities may begin at once.

The newspapers of this city print highly colored accounts of how General Woodford was handed his passports, but the circumstances in the

case were as called by the Associated Press. The Spanish government having received the text of the ultimatum of the United States from its own sources, did not wait for the United States minister to present the ultimatum, but sent him his passports.

It is not expected that there will be any formal declaration of war as Spain's action today is considered as such and hostilities may begin immediately. Both nations, however, may make to their own people and to all neutrals what is termed "the notification of war."

A semi-official note just issued says the Spanish government considers the ultimatum of the United States constitutes a declaration of war.

The semi-official note adds that the Spanish fleet is already on its way to meet the fleet of the United States.

Minister Woodford left Madrid at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

THE FLEET STARTS FOR HAVANA.

Bombardment of Castle to Commence Saturday Morning.

KEY WEST, April 22.—The fleet has started for Havana. The monitors were ordered to start first, being the slowest of the war-ships. At 1:15 o'clock yesterday morning the Puritan put out to sea, followed by the Terror and Amphitrite. They headed for Sandy light, nine miles to the southwest from Havana. This start of the monitors will not be followed at once by the battleships and cruisers until daylight probably, as the monitors are slow sailers. They cannot get in range of Morro inside of fifteen hours, and will be picked up by other vessels of the squadron in the course of the day.

The siege of Havana will unquestionably be opened at daylight Saturday morning. Officers of the squadron deny that their instructions are to blockade only and make the conquest a bloodless affair. The original plan was to turn the guns of the ship loose at the shore defenses at a thousand-yard range as soon after daylight as the shore could be seen. This, it is asserted, is the present scheme of operations.

The order of the ships in the attack will be thus: Iowa, Indiana, monitors Puritan, Terror, Amphitrite, New York (flagship), Montgomery, Marblehead, and Montgomery, Detroit, gunboats Marchant, Castine, Helena, Newport, Wilmington. The Journal dispatch boats Anita and Echo followed the monitors to Sand Key and will there await the fleet.

GARY RESIGNS FROM THE CABINET

Emory Smith of the Philadelphia Press to Succeed Him.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The president has sent the nomination to the senate of Charles Emory Smith of Pennsylvania, vice James A. Gary, resigned.

Postmaster General Gary resigned on account of ill health. The Pennsylvania senators were consulted before Mr. Smith's appointment was made. It is stated at the White House that Postmaster General Gary's resignation had absolutely nothing whatever to do with our present foreign relation complications. It was owing entirely, it is stated, to the condition of Mr. Gary's health. He has suffered a great deal of late from a general breaking down of the system which has continued to progress until finally Mr. Gary reluctantly reached the conclusion that he was unable longer to carry the burden of his office.

Charles Emory Smith, the new postmaster general, is at present editor of the Philadelphia Press. He has been minister to Russia, is an earnest, active republican and known to public men throughout the United States. He is at present in Washington and may make a statement later concerning his nomination. He was informed by telephone of his nomination and received many congratulations.

Spain's Answer May Be a Shot.

NEW YORK, April 22.—A dispatch to the Herald from Washington says Spain's answer to President McKinley's ultimatum may take the form of shot and shell. Its formidable fleet, which has been mobilizing at the Cape Verde islands for some days past, sailed on Wednesday from that point for an unknown destination.

The fleet is composed of the armored cruisers Almirante Oquendo, Cristobal Colon, Infanta Maria Teresa and Vizcaya, the torpedo boat destroyers Furor, Terror and Pluton and the torpedo boats Arctic, Azore and Ravo, and perhaps the battleship Pelayo. Information of the sailing of the fleet has been received by the attaches of the Spanish legation. It is conceded to be highly probable that the fleet will hasten across the ocean to Porto Rico and Cuba to prevent by force the outgoing from the islands of the naval and military forces of the Spanish government there. On the other hand, it is possible that the ships have gone to the Canary islands.

If Spain should use the Cape as a base of operations in time of war Portugal will be called to account by the United States. The Cape Verde islands belong to the Lisbon government, which recently informed the United States that it had rejected propositions made by Spain to enter into an offensive alliance and proposed to remain neutral. Portugal will be expected to carry out its intention in this respect. Its neutrality obligations will permit it to give to the Spanish vessels only sufficient coal to enable them to reach the next Spanish port, which in this case would be the Canary islands, and, once they have left that port, they cannot return for coal or provisions.

Mob Movement in Madrid.

MADRID, April 22.—Crowds paraded the streets tonight. The mob gathered in front of the Equitable Life Insurance building and smashed the eagle to bits. It carried the fragments to the streets. The civil governor of Madrid, Senor Aguilera, instead of prohibiting the disorder, allowed complete liberty of action, mingling among the demonstrations. He was loudly cheered, especially when the American escutcheon was thrown from the balcony of the Equitable building and fell at his feet. Aguilera, as if trampling on the escutcheon, addressed the populace, amid enthusiastic cheers. He said: "The Spanish lion is roused from his slumbers. He will shake his mane and disperse the rest of the brute creation."

HAVE A FEW DAYS GRACE

By Midnight Saturday the Doss, Bag and Baggage, Must Get Out of Cuba.

THE ULTIMATUM SIGNED AND SENT.

Minister Woodford Will Lay the Document Before the Spanish Government.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—Yesterday was a day of events in the history of the Cuban question. The signature by the president of the joint resolution requiring intervention in Cuba, the notification of that action to the Spanish minister here, his demand for passports, the department's prompt reply to that demand, the departure of the Spanish minister and the transmission of our ultimatum, that Spain must evacuate Cuba and must make answer by Saturday, through Minister Woodford, followed in quick succession.

The next step is Spain's answer, if it is to make any, and the movement of the United States army and navy on Cuba.

The ultimatum was sent to the Spanish minister by Judge Day's personal messenger, Edward Savoy, one of the trusted employees of the State department, who was appointed to his place in 1869 by Hamilton Fish. The messenger was not kept waiting long at the legation, but in the course of an hour had returned to the State department with the minister's application for passports.

It was not until 3:30 o'clock that Savoy made his second trip, carrying with him the desired paper. This was a passport for the minister and his family and suite. It was not in the usual form, but was what is known as a special passport. In general terms it is similar to that presented to Lord Sackville-West when the unfortunate minister was obliged to retire. In this case it reads as follows:

United States of America, Department of State.—To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come.—Greeting: Know ye that the bearer hereof, Don Luis Polo y Bernabe, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Spain to the United States, accompanied by his family and suite, is about to travel abroad.

These are, therefore, to request all officers of the United States, or of any state thereof, to permit him to pass freely without let or molestation, and to extend to him all friendly aid and protection in case of need.

In testimony whereof, I, John Sherman, secretary of state of the United States of America, have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the secretary of state to be affixed, at Washington, this 20th day of April, A. D. 1898, and of the independence of the United States of America the 122d. Cuban Leaders Consult Miles.

At first there was some expectation at the State department that a response from Minister Woodford might be expected today. Later on, however, after Judge Day had calculated the length of time that would be consumed in the cabling of the ultimatum to Minister Woodford, its translation into cipher and retranslation, he became convinced that it would be practically impossible, owing to the difference in time between Washington and Madrid, to receive any response today. Therefore, the following statement was posted at the department:

The text of the ultimatum to Spain will be given out by Mr. Porter, secretary to the president, at the White House some time today, probably.

The next move must now be made by Spain, according to the department officials. If the Spanish government takes a view, as might possibly be concluded from the action of its minister here today, that in language and terms the congressional resolution is insulting, it may promptly hand Mr. Woodford his passports upon receipt of this communication, and thus bring the negotiations to a crisis and cause a breach of diplomatic relations within the next twenty-four hours.

If, on the other hand, it should neglect to return a satisfactory answer before Saturday noon that line of policy will be quite as efficient as a positive act, inasmuch as it would amount to refusal of the demands of the United States.

In such case the president would proceed immediately to use the naval and military forces of the United States to execute the will of congress. How this will be done, what steps shall first be taken; whether Havana shall be blockaded, or whether an attempt shall be made to make a speedy campaign by hurling a large force of troops to Havana under cover of bombardment by a fleet, are all matters of mere speculation.

The experts of the army and navy have laid their plans with the greatest detail for the future, but they do not hesitate to say that any attempt to make these public in advance to the manifest advantage of Spain would be actual treason.

An outline of the policy to be followed by this government in the treatment of neutrals, and the matter of privateering is contained in the following statement:

In the event of hostilities between the United States and Spain it will be the policy of this government not to resort to privateering. The government will adhere to the following rules:

First. Neutral flag covers enemy's goods with the exception of contraband and war.

Second. Neutral goods not contraband of war are not liable to confiscation under enemy's flag.

Third. Blockade, in order to be binding, must be effective.

THE ULTIMATUM GOES TO SPAIN.

The Authorities Have Three Days in Which to Yield.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—The Cuban resolution is now a law of the land and the ultimatum to Spain an accomplished fact. The president at 11:24 o'clock yesterday affixed his signature to the joint resolution of con-

gress requiring Spain to evacuate the island of Cuba. The ultimatum meanwhile had been prepared at the State department by Assistant Secretary Day and at 11:30 o'clock announcement was made at the White House that it had been signed by the president and had been sent to the Spanish government. The ultimatum was brought over to the White House shortly before 11 o'clock by Assistant Secretary Day, who went over it with President McKinley before the latter affixed his signature.

After the public announcement Assistant Secretary Day said that the ultimatum had been transmitted to Madrid, addressed to Minister Woodford, who will deliver it to the Spanish government. As soon as the final determination to send it had been reached and it had been started on its way to Madrid Senor Polo y Bernabe, the Spanish minister, in accordance with diplomatic courtesies, was furnished a copy of the paper by the colored messenger of Assistant Secretary Day. The minister, as soon as he received it, made a brief reply and requested his passports.

It was said at the White House that the terms of the ultimatum would not be made public here until today. It is understood that it consists largely of a diplomatic paraphrase of the joint resolution of congress, concluding with a statement that this government awaits Spain's reply.

There was present with the president when he signed the resolutions Secretary Alger, Attorney General Griggs, Secretary Bliss, Senator Elkins and Charles Emory Smith. The president in his ultimatum to the Spanish government transmits a copy of the resolutions he states he has signed. He demands that Spain withdraw its army and navy forces from Cuban waters as required by the terms of the act of congress (no date for the withdrawal being mentioned) and then states that if a satisfactory answer is not received here before Saturday next, he will proceed at once to carry the resolution of congress into effect.

The Spanish minister's request for his passports, sent immediately on the receipt of the ultimatum, was as follows: The resolution adopted by the congress of the United States of America, and approved by the president, is of such a nature that my permanence in Washington becomes impossible and obliges me to request you the delivery of my passports. The protection of the Spanish legation will be entrusted to the French ambassador and to the Austrian-Hungarian minister. On this occasion, very painful to me, I have the honor to renew to you the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) LUIS POLO DE BERNABE, Hon. John Sherman, Secretary of State for United States of America, Etc., Etc.

The signing of the Cuban resolutions by the president was an exceedingly interesting event, although without special incident. General Alger had brought over from the war department a pen which he requested the president to use in appending his signature to the document. The pen had an ordinary gutta percha holder and as it was handed to the president by his secretary, Mr. Porter, those gathered around the table to witness the act. There was considerable feeling manifested by those about, but there was no demonstration or congratulations. The small crowd soon dispersed and in ten minutes the normal condition of things at the White House had been resumed. Secretary Alger remained with the president and as soon as the rush was over the two took a walk in the White House grounds, returning in less than half an hour.

PLAN OF CAMPAIGN DISCUSSED.

Fleet Should Be Held to Meet the Spanish Flotilla.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—"I hope," said a prominent naval officer today, who has given much thought on the subject, "that the plan of operation decided upon by the department will not include an attack by our fleet on Morro castle and forts at Cabanas as the first stroke of the campaign. If we do this many of our ships are sure to be crippled and sent home for repairs. Our docking facilities on the south Atlantic coast are so limited that the vessels would either have to be sent far north to be repaired or else await their time for docking in the south. The Spaniards are taking the cue and displaying much military sagacity in the movements of their ships. They are concentrating them in their home ports, and if our fleets are disabled by attempting to reduce the fortifications at Havana they will steam over here and inflict irreparable damage on them. It seems to me the proper thing for us to do would be to attempt to land a large force of men in Cuba, surround the fortifications and starve out the Spaniards, meanwhile keeping up a blockade of the harbor and the coast by our fleet of ships. I think, with an army of 20,000 men, supplemented by the insurgents' strength on the island, we would be able to do this."

"You will remember that during our late war our fleets suffered considerably in the attack on the forts in Charleston harbor, whereas when the soldiers holding them ascertained that Sherman was coming with an army from the inland they began to evacuate when he was 100 miles away. These matters have been brought to the attention of the strategic board, which is now formulating a plan of campaign."

Woodford Leaves Madrid.

LONDON, April 21.—The Madrid correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing at 11 o'clock Wednesday evening, says: "General Woodford left tonight by the ordinary express for Biarritz. The American minister has taken tickets for the south of France express tomorrow. He has received extensive directions. It is doubtful if he will have an opportunity of presenting the American ultimatum, since in all probability Senor Gullon, the foreign minister, will send him his passports at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning (Thursday), with a declaration that diplomatic relations between the two governments have been broken off."

General Woodford has handed the archives of the legation to the British embassy, where he dined last night.

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