

READY TO GO INTO BATTLE.

British War Preparations Suddenly Extended to the Chinese Fleet.

SITUATION LOOKS WARLIKE.

The Squadron at Wei-Hai-Wei Cleared for Action—Is Russia Trying to Start a March?—France Is Also Active in War Work.

WEI-HAI-WEI, Nov. 3.—All the British warships here, the first class battle ship Centurion, the first-class cruiser Narcissus, the second class cruiser Hermione, the torpedo boat destroyer Whiting, the torpedo boat destroyer Fame, the torpedo boat destroyer Handit and the first class gunboat Peacock have cleared for action and are ready for sea at an hour's notice.

The first class battle ship Victorious and the first-class cruiser Undaunted at Che-Foo are coaling to their full capacity.

The greatest secrecy is maintained as to the meaning of these warlike preparations, but there is no doubt important instructions are expected at any moment.

A large Russian fleet is assembled at Port Arthur.

LONDON, Nov. 3.—The dispatch from Wei-Hai-Wei announcing the war preparations of the British naval authorities there is regarded here as being of grave importance, coupled with the Anglo-French war preparations. It is surmised that Russia, profiting by the present strained relations between Great Britain and France, has decided to push forward her aims in the far East by forcibly seizing the valuable treaty port of New Chwang, which Great Britain cannot permit, it is said.

A dispatch from London October 20 said a cable message had been received there from Shanghai as follows: "A Russian regiment occupied the town of Niu Chwang (province of Leo-Tong) and the forts at the mouth of the River Liao on October 15, thus securing complete possession of Niu Chwang. The native troops fled without making any opposition under orders from the empress dowager and Li Hung Chang."

A British gunboat was in the river at the time. Its non-resistance is regarded as the virtual British abandonment of the whole of Manchuria to the Russians, and gives Russia an invaluable strategic point. Great Britain is certain to lose the Niu Chwang trade, of which it has had 80 per cent.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Nov. 3.—Admiral Pallison's secretary, who left here for an up-country point, has been urgently telegraphed to return to Esquimaux at once. All is excitement in naval circles. The Scotsmen of Vancouver, recognizing the gravity of the situation, offer to raise a regiment and place the same at the disposal of the country for service either at home or abroad.

LONDON, Nov. 3.—The war office has issued a semi-official notification in which it says it does not object to the papers announcing military and naval preparations in general terms, but points out that it would be "unpatriotic to publish specific details that might be useful to a possible foe."

There is no noticeable cessation in England's preparations and the officials are confident of the country's ability to meet all emergencies. There were large shipments of guns, shells and war stores to Malta and Gibraltar yesterday.

The dispatches from France announce equal activity at Toulon, Brest, Marseilles and elsewhere. The Rome correspondent of the London Daily Chronicle says: "France is making great preparations at Bizerta, about forty miles northwest of Tunis. Guns and ammunition arrive daily and men are strengthening the forts, working day and night. The object is said to cut communication between Malta and Egypt in the event of hostilities with Great Britain."

SIGNED HIS BROTHERS' NAMES

An Ex-Legislator of Missouri Leaves Home, Owing Several Thousand Dollars.

CENTRALIA, Mo., Nov. 3.—Ex-Representative E. S. Anderson of Monroe county, who lives twelve miles north of here, disappeared from his home about ten days ago. His family say they do not know when he will return. It is supposed that his absence is occasioned by a suit on a note for \$500 brought by the Farmers and Merchants bank of this city. Mr. Anderson had borrowed this money and signed the names of two of his brothers to the note, saying that his brothers had authorized him to do so. The two brothers filed an answer to the petition of the Farmers and Merchants bank, stating that their names were signed without their knowledge or consent, and that they would contest the suit.

In the last few days it has become known that he owes the Bank of Centralia and men here \$1,000. He owes his brothers \$2,000 and the Madison bank \$200. Of these amounts he has signed the names of his brothers to \$3,100 without their knowledge or consent. Mr. Anderson has always been considered a good business man.

He Tried to Bribe Housley.
LONDON, Nov. 3.—Martin E. Rucker, a former promoter of bicycle companies, who was charged with contempt of court in endeavoring to induce Ernest Terah Housley, the bankrupt promoter, to alter evidence which reflected upon the Humber company directors, was fined \$1,000 and costs today and was further ordered to pay the money immediately or go to prison. Mr. Housley declared that Rucker, in behalf of four directors of the Humber company, offered him \$5,000 to change some of the evidence presented in the bankruptcy proceedings.

The Last Appeal.
HARTINGTON, Neb., Oct. 31, 1898.
Editor Independent:

This is the last time that I will speak to your readers in this campaign. Remember, brothers, that Post got over 89,000 votes, more than any defeated candidate ever got in this state in an off-year. A change of three votes at each voting place in the state would wipe out Sullivan's majority. There is a tremendous effort being made against Poynter all over the state. There is where the fight centers. Turn out and vote.
WILBUR F. BRYANT.

GIVE BACK GRAND JURY

It was Surreptitiously Taken by the Republican Party to Favor Embezzlers.

Men of Nebraska open your eyes and see what the republican party has done for you. Let us specify one of its acts aside from fastening upon the people of the world and especially the people of this country the curse of gold bimetalism. What has it done for Nebraska? It has surreptitiously abolished the grand jury system and substituted frauds, conspiracies and defalcations. The courts can call a grand jury, but the courts do not do it and the republican party has substituted pettifogging, political adventurers, called county attorneys who rarely will file informations against a political or party friend nor even O. K. a complaint to an examining court against such an one and without which many of our courts will not enter in a complaint for any crime charged; but they will file complaints against their party or personal enemies or such as they deem their enemies and will enter into conspiracies to falsely charge, and by fraud and deception and even perjury secure a conviction, while real crimes are overlooked and informations suppressed. Real criminals commit their crimes with impunity and their victims are voiceless and without a remedy.

Can you imagine that the Moothers, Moores, Bartleys, Bolems and the hosts of respectable criminals would have worked their crimes and defalcations with the success that they did in almost every county of the state had a grand jury been empaneled in each county at each time of court? Would their operations go on to the extent that they did without some whisperings having reached the grand jury room? And would there not have been some investigation made before such enormous amounts had been stolen?

The republican party did this as it has done everything of the kind surreptitiously and under false pretenses, pretending that they only wanted to save the cost of a grand jury, when in fact it has more than doubled the costs of maintaining our courts. Of course in our smaller counties with few inhabitants where the people are guileless and less scheming, as farming communities are apt to be, or where by chance an honorable and capable county attorney has been elected, the people do not so greatly feel this evil, but take it in our large cities and our counties of more numerous population, where the county attorney and his assistant boasts of the number of convicts, with the view of obtaining for themselves political prestige, the chances are that the office is the center of conspiracies to falsely charge and persecute, rather than to unearth crime and punish criminals.

Give us back the grand jury and let the victims of crime, as the law contemplates make the complaint to any magistrate in the county without any "O. K." of the county attorney.
A. VAN ETZEN.

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HAWLEY FOR POYNTER

Will Not Assist in Rewarding Corrupt Politicians.

Poynter and Gilbert decline the nomination of the Liberty party committee, that was authorized by the state convention to fill any vacancies that might occur by the withdrawal or refusal of any candidate nominated by the convention. It will be remembered by those who attended the state convention that we all agreed that the country's emancipation from corrupt party rule and industrial slavery; the encroachments of capital; the un-American tariff theory of taxation of consumption by the poor instead of the possessions of the rich, depended solely on the principle of self-government by all of the people instead of party rule by a party of the people. The four state conventions then in session adopted the principle of self-government by our suggestion which was agreed upon by the several conference committees in joint session and that account some of us were not in favor of putting a separate ticket in the field, but favored a union of all the reform forces and make "Direct Legislation" on the principle of the "initiative and referendum" the cardinal issue of the campaign. On this agreement I withdrew, giving my reasons therefor in a former newspaper article.

My friends throughout the state who have twice honored me with the nomination for governor will naturally inquire how I sought the liberty party to vote in the coming election. I do not feel like advising others what to do, but as far as myself I cannot forget the long series of years when the republican party held supreme sway and controlled legislation that in the nation 65 per cent of the homes and wealth of the common people of the United States dwindled to 25 per cent according to their own figures compiled in the census. That in 1890 54 per cent of the American people were without homes of their own and a large portion of the balance lived in debt encumbered homes and on mortgaged farms while millions increased by the thousands, and tramps by the million. Corruption in politics has been rewarded and the victories of the vicious entrenched by legislation while the petitions of the virtuous have been split upon and petitions granted at the rate of

\$100 a month to those who shot with their mouths and \$6 00 a month to those who shot with a gun. Who can forget these relics of republican misrule. Again the Liberty party nominated Poynter and Gilbert, not because there were prohibitionists, but because they and the three other parties are "Direct Legislators" and are willing that the people shall have their say in a government of the people, as was designed by those who revolted against the same brand of republicanism more than a century ago. Be it remembered then, that Poynter and Gilbert who were under no obligation or promise to us any more than to all the people are willing to serve the will of the people by their sanction of any act of the state legislature that tends to protect the rights of petition and free expression at the polls. Be it also remembered that the republican press attempted to stampee those who favor temperance by quoting the statement that he was not a prohibitionist and then concocted a conspiracy to stampee those who do not favor temperance by storing their candidate who poses as a temperance man at home, into the saloons to "set 'em up" for the boys. It is said that God hates a coward but we read in holy writ that he spews hypocrites out of his mouth—I know not what course others may take, but as for me I shall vote for "Direct Legislation" by writing the names of Poynter and Gilbert at the head of the Liberty party ticket.
R. A. HAWLEY.

REPUBLICAN PROMISES

Nebraska City, Oct. 24, 1898.
Editor Independent:

Nearly every republican in this city has been promised a political position if he will only support the candidacy of M. L. Hayward and the republican legislative ticket. While many are being caught by the deceptive promises, I am able to state that the greater number have refused to be duped by such trickery and are going to support Mr. Poynter, for they know the necessity of having a man not owned and controlled by corrupt political corporation cappers.

A well known republican of this city has made several unsuccessful attempts to have a republican torch light procession, but when the time comes for some one to "put up" the cash for the same, the treasury was always very "shy" and the "grand parade" would be postponed indefinitely.

Since Mr. Smith exposed Hayward in a speech in this city last Saturday evening, Hayward and his "fixers" have had very little to say and it is now said that they have given up all hope of beating W. A. Poynter with the republican nominee.

In case Hayward makes a good race for governor, and is defeated (which he certainly will be) he intends to sly his castor into the United States senatorial arena with the hope of capturing the plum, in case of the election of a republican legislature. Patrick Ruddy, republican candidate for representative, is very busy trying to trade votes with the fusionists by telling them that he is a very liberal man in his political views and that he generally votes at least a good portion of the ticket nominated by the party which he deserted several years ago, but when the votes have been canvassed, he will find that the people of this county prefer clean men for office and he will find that his little scheme to fool the voters in order that he may get into the legislature to assist Hayward to a seat in the United States senate will be knocked into a cocked hat.

According to the promises that have been made, in case Hayward would be elected, the various state institutions would be filled by residents of this city, which would cause our town to present a very lonesome appearance.

Hayward has been trying for more than a quarter of a century to get an office, and has finally succeeded in getting his first nomination, but he will find that the voters are acquainted with his intentions and will refuse to recognize his appeals for assistance for the reason that they know that he is a corporation candidate.
ONE WHO KNOWS.

SPANIARDS ARE STARVING.

Pitiful Condition of the Soldiers Returned From Cuba to Madrid.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—Word from Spain says that the soldiers of the Spanish army who have returned from Cuba are starving in the streets of Madrid and enduring great suffering in other provinces. None of them have been paid for months, and some of them not for years. Large numbers of the recruits were taken from the jails and prisons to serve in the Spanish army, and their terms of service having expired, they have been turned out of the army hapless and unable to obtain employment. In the Calle Mayor, in Madrid, hundreds of the returned soldiers are seen daily, many of them begging the passers-by for food and for money.

The pitiful condition of the Spanish soldiers has been called to the attention of General Weyler, who prides himself upon being a friend of the army, and the Cuban soldiers in particular. He has publicly declared that the soldiers must be supported by the government until they are able to support themselves. To the credit of General Weyler, it is said that he has given largely of his own private means to assist in providing clothing and food for the soldiers.

At the Supreme Court.

LANSING, Mich., Nov. 3.—Governor Pingree is determined to carry his suit brought to compel the Michigan Central railroad to sell him a thousand mile mileage book for \$20 to the United States supreme court if possible.

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WAS WITH SHAFTEY'S ARMY

A Retired Army Officer Testifies About Tampa and Santiago.

HE HAS MUCH TO CRITICISE.

No System in the Embarkation or Landing of Troops—Were Told to Go on Board Helter Skelter—Balloon at the Head of Attacking Column a Mistake

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—The war investigating commission held a session here today to hear the testimony of Major Henry Romeyne, a retired army officer. He said that he had asked at the beginning of the war for a military assignment to go to the front in his capacity as an officer, but it was refused and he then went as a correspondent of a weekly newspaper.

His testimony covered the embarkation of the troops at Port Tampa and the campaign in Cuba. He said that when he went to Port Tampa the bank of the canal there was covered with troops. He had wanted to go over to the Tenth Infantry, which was his old regiment, but no one could tell him where the regiment was to be found. He asked a staff officer and several others for this information, but none knew, nor did anyone appear to know on what vessel any of the particular troops were to embark. There was great confusion. A part of a command would go on one vessel and a part on another, and the commands were in some cases separated from their stores. He had seen no order for the systematic embarkation of the troops, and he had heard it said that they were told to go aboard helter skelter.

When asked to express an opinion as to the preparation for the embarkation the witness hesitated, saying that to do so would involve criticism of his superiors. The commissioners insisted upon a reply, and Mr. Romeyne replied that he did not think the preparation was such as it should have been. "There was," he said, "a lack of surf boats, and also of order, and of preparation of landing. When the landing was undertaken the troops left the ships indiscriminately, parts going at one time and other parts at other times."

He told of the efforts to tow the two lighters over to Cuba, but said that one was lost and that it was the general impression that it was lost on purpose, because it retarded the progress of the fleet. In response to a question from General McCook Major Romeyne said that while it was difficult to land anything, ambulances and wagons could have been landed as easily as the artillery. He had seen only one ambulance at the front at the battle of El Caney, and it was not used for conveying the wounded to the rear. Speaking of other incidents of this battle, he said there was general surprise that an inflated balloon had been carried at the head of the attacking column, thus indicating to the Spaniards the exact location of the troops, but he did not know at whose orders this had been done.

He said the town of Siboney was without exception the dirtiest place he had ever seen in his life, and that no effort was made to clean it up before the fever broke out. There was a deficiency of proper food at the fever hospitals and the cooking was generally poor. Any one in this hospital was liable to contract yellow fever. He had been a patient in the hospital and said there had been no neglect of patients by the medical attendants at this hospital or at the hospitals for the wounded. He had known surgeons in the latter hospitals to work sixty hours without cessation.

"Why did they not have more surgeons?" asked Colonel Denby.

The witness said he could not answer.

Major Romeyne said he had come North as a convalescent with many other convalescents on the transport Concho, and in severe terms he criticized the provisioning of the vessel. Many of the men were compelled to sleep on board in bunks without blankets or pillows and with no covering except the cotton uniform which they wore during the day.

"The water was offensive to both sight and smell," he said, "and the food was poor and scanty, none being provided, especially for convalescents. The meat was canned and inferior, and much of the hardtack moulded."

He also stated that there was only one physician on board the vessel, and that he was a convalescent. Six men had died on the way up, and Major Romeyne expressed the opinion, in response to a question from Captain Howell, that, with proper attention and good food, the lives of at least some of these men could have been saved. He said he was unable to place the responsibility for the neglect, but that the captain of the vessel had stated that when he made application to go to Jamaica for fresh food and water before starting upon the voyage from Santiago the request was denied.

General Wilson, ex-governor of Nebraska and Captain Howell will go to Camp Meade to-morrow for the purpose of inspecting that camp.

How Joints Support Atchison.

ATCHISON, Kan., Nov. 3.—The receipts of the Atchison police department, last month, amounted to \$1,000, of which \$1,200 is above all expenses to be turned into the city treasury. All except \$175 of this amount was paid into the police department by joints. The new police administration reduced the police force from seventeen to nine men. The joints are kept within specified bounds.

Best Sewan Arrested.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Nov. 3.—Bert Sewan of Chillicothe, Mo., who was indicted at that place about four weeks ago for assaulting his wife and infant child and who ran away, was arrested at Monett by Chief of Police Bishop, of this city, and brought to Springfield yesterday. He was in company with Mrs. Zeigler, wife of Charles Zeigler, of Chillicothe, and it is said they had been living together in this city about three weeks as man and wife. They were on their way to Fayetteville at the time of their arrest.

Man and Wife Found Dead.

OMAHA, Neb., Nov. 3.—When S. Lahglar, an attendant at the Vendome hotel, conducted a newly arrived guest to room No. 9 on the second floor at 11 o'clock last night he found the door locked. He opened it and was almost stifled by the gas which poured into the hallway. When he was able to make his way in he stumbled over the dead body of C. A. Carlson, a business man of Colby, Kan. A light was brought and it was then discovered that Mrs. Carlson, who was in bed, was also dead. Carlson was lying with his face to the floor. Beside the bed was a bottle filled with whisky. The gas jet was turned on full force.

WHAT SPAIN MUST DO.

America Must Be Fully Reimbursed for War Expenditures.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—While the cabinet gave little attention yesterday to the peace negotiations at Paris, there is no longer any doubt as to the general purpose of this government to retain the entire Philippine archipelago. If, after final balancing of the accounts, viz: the cost of war to the United States on one side and our acquisitions on the other, it is found that any compensation is due the Spaniards it will be made in a lump sum. It is pointed out that, at the time the protocol was signed, the United States did not have and had not since acquired any part of the Philippine islands outside of Manila city and harbor, and that the United States has never entertained a purpose to acquire any territory by the power of conquest. What the United States will insist upon is that she must be fully reimbursed for every dollar expended by her on account of the war, and in the statement will be included an amount sufficient to cover all payments, present and prospective, on account of pensions incidental to the war.

No Spanish bonds, of any character or amount, other than local or municipal bonds, will be paid or assumed by this government. The question of the status of municipal obligations under circumstances like the present is fully settled by international law. They must be recognized as valid and binding by the conquering power, and hence it is assumed that the United States will not raise any question on this point, but promptly consent to guarantee their final payment. What sum of money this government would consent to pay to Spain cannot even be estimated, but when the final account is rendered it is believed the balance due Spain will be small, probably not exceeding \$25,000,000 or \$30,000,000.

The belief still prevails among the majority of the cabinet, that the Spaniards will accept the terms laid down by the United States and that whatever delay occurs before that result is reached will be chargeable only to the purpose of the Spaniards to secure the best possible terms, to extort the last possible million dollars, before acceding to our demands.

SMALLPOX SPREADS IN MANILA

Surgeons Are Dismayed by the Growth of the Disease Among the Soldiers.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 3.—The transport Peru, which arrived yesterday from Manila, brought fifteen soldiers and sailors, including several officers. The few that were sick upon the departure of the vessel are now nearly recovered. Colonel John R. Root, of the First Nebraska regiment, is seriously ill with gastritis and was confined to his bed during the voyage. When the Peru left Manila, there were 1,500 sick among the men and the surgeons were dismayed at the progress that smallpox was making. Captain Lun said that he knew of five deaths among the soldiers from that disease in a single day. The filth poured into the canals by the Chinese is a source of disease. Many officers will resign in case their regiments are kept on the islands.

Sergeant Palmer said that in the land attack on Manila, Private Baker of the Pennsylvania regiment was killed by the misdirected fire of the California regiment.

Will Go Home to Vote.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—President McKinley will go to Canton next week to cast his vote. All the members of the cabinet have likewise decided to go to their homes to vote unless some thing interferes to detain them here.

Madrid.—A dispatch from the Vizayas group of the Philippine islands says that several companies of native troops there have rebelled.

THREE POPULIST TICKETS

Three populist tickets will appear on the official ballot in Missouri this year, as a result of a decision of the supreme court in the mandamus proceedings brought by the middle-of-the-roaders to compel the secretary of state to file their ticket. The nominees of this faction were also certified by petition in compliance with the statute and the secretary could not refuse to recognize them. Since the court has so ordered, the middle-of-the-road ticket will appear under the populist heading with the regular people's party nominees. The supreme court thus declarations. The decision leaves all parties who desire to do so, free to file nominees without scarcely a limit or restriction. This practically annuls the Australian ballot law in the state. The court, however, did not pass upon the question as to which faction of the people's party had a majority of delegates to the state convention.

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TO MAKE WORK FOR CUBANS.

New Railroads Are Proposed That Islands are May Be Employed.

SANTIAGO, Cuba, Nov. 3.—The leading Cubans are very desirous to have their people return to work. They are preparing plans to be laid before the government that will enable all insurgents who are willing to work to get employment in building railroads in the island. It is proposed to pay for the lines by local taxation, the roads thus becoming government property. It is believed that 10,000 men now idle can be given regular employment in this way.

A negro has written a letter to General Wood demanding that the negroes, who, he says, constitute a large majority of the population of the province, shall be given their rights. He announces his intention to form a labor party of blacks.

TELEPHONE LINES TO COMBINE

A Consolidation of the Independent Kansas Companies Is Proposed.

FORT SCOTT, Kan., Nov. 3.—A meeting of the owners of three independent long-distance telephone lines of Southwestern Missouri and Southeastern Kansas was held here today. Action was taken toward a consolidation of the lines. This will make a system in strong competition with the Bell Telephone company. The Union Telephone company declared a 5 per cent quarterly dividend, and decided to extend its lines south from Moran and Jola to several county seat towns. At Girard it is proposed to connect with the line which encircles the mining towns of Missouri and Kansas.

HE WAS THE TRUSTED CASHIER

A Shortage of \$37,000 Found in the Accounts of a Dead Bank Employee.

HANOVER, Pa., Nov. 3.—A long hidden deficiency, reaching about \$37,000, has been discovered in the accounts of the late John H. Alleman, cashier of the First National bank of this place, who died about three weeks ago. The books have been in the hands of an expert accountant since Alleman's death. Mr. Alleman had been cashier of the bank for twenty-eight years and at no time was he ever suspected of wrongdoing. His defalcations were cleverly covered up by means of "kiting," or the use of drafts on different out of town banks, and thus deceived even the bank examiners. Mr. Alleman was under bonds of \$30,000. The bank still has a surplus of \$44,000 over all liabilities.

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