

NEW DEVELOPMENTS.

Five Important Events Bearing Upon Our Relations with Spain.

Washington Feverish—Fear That War Is Imminent—Reason for Delaying the Court's Verdict—Another Warship Going to Havana.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—There were no fewer than five important events yesterday having a bearing more or less direct upon the troubled relations between the United States and Spain, viz: The introduction in congress by Mr. Cannon of a resolution carrying \$50,000,000 for the public defense; the withdrawal by the Spanish government of its intimated objection to the continuance in office of Consul General Lee; the order of the cruiser Montgomery to proceed to Havana in place of the Fern; the passage through the house of the bill increasing the artillery arm by two regiments, and the institution of negotiations looking to the purchase of warships for our navy.

Mr. Cannon's resolution probably led all other topics in interest, particularly when it became known that it was the result of a conference between the author, the president, Senator Hale and other leading spirits in congress. As for Gen. Lee's case, the news of the satisfactory ending of the incident through the withdrawal of the suggestion by Spain was expected as soon as it was noted that a loophole had been left open through the failure to make the complaint in anything like official form.

Late in the afternoon Senor DuBose, the Spanish charge, received a cipher cable from the minister of state at Madrid, Senor Gullon, saying: "You can disavow the rumor that any official application has been made for the recall of Gen. Lee."

This confirmed Mr. DuBose's view that a misapprehension had occurred, and that some intimation concerning Gen. Lee had been construed into a request or demand for his recall, which Mr. DuBose says with positiveness was never intended.

The appropriation of \$50,000,000 for the national defense for which provision was made in the bill introduced in the house yesterday by Mr. Cannon, will not involve the issue of bonds. This announcement was made by the treasury officials, who stated that the treasury was amply prepared to meet any demands that will likely be made upon it. On February 1 the cash in the treasury amounted to \$856,571,766, of which \$204,063,971 was gold, \$511,858,840 silver, \$107,564,958 paper currency and \$33,094,002 in disbursing officers' balances, etc. The net available cash on hand above all liabilities amounts to \$235,564,203.

It is not felt at the navy department that the people of the Montgomery are taking any particular risk in going to Havana at this time, for it is said that, even should hostilities break out, it is a rule of honorable warfare that they be given safe convey out of the waters of the hostile country. Of course, Gen. Lee and the members of the court of inquiry at Havana would be equally exempt from molestation.

Without delay the officers of the adjacent general department yesterday gave the necessary orders for the recruiting of the new artillery regiments authorized by congress. The purpose is to enlist such members as have had service in the artillery wherever possible, and no doubt is entertained that plenty of material of the right kind will offer.

FEVERISH STATE OF WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—A highly feverish condition prevailed in Washington yesterday in reference to the Spanish question. The announcement that Spain had asked for the recall of Consul General Lee raised the patriotic feeling of congress to its highest pitch and the backdown of the Spanish government has not materially abated the strain. The condition is best described by likening it to that of uncertainty and reserved feeling preceding the firing on Fort Sumter. It is feared that war is imminent.

Reliable information from Havana is to the effect that the report of the naval court of inquiry has found almost unmistakable evidence that the Maine was exploded by a mine. The strongest reason in support of this theory, aside from the information to that effect received by various channels, is that the report of the court is not made public. The argument is that, if the court had found the explosion to be from internal causes, it would have been made known with little delay. From this comes the inference that both sides are trying to gain time to get ready. The impression is growing stronger day by day that some incident is likely to precipitate a conflict at almost any time.

WORK OF THE DIVERS.

HAVANA, March 8.—The court of inquiry held its usual sessions yesterday, examining Ensign Possellson and the divers' plans. The Spanish divers work when they desire to do so. The day was beautiful and the wreckers advanced steadily in clearing away the debris. Many articles of personal value to the officers of the Maine are recovered from time to time. The wreckers and divers when below work hard. The Maine was exceptionally high between decks, which makes the effort of getting out the bodies more difficult. They float to the ceilings and are entangled in the debris.

FOR SMOKING CIGARETTES.

Fourteen-Year-Old Girl at Aurora, Ill., Nearly Kills a Playmate with a Hatpin.
AURORA, Ill., March 7.—Hereafter in Aurora the hatpin will be classed among dangerous and deadly weapons. A Fulton street youngster, attacked by one of these weapons, owes his preservation to his own vigorous constitution rather than to any fault in the hatpin or good will on the part of the owner. The pin in this instance was wielded by a 14-year-old girl. She was playing with a group of children which contained among others a boy smoking a cigarette. The girl endeavored to snatch the cigarette from him, and to get it out of her way he handed it to a smaller boy. Either in rage or mischief or both the girl pulled the pin from her hat and jabbed the boy with it. The slender weapon penetrated the lad's body to a considerable depth, even piercing the lungs and narrowly missing the heart. Blood poisoning was feared, but the boy seems to be on the road to recovery.

INSIDE THE PRISON WALLS.

A Convict at Sing Sing Cruelly Murders His Wife Who Was Visiting Him.
NEW YORK, March 7.—Within the walls of Sing Sing, where every precaution is supposed to be taken that no criminal may add to the list of his misdeeds, a murder was committed. Adrian Braun, a convict, attacked his wife in the waiting room of the prison, and with one vicious swing of a long, keen knife cut her throat. He struck her again and again with the weapon, but that first stab was sufficient to kill. The wife had come to visit her husband and was just ready to leave the prison when Braun slipped the knife from its concealment and laughed at the woman sitting by his side. Braun was serving a two-years' sentence for beating his wife, but she had forgiven him and this was her first visit to the prison.

WILL OUTDO FORMER EFFORTS.

Dr. Gatling, Inventor of the Terrible Life-Destroying Instrument, at Work on a New Gun.
CLEVELAND, O., March 7.—Dr. Richard Jordan Gatling, the inventor of the famous engine of death which bears his name, and which forms a part of the life-destroying equipment of every army and navy of the world, is actively engaged in this city in the construction of a monstrous death-dealing gun on newly calculated plans based upon scientific principles, mechanically and mathematically correct. It is being made for the United States government. The new gun is calculated to last longer and fire more shots than the one of his former invention.

WOULD COST TOO MUCH.

The Proposition to Build the Warship, "George Washington," Impracticable.
WASHINGTON, March 7.—The senate committee on naval affairs has received a reply from the navy department in answer to the resolution of the senate inquiring as to the feasibility of building a battleship to be named the George Washington, which would be equal to any battleship in the world, with the facilities therein provided for within one year. The department reports that it would not be feasible, and that the last time in which such a vessel could be constructed would be 18 months, and that at an enormous expense, probably \$8,000,000.

A Great Strike Declared Off.

BIDDEFORD, Me., March 7.—The strike of the 3,500 employees of the Pepperell and Laconia cotton manufacturing corporations which began on January 17, when a general reduction of ten per cent. in wages went into effect, was declared off Saturday afternoon and the big mills, which have been silent since that date, started up this morning. The operatives have lost nearly \$210,000 in wages since they came out on a strike and business has been paralyzed.

Almost a Tenement House Horror.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 7.—One of the most exciting fires the fire department has ever been called upon to fight occurred at 614 Webster avenue yesterday, when one woman was suffocated and five other people so badly burned that three may die. Three families were penned in a ramshackle building and the stairs eaten away while they slept. Only the most rapid work of firemen prevented a tenement house horror.

No Spring Flood This Year.

OMAHA, Neb., March 7.—There will be no spring flood in the Missouri valley this year. This is the report of the weather observer at Omaha, based upon data he has gathered at the request of the department at Washington. The information was secured for the purpose of giving timely notice to the vast property interests annually menaced by floods on the Missouri river region, of the spring rise, should it be heavy or light.

Senator Mills Out of the Race.

HOUSTON, Tex., March 7.—The Post prints a letter from United States Senator Mills in which he formally withdraws from the race for reelection, which leaves the field to Gov. Culberson. In his letter Mr. Mills gives as the reason of his withdrawal the recent action of the state executive committee, which required all voters at the democratic primaries to be loyal to free silver at the sixteen to one ratio.

WRIT OF INJUNCTION.

Railroad Men Petition the Senate to Prevent Its Abuse.

Patriotism in the House—Bill to Provide Two Additional Regiments of Artillery Passed—\$50,000,000 for Purposes of Defense.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—Yesterday's session of the senate was devoted entirely to the consideration of the District of Columbia appropriation bill. At the hour of adjournment the bill had not been disposed of and its discussion will be continued to-day. Mr. Carter, of Montana, urged that the bill go over as he desired to offer an amendment relating to the gas supply of Washington. "A more infamous and audacious outrage was never perpetrated on an inoffensive public than is nightly perpetrated by the Washington Gas Light company," declared Mr. Carter, "and I desire to present an amendment that will afford the suffering people of this city an opportunity to force the company to give them what they pay for." At his suggestion the bill was laid aside and at 5:45 the senate went into executive session, and soon afterwards adjourned. During the morning hour Mr. Allen, of Nebraska, presented the petition of 18,000 railway men of Pennsylvania, in favor of legislation to prevent the abuse of the writ of injunction.

THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The spirit of patriotism was rampant in the house yesterday, and by almost an unanimous vote the Hawley bill providing for two additional regiments of artillery was passed under suspension of the rules. No effort was made to obstruct action, but Mr. Bailey, the democratic leader, pleaded for more time than the 40 minutes allowed under the rule, and because it was refused after the bill had been passed he inaugurated a filibuster against District of Columbia legislation that continued all day. Mr. Bailey desired to speak in favor of the bill, but could not get time.

Mr. Hull, in opening the debate, explained briefly the necessity for these men to man the coast defenses of the country. By July 1, he said, 244 big guns and 232 mortars would be mounted. These guns required 18 men each to handle them, and, in time of war, 60. There were 4,025 artillerymen, all told, in the service. The guns employed July 1 would require 7,000, regardless of any exigency that might arise. Even if no exigency arose, these men, he insisted, would be necessary to care for the fortifications and guns upon which we were expending millions of dollars. The charge that this bill was an attempt to increase the standing army, to be used possibly to overawe the cities, he said, he considered too frivolous to discuss.

Mr. Cox, in opposing the bill, said he would vote as cheerfully as any man in the house for this bill if it were needed for the national defense as a war measure, but he argued that the president, as commander-in-chief of the army, had authority to detail men from the other branches of the service, the cavalry and infantry, and that such details could man and care for the coast defenses without increasing permanently the standing army.

Mr. Jones, of Virginia, the other democrat who opposed the bill, insisted that the bill was not a war measure, as it had been recommended for several years. Mr. Shafroth, populist, of Colorado, caused a round of applause when he expressed his regret that a single voice should be raised against such a bill at such a time. There was no denying the fact that our foreign relations with Spain were on the eve of a rupture. War ought to be averted if possible, but we ought to prepare at once, he said, for every emergency.

Mr. Williams, democrat, of Mississippi, said that while his voice was now, as ever, for peace, it seemed absolutely certain that Spain was forcing us into war to extricate the reigning family from the desperate straits into which she was placed by her futile attempts to subjugate Cuba. He had been for Cuban belligerency and Cuban independence, and if war was to come as a result of our sympathy for those who were struggling for their freedom, he would not refuse to give his vote to any measure designed to prepare us to meet the enemy.

The time for debate expired at this time, and Mr. Bailey, who had not been able to get the floor, asked for unanimous consent for three minutes. Mr. Hepburn, republican of Iowa, objected. The bill was then passed without division. The great chorus of ayes was offset by three voices on the minority side, Messrs. Cox, democrat, of Tennessee; Jones, democrat, of Virginia, and Todd, fusion, of Michigan.

Following this Mr. Cannon presented a bill placing \$50,000,000 at the disposal of the administration, the same to be expended in providing for the public defense. It was referred to the committee on appropriations.

District of Columbia business was then taken up and Mr. Bailey, as a method of resenting the refusal to accord him the privilege of addressing the house on the artillery bill, inaugurated a filibuster. Roll call followed roll call for two hours. When the confusion of the floor became such that order was called for, the speaker requested all members to take their seats.

SCHOOLBOYS IN CHAINS.

Surprising Fact Brought Out by a Massachusetts Legislative Inquiry.
BOSTON, March 5.—The legislative committee on education continued the hearing on the measure reported by the state board of education relative to school attendance and truancy. Some remarkable facts came out. Agent Walton told of a visit to the Essex county truant school. Mr. Walton said he had seen one boy with a horseweight and a chain tied to his feet and hands. Two other boys confined in a small cellar were chained together with a long chain. The superintendent of the school did not act as if it was any unusual thing to have his boys chained together in this way. The boys were ignorant, too, not knowing what simple words meant. At the school at Becket, in Berkshire county, Mr. Bortwell said he found hanging in the schoolroom a rawhide, a ball and chain and handcuffs. These were not in use now, but the present superintendent said that when he came there he found a boy walking about the yard with a ball and chain on his feet. The superintendents of these schools were allowed to run the truant schools as they pleased. These statements have caused a great sensation.

FOR A GREAT SHIPYARD.

Andrew Carnegie Tells Why One Near New York Would Be a Good Thing.
CLEVELAND, O., March 5.—The Iron Trade Review has the following letter from Mr. Andrew Carnegie:
CANNON, France, Feb. 10, 1898.—May I call attention through your columns to the field which is open for a first-class shipbuilding yard upon the Hudson, East river, or Lower bay, near New York? The prices paid for steel by British and German shipbuilders are so much higher than shipbuilders in New York would be required to pay that the difference would make, in itself, an excellent profit. Plates are worth about \$22 or \$23 per ton in New York. The quoted price at Glasgow is nearly \$30. Other prices are in proportion, and all the woodwork of ships is also much cheaper with us. If a yard were built to-day with the newest appliances, the total cost of labor, even at much higher wages, would be less than in any shipyard I know of, either in Britain or Germany.

Prominent Cleveland shipbuilders agree with Mr. Carnegie and express confidence that American built ships will reign supreme.

MINING TROUBLE.

All Mines Ordered Shut Down in Northern Colorado Coal District.

DENVER, Col., March 5.—Trouble is brewing again in the northern coal district. The trust has ordered a shut down of the mines and the men threaten to shut down the entire district indefinitely unless some agreement is reached at once. At the United mines the representation is made that the shut down is according to the orders of Judge Johnson, pending a report to the court as to the business done since the decision of the state board of arbitration in fixing a new scale of wages, so that the judge can determine whether the mines are working at a loss in paying the new scale.

CUBAN ORPHANS.

Consul General Lee Looking After the Children Made Parentless by the War.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The only word received at the state department from Gen. Lee during the past 24 hours came in a short cablegram received last night addressed to Assistant Secretary Day. The consul general had formerly notified the department that as one result of his efforts to ameliorate the condition of the poor in Havana he had secured from the Spanish authorities the use of a large storehouse, which he proposed to use as an orphan asylum to shelter the many little children left parentless by the war.

AGAINST GOLD CONTRACTS.

The Kentucky House Passes a Measure Which Is Substantially a Copy of the Nebraska Law.

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 5.—The house of representatives has passed, by a party vote, an act to prevent the making of a contract payable in gold and making such a contract null and void. Dr. S. Atwood Smith, of Louisville, introduced the bill and warmly advocated its passage. It is substantially a copy of the Nebraska law, and prevents the discrimination of either metal against the other, and declares both gold and silver legal tender in payment of debt on exactly the same terms.

Silent for Seven Years.

SAN QUENTIN, Cal., March 5.—Seven years ago William Rodgers, a convict serving a 30-years' sentence in the penitentiary here, was told by Lieut. McLean, of the force of guards, to stop talking and attend to his work. The prisoner replied: "I'll not talk any more." He kept his word until yesterday, when he was informed that McLean had left the prison. Then Rodgers broke his silence of seven years by remarking that his vow was off. He now converses freely with his fellow-convicts.

Four Tramps Dead in a Refrigerator Car.

ST. LOUIS, March 5.—A special from Fort Worth, Tex., says: Four tramps were found dead in a refrigerator car to-day. Death resulted by gas from a fire built with coal. Six men, supposed to be tramps, entered the car last night, closing the door behind them. Two of the men escaped this morning in a dying condition, but were resuscitated by physicians.

WILL RESORT TO ARMS.

The Citizens of Young America, Ind., Who Demolished a Saloon, Ready to Fight.
INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 7.—The authorities of Cass county have been informed that any effort to arrest the citizens of the town of Young America, who recently demolished W. F. Nance's saloon, will be resisted, even to bloodshed. The citizens have organized and have agreed that should an officer appear with warrants, a whistle will be sounded as a signal for the citizens to come out and resist the process of the court. The men who demolished the saloon declare they had a perfect right to do it for the protection of their families.

GIVEN LIFE SENTENCES.

Two Train-Wreckers at Osceola, Ia., Severely Punished for Endangering 300 Lives.
CRESTON, Ia., March 7.—Fred Fivecoats and Frank Jackman were sentenced by Judge Towner in the district court at Osceola Saturday to imprisonment for life at hard labor for attempted train-wrecking. Both are young men from Clark county. On the night of December 22 they attempted to wreck and rob the Burlington flyer No. 2 near Murray, a small town east of here. Part of the train was derailed, but no damage was done. The lives of over 300 passengers were placed in peril by the wreckers.

FOOD DISTRESS IN SPAIN.

Wheat is \$2.80 Per Bushel and the Situation Is Becoming Critical.
LONDON, March 7.—Advices from Spain tend to show increasing distress. The scarcity of breadstuffs is reaching the point of being a calamity, and through this scarcity and the manipulation of the Barcelona clique, who have created a corner in the cereal, wheat is now worth \$2.80 per bushel, of which \$1 is profit to the manipulators. As the gross income of the people has decreased from \$34,000,000 to \$75,000,000 since 1895, the situation is becoming dangerous.

KANSAS PACIFIC PAYMENT.

The First Installment of One Million Dollars Has Been Handed Over.
WASHINGTON, March 7.—In answer to inquiries on the subject, it is officially announced that the first payment of \$1,000,000 on account of the sale of the government's interest in the Kansas Pacific railroad was made during the past week. The remaining \$5,303,000 will be made in 30, 40, 50 and 60 days from the date of the sale, February 19.

Secretary Bliss Against "Free Homes."

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Chairman Sherman, of the Indian affairs committee of the house, has received from Secretary Bliss a communication in which the latter takes strong ground against the adoption by the house of the "free homes" amendment to the Indian appropriation bill added by the senate. The secretary thinks that such legislation would be inexpedient, as it would be taxing the entire people for the benefit of the few. He estimates that it would also cost the government \$36,000,000.

Thousands Starving.

SAN MARCUS, Tex., March 7.—Dr. J. H. Coombs, of this city, has received a letter from Hon. Walter B. Barker, United States consul at Sagua la Grande, Cuba, in which he says: "I have certificates of mayors of large cities and towns in this large district going to show that there are over 50,000 people actually starving. I cannot believe that our American people are uncharitable. They just don't realize the destitution and desolation of the people of this island."

The Frisco May Branch Out.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 7.—It is reported that the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway company is soon to become the largest railway system in the southwest and it will be the short line from this city to Galveston, Tex. This is to be done by the purchase of the Texas Midland and the absorption of the Houston & Texas Central. The deal, it is said, has been under consideration for a long time and will be effected in the near future.

Will Be a Pennsylvanian.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Congressman Dalzell created much comment by announcing that the president had decided to appoint a Pennsylvania republican as the successor of Col. William R. Morrison, of the interstate commerce commission. According to Mr. Dalzell a member of the Pennsylvania supreme court, whose name he declined to divulge, has been offered the position and has accepted it.

Insurgents Active.

HAVANA, March 7.—The insurgents are very active in Havana province. Several miles of sugar cane fields have been burned. The railroad tracks between Buena Ventura and Bejucal have been destroyed by dynamite. The Spaniards are rushing troops to Santiago de Cuba province. Insurgents have control there, and the Spanish troops are not sufficient to garrison the towns that are under Spanish control.

Endangered Her Life to Save Property.

FORT SCOTT, Kan., March 7.—Miss Nore Woodard remained in her father's burning house to save valued articles until all avenues of escape were cut off. She was seen pleading for help from a second-story window and then she fell unconscious. She was finally rescued by means of a ladder. The house and the furniture were damaged about \$5,000.