

# BLOWN SKY HIGH.

SPANIARDS' WESTERN FLEET MEETS AN AWFUL FATE.

### GREAT AMERICAN VICTORY.

TWO FIERCE ENGAGEMENTS END THE AFFAIR.

The Austria Blown Up--Spanish -- Two Crack Cruisers Burned --Desert Their Flag Ship--Scuttle of the Battle.

Madrid, May 3.-The American squadron, under Commodore Dewey, appeared off the bay of Manila at 5 o'clock Sunday morning and opened a strong cannonade against the Spanish squadron and forts protecting the harbor. The Spanish second-class cruiser, Don Juan de Austria, was severely damaged and her commander killed. Another Spanish vessel was burned.

The American squadron retired, having also sustained severe damage.

A second naval engagement followed, in which the American squadron again suffered considerable loss and the Spanish warships Mindano and Ullia were slightly damaged.

During this engagement the Cavite forts maintained a steadler and their lives in the waters of the bay.

Stronger fire upon the American squad- All the time the guns in the forts ron than in the first engagement.

Admiral Bermejo, the minister of marine, expressed himself as highly pleased with the heroism of the Spanish marines, and telegraphed congratulations to Admiral Montijo and the valorous crews of the Spanish squadron under fire of superior warships.

Manila, May 3,-Saturday night the squadron, forcing a passage under the forced to silence.

The American squadron remains in obscurity of the night. At daybreak the enemy took up positions, opening spain are undismayed and will resist to with a strong fire against Fort Cavite the bitter end

and the arsenal The Spanish fleet engaged the enemy in a brilliant combat, protected by the no port in which to repair for coal or Cavite and Manila forts. They obliged obtain supplies of ammunition the nathe enemy, with heavy los, to maneuver repeatedly. At 9 o'clock the American squadron took refuge behind the foreign merchant shipping on the east side of the bay.

The Spanish fleet, considering the enemy's superiority, naturally suffered a masses will be said for the repose of his severe loss. The Maria Christina is on fire and another ship, believed to be the Don Juan de Austria, was blown up. There was considerable loss of life. Captain Cadarze, commanding the Ma-

#### SPANISH ADMIRAL EXPLAINS Why He Deserted the Burning Flag Ship.

Madrid, May 3.-The Americans remain in the harbor, but the forts and what remains of the Spanish fleet are keeping up a resistance." The insurgents have attacked from

the land side of the city, but have been held in check. The ministry admits severe Spanish

losses in the fleet, but claims virtual victory, as the city of Manila has not It is insisted that the Americans were

forced to take refuge in the foreign shipping, and that this accounts for the fallure to drive it out to sea El Heraldo declares that the losses of the Spanish fleet, though severe, were

honorable. It excuses the desertion of erred his flag to the transport Ilsa de Cuba in order to better direct the maneuvers.

killing of the captain of most powerful of Spain's warships by stringing them up. in Pacific waters, and the captain had a record for distinguished gallantry.

It seems that the American squadron was sighted off Subic last evening. Apparently its commander expected

So Admiral Dewey kept on passed the forts at the entrance to the bay just before dawn. There was some firing from the batteries, but the squadron did not reply, and there has been no report whether the shots took effect. OLYMPIA'S RETORT.

With the dawn, Cavite opened fire cannon in reply.

From this the firing became general. Admiral Montejo, in the Maria Christina, went boldly to meet the foe. was soon engaged with the Olympia, a cruiser of much superior force, and though he inflicted much injury. his ship was set on fire and crippled by the

the ship, which was in a sinking con- not by private speculators.

and transfer his flag. The captain was shot dead by the admiral's side as he was leaving his doomed flagship, and devoted men were falling all around

The transfer of the flag was a deed of desperate daring, for all the ships of the Spanish fleet were under a terrible The admiral was forced to seek the armed transport Isla de Cuba, which had suffered less damage than

Meantime some of the American ships withdrew to the west of the bay, and the Olympia and Baltimore followed. Wounded were sent ashore in a position out of range of the Spanish fire, and the Americans returned to the

With the Maria Christina destroyed gallant Admiral Montejo was hard put to it for a defence. He forced the Americans to maneuver and got them into positions of great danger from the fire of the forts.

In the second attack the Baltimore, play Olympia, Concord and Boston made Th straight for the crippled Spanish ships,

Captain Shot Down on Flag Ship the erew to extinguish the blaze were unavailing.

The Americans continued to pour Their Own War Vessels-- Details their fire upon the devoted vessel, and of the Battle. she was scuttled and the crew made for the shore in their boats or upon pieces of the shattered spars.

The Don Juan de Austria was less fortunate. She, too, was crippled by the shots of the Americans, and in her helpless condition could not escape the storm of shot and shell. Suddenly her magazine exploded.

great cloud of smoke, from which flame seemed to leap, was seen to rise above the faithful ship and she was seen no The little gunboat Mindanoa and the cruiser Don Antonio de Ulloa were in

the thick of the combat and sustained a heavy fire for an hour. Then they were able to draw away under the forts, though suffering serious injury. SINK BOATS IN DESPAIR. No greater show of courage was made by any of the heroes of Spain than by those on the smaller gunboats. Seeing that they were apt to fall into the hands of the enemy they sunk their vessels or set them on fire, and risked

were firing at the American warships. the gunners showing great patriotism

and cool courage. Great damage must have been done the attacking fleet, though the effectiveness of the fire was somewhat interfered with by fear of damaging the foreign merchant ships in the bay.

The governor general had given orders that under no circumstances was any injury to be inflicted on the foreign Manila, May 2.—Saturday night the shipping, so when the American squad-batteries at the entrance to the port ron moved into the vicinity of the merannounced the arrival of the enemy's chantmen the guns of the forts were

It is believed that the invaders are not in a condition to resume the bombardment tomorrow, and as they have val experts here insist that they must retire, and consequently are proclaiming a victory for Spanish valor,

Admiral Montejo has been congratulated by the minister of marine, Admiral Bermejo, but there is much sorrow over the death of Captain Cadarso of the Maria Christina, and public

### The Maine's Hulk Destroyed.

Washington, D. C., May 3.-The state department has learned, through its secret agents, that the wreck of the ria Christina, is among the killed. The battleship Maine, lying in Havana harspirit of the army, navy and volunteers bor, has been destroyed by the Spanish authorities. It is supposed by officials of the administration that this action on the part of the Spanish authorities had been taken to prevent the raising of the wreck after the capture of Ha-

This information has intensified the desire to "avenge the Maine." have been mapped out, and it is the intention of the government just as soon as Havana is in possession of the United States troops to start an investigation that will end in several hangings. All the port officials who were duty at the time the Maine was anchored to the fatal buoy, and again on

A cabinet minister is authority for

following statement: "We shall make it part of our first business as soon as we take possession same regulars, scarred by the stiff camof Havana to find out who were the paigns along the canto and torn by the perpetrators of that bloody crime of the swamp thorns of the Cienaga, will the flagship Maria Christina by Ad-miral Montejo by saying that he transtain who was in charge of the harbor that night, and we will find everybody who possibly could have been connected with the affair, if they are still in Cuba. When we put hands on those who were Maria Christina, and the loss of the ship, are greatly deplored, as she was we will punish them as they deserve,

"If we find that they have escaped from the island and have gone back to Spain we will follow them there and tell Spain that the war shall not stop until to they have been delivered up to us for find the Spanish fleet there, but Ad-miral Montejo had retired to Manija They have got to suffer for their inand the protection of the forts of the famous and cowardly murder of sleeping sailors, and if they are yet alive they will hang for it.

Chandler, "now has a protective tar-iff." And much good it is doing American labor, isn't it, Senator Chandler? The wholesale reduction of the wages from her heaviest guns, and at once the of ew England cotton operatives imme Cienfuegos for Spain. Although Olympia fired her eight-inch forward diately following the increase of 8 per cent in the "protection" accorded to the are affected by the cut in wages 125,000 not guarded.

\$6 per week.

Every corporation enterprise that requires a public franchise in its opera-tion is an enterprise that should be Admiral Montejo was urged to leave owned and operated by the public, and

DIE LIKE DOGS WHILE DIGGING IN THE TRENCHES.

The Fever's Awful Work--Officers Curse and Urge Them On -- Deserted Houses---Black Wattled Vultures on the Fences,

Hayana, May 3.-Ten thousand Spanish soldiers are in the ditches around Havana and Matanzas preparing for a and many of his other ships shattered, desperate defense. Bare to the waist, sweating like bullocks under the yoke, they are digging a series of ditches

Day and night the regular soldiers dren shine, in sunlight and shadow, until scores of them have dropped dead in the terriffic heat. Those have been carted out and buried alongside the ditches they have died in. Others lie down downers and bull makes the control of the shadow of the ditches they have died in. Others lie down downers and bull makes the control of the shadow of down dogwise and loll under the torrid shadows of the palms and under the mule carts, which are used to carry

their implements.
Up and down the trenches ride the officers, cursing the men and urging them on. These men have not been paid in months, but they work on dumbly and heriocally, knowing as they do that the time will come when every spadeful of earth will grow into an additional chance against the American

OBSTACLES TO INVADERS

can realize the difficulty that our sol- where from and what its name nobody diers will encounter in this ring of earthworks and natural obstacles. The battery at Punta Braya has been strengthened into a position that will 1,460 sick in the military hospitals here strengthened into a position that will require some hard battering from the warships. After Punta Brava and the ditches about it are carried, as carried they must be, the stiffest kind of a plate. Two thousand soldiers in San Luis hospital have had only salt fish crear. Although this battery is on a hill, it is surrounded by a ditch, which the heavy rains have half filled with dirty yellow water.

1,400 sick in the military hospitals here get nothing except bean soup three times a day, with an ounce of meat to a plate. Two thousand soldiers in San Luis hospital have had only salt fish Griggs of New York, Fitzgerald this week, and conditions are now so bad that the Spaniards would almost rejoice to surrender after one good fight. The preparations for defense go fight. The preparations for defense go forward, however.

A new battery has been erected at vellow water.

Next comes the series of works be-yond Penalver in the low, swampy grounds from which arise daily the white death fogs of fever. There is a rapid firing guns have been mounted the insurgents, under Gomez and Garcia, will probably make a point of attack.

Twelve men died in two days last week toiling at the awful abattis work around Jesus del Monte. The heights beyond Regia, steep as those stormed at Gettysburg, are the choice vantage points for the half dead Spanish troops. BLANCO MORE NERVOUS.

Here the trade winds from the northeast have a full sweep and the fevered lungs of the muddy sappers may oc-casionally catch a breath of God's fresh air from the ocean beyond. Phreetimes has General Blanco and his staff driven around this line of fortifications from Regla to Punta Brava and three times has he ridden back to Hayana and sent out fresh detachments of shovelers to sweat and die. He is worried. He evidently believes that he cannot finish his preparations for defense in time for the rumored onslaught of the American army next week. No additional defensive preparations have been made in Morro castle, the Cubanas or the Punta.

omes the rumor that General Blanco does not depend so much on the guns of the forts as on the hand to hand fighting to be done afterward. volunteers do absolutely no work the streets, insult women, fill cafes with discord and threaten.

Blanco has to humor us if he wishes the day when she blew up, will be placed under arrest for complicity in this crime. They will be forced to prove this crime. They will be forced to prove the crime was only be recognized by their principles. But draped with the scarf and gown prewhen it comes to the cool, steady fighting that heeds not the rush of bullets the plunge of cannon balls, those prove Spain's strongest hope

PALL HANGS OVER HAVANA

To venture into Havana now requires, for an American, much caution and a thorough knowledge of the city. It also requires a host of Cuban friends a quantity of grease paint such as actors use and some knowledge of the Spanish language. The streets are de-serted save for the negroes and soldiers. The stores are closed. The quick clang of a church bell is startling. The street venders do not exist. The bullock carts that used to roll down the Prado loaded with heavy loads of beef are now no more. The bullocks themselves have been killed. The drivers have been driven to the musket. The barred lattices from which the Cuban beauties The barred used to gaze and flirt with passers-by "American labor," exclaims Senator have fled. Santa Clara is full of them: is Batabano and Clenfuegos

Eight days ago two special trains were sent south to Batabano loaded with refugees who intended to sail from visions are exceedingly scarce in Havana, actual starvation is out of the Last week the big operatives whose wages average only Montserrat landed several hundred regular troops, a great quantity of pro-visions and \$1,000,000 for the soldiers at

disappeared from Havana. They have aid of the national fund to increase the

BLANGO FORTIFYING HAVANA tures, a woman and a boy, were found starved to death and lying in a deserted place on Calle del Beniente Roy. They were probably the sole remaining centrades in the city.

Out in the country surrounding Havana and Matanzas the soldiers have other things to think of than recon-centrados. Blanco is slowly drawing them into the defense of the principal cities and they are being slowly followed by the guerrillas of the insurgents. The reconcentrados who have survived are back in the fields trying to scrape together enough food to keep body and soul from separating.

## SANTIAGO PANIC STRICKEN.

Frenzied Population Threatened on all Sides.

Santiago de Cuba, May 3, Don Arseno Linares Pombo, commandante general of this division of Cuba, pro-These earthworks encompass Havana in the segment of a great circle from a point near Chorrea, back of the cemetery, where repose the bodies of some of the dead heroes of the Maine, half a mile beyond the hard pidity. The Spanish gunners stood nobly to their guns and answered shot for shot as best they might.

But weight was on the American side and soon the large wooden cruiser Casatilla was on fire and all the efforts of the crew to extinguish the place were table to each of some of the Maine, half spanish sympathizer, one of the most prominent men in the city, left for the camp of the Cuban brigadier general, to the shore some five miles east of the Morro castle.

Banks of earth are thrown up and on the large wooden cruiser Casatilla was on fire and all the efforts of the crew to extinguish the place were forro castle.

Banks of earth are thrown up and on a vivid impression. The exodus from as the whole time for amendments was the inner side of the resulting ditches the city continued by night, the Spanare placed sharp stakes, and along the top of the entire works are lines of barbed wire fence. These can be seen in a black band like a mourning border around the city.

In a black band like a mourning border around the city.

In a black band like a mourning border around the city.

In a black band like a mourning border around the city.

In a black band like a mourning border around the city.

In a black band like a mourning border around the city.

In a black band like a mourning border around the city.

In a black band like a mourning border around the city.

In a black band like a mourning border around the city.

In a black band like a mourning border around the city.

In a black band like a mourning border around the city.

be expelled.

Though the governor of the city, Enrique Caprilles, has seized for the govprivate hands, many shops still do bus-iness with small stocks, the prices douiness with small stocks, the prices dou-bling day by day. Monday meat was 40 cents a pound, Tuesday 70 cents, and Wednesday it was \$1 a pound. Other Wednesday it was \$1 a pound. Other is gold are: Rye, 24 cents a the bond provision. wednesday it was \$1 a pound; prices in gold are: Rye, 24 cents a pound; beans, 21 cents; flour, 19 cents, the bond provision.

This was due to the fact that a number of the prices of the bond provision. Nobody but the experienced soldler with provisions was expected, but when

A new battery has been erected at to vote.
The west harbor entrance, with four The house convened at 19 o'clock battery at Castle de Atores, upon which work was begun a week ago, looking to defense from a land assault. Here four There are reports about torpedoes in bound feature of the bill, to which he onfusing. Preparations hav been made to lay torpedoes, but whether it has actually been done is not known. Strong floating mines are ready to be placed. The Spaniards assemble nightly in the chief streets yelling 'Long live Spain!" and "Death to the Yankees." The military authorities under circumstances of great stress seem to have little control of the soldiery and the disorderly element.

Spanish silver is at 45 per cent pre-mium. The bank notes issued by the government bank at Havana are practically worthless and sometimes pass for 3 to 5 cents on the dollar.

### JEWS PRAY FOR UNCLE SAM. Impressive Ceremonies in Chicago Jewish Tabernacle.

Chicago, May 3.-Three thousand Jewish residents of Chicago took part in probably the most unique demonstration of patriotism in the United States since the war with Spain began. In the language of the most ancient of nations and that its duration would depend and according to the forms of the re-Through Cuban sources in Havana ligion of Moses, prayers were offered omes the rumor that General Blanco in the Jewish tabernacle of Anshe Knesseth Israel for the protection and guidance of President McKinley, for the success of our arms in the warfare with Spain, and for the continued welat all. They loaf and swagger around fare and prosperity of the United States government. Rev. Israel Upfer, the rabbi of the congregation, conducted the services, which took the place of us to fight. His regulars are only fit to the principal Sabbath celebration. A dig ditches; we will do the fighting." large number of those in attendance are

scribed by their religious rites.
William Zolotkoff delivered the prinipal address. He declared it was a eculiar and providential happening that in a land of liberty the Jews as embled as respected citizens of a great nation to pray for the success of the armies of their country as against the ermies of a nation that had persecuted and oppressed their ancestors. ersecution of the Jews," he said, "was the beginning of the decline of Spain. Today Spain is tottering to extinction, hile the people it sought to destroy re hopeful and strong. The Jew who njoys the freedom of this country illing to give his life to extend that reedom to the possessions of Spain in his hemisphere, and he will rejoice in the downfall of the nation that once drove his people from its shores.

### How Spain Raises Revenue.

Madrid, May 3.-The greatest efforts re being made here and throughout the country to increase the national war fund. It is proposed, for instance, have tables, ornamented with the national colors, at all the Madrid churches throughout the month of May. Phese tables will be attended by socity leaders, whose names and the cotion industry tells the story. There question so long as the south coast is tival of May 2 was celebrated by a proession of veterans to the monument in the Prado, where open air masses will

be celebrated, accompanied by artil-lery salutes. The Spanish colony in Clenfuegos.

The last of the reconcentrados have tributing a warship, a subscription in days ago two of the unfortunate crea- setas have already been collected.

# \$500,000,000.00

BONDS AT THREE PER CENT INTEREST PER ANNUM

### HOUSE HURRIEDLY PASSED

THE BILL WITHOUT ANY OF THE SILVER AMENDMENTS

Parlimentary Tricking won the Day -- The Gold Bugs Stood Together -- What Moneyed Classes Have Longed for -- Rushed Under Cloak of a War Measure -- A Dirty Job

Washington, D. C., May 2.-The house

exhausted by the minority in trying to

This was an old parliamentary trick

Many amendments were offered to the bond feature of the bill, ranging from a proposition for the substitution

of an income tax provision to an auernment all the large stores of food in thorization for an issue of \$150,000,000 greenbacks, but all were voted down.
At the last minute the democrats

apiece. The governor announced, to democrats had declined to vote quiet public alarm, that a ship loaded with provisions was expected, but when motion was defeated. Four republicans voted with the democrats and populists on this vote, but on the final passage of the bill, which was carried -181 to 131-the democrats and populists, with six exceptions, voted solidly

rapid-fire guns, and ten or twelve more to allow two hours more of general rapid-fire small caliber guns will be debate on the war revenue bill before mounted on Morro and the east side battery. The Morro fort has at least amendment under the five minute rule. There are reports about torpedoes in bond feature of the bill, to which he the channel and harbor, but they are said the democrats could never agree. They could not agree to th any more "coin" bonds which would be construed under a republican administration to mean nothing but gold. assemble So long as the mints were closed to yelling the coinage of one-half the money metal of the world, the democrats only

bonds.

the immediate coinage of the silxer seigniorage. The house continued its debate on the war revenue bill. The debate was slow and uninteresting. On behalf of the minority Mr. McMillan offered an amendment to strike out the bond provision and insert an income tax provision. Mr. Walker (Mass.) offered an amendment to make the bonds redeemable after one year and payable after three years, but it was defeated.

Newlands (sil. rep., Nev.) argued that the war would be confined to the navies of Spain and the United States, upon how long Spain could maintain upon the sea the guerrilla warfare she had been accustomed to wage on land. He thought the war should be vigorously prosecuted, and apparent extravagance now might prove economy in the end.

Mr. Grosvenor (rep., O.) said at such a crisis as this there were, as Stephen A. Douglas had said, but two classes in the country, patriots and traitors. He and the villages are petitioning the gov-was willing to accept the suggestions ernment for succor. Smallpox is epiemanating from the democratic side, however wild or impracticable, in good the desperate, starving peasants are

He would not impugn or even suspect a lack of patriotism. Speaking of the bond feature, he declared that the bonds would be taken by the people of the country not only as a profitable investment, but as evidence to the prohibition of the exportation of cattle world that this country proposes to is agitating the people. Their indigfree Cuba in the face of Spain, Austria, or an yother nation that saw fit to interfere. The other speakers before noon were

Messrs, Curtis (rep., Kan.), Shafroth (sol. rep., Colo.) and Brown (rep., O.). At noon the house went through the formality of adjournig and reconven-

Then, under the order, the bill was taken up for amendment under the five Mr. McMillin (dem., Tenn.) offered, on behalf of the minority, the amendment

to strike out section 27, the bond provision, and insert in lieu thereof the income tax provision of the Wilson tariff law, with the taxable income reduced from \$4,000 to \$2,000 per annum and the per cent increased from 2 to 3 per cent. WALKER'S AMENDMENT.

amendment to the original section a proposition to change the terms of the bonds so as to make them redeemable shipment of provisions. It is reported one year after the date of their issue, and payable after three years, or due amounts they collect will be published on a certain day within three years, as in the newspapers. The traditional fes- the secretary of the treasury may elect. Mr. Walker declared that his amend-

> Mr. should be recommitted and every republican should vote for the motion. Mr. Berry (dem., Ky.) called attento the remarkable coincidences retary Gage had recommended for the |coal to Maygies.

000,000 to \$50,000,000.

purpose of redeeming the greenbacks. There was no necessity for such an enormous loan. The fortifications of Matanzas had been reduced in thirty minutes. Havana could be reduced in two hours, and the war would be at ar

The war should be pushed, the reins should be loosened. Havana would fall before Sampson, the Philippines before Dewey, and the Spanish fleet, crowding across the Atlantic, before the onset of the flying squadron,

The seriousness of the situation was thoroughly exaggerated. While our fleet was being held in leash, the population of Havana were starving and the end for which we aimed, the relief of hu-

manity, was being defeated.

In ninety days, in his opinion, the flag would be flying over Porto Rico and the Philippines. Mr. Walker's amendment was lost without division. Many five-minute speeches on the inome tax amendment followed.

Mr. Brumm (rep., Pa.), in the course of his remarks, advocated an issue of \$150,000,000 of greenbacks. CUMMINGS SUPPORTS BONDS. Mr. Cummings (dem., N. Y.) aroused onsiderable enthusiasm on the repub-

lican side by announcing his purpose to support the bond proposition, beause it was a popular loan. Mr. Bland gave notice of a substitute for the section authorizing a bond issue

providing for an issue of \$150,000,000 treasury notes, Mr. Henry (dem., Del.) offered an

amendment, which was voted down, to reduce the bond authorization from five to one hundred million.

On Mr. Dingley's motion, the lewest denomination of bonds to be issued under the section was reduced from \$59 A motion by Mr. Lewis (dem., Wash.) to make bonds payable specifically in gold or silver coin at the option of the

overnment, was defeated, 106 to 136.

Another by Mr. Shafroth, to make the consd redeemable one-half in gold and one-half in silver, met a similar fate. Several other propositions of the same enor were voted down. The vote was then taken on the McMillan income substitute, and it was defeated, 123 to

Mr. Bland (dem., Mo.) offered a substitute, a provision to issue \$150,000,000 treasury notes. It was lost, 106 to 147. Mr. Brumm voted with the democrats on this proposition and Messrs. Mc-Clellan and Handy with the republi-

Mr. Lanham (dem., Tex.) moved to strike out the bond section and it was lost, 103 to 131. Messrs. McMillan, Griggs and Cummings (democrats) voted with the re-

eans.

publicans. Mr. Robinson (dem., La.) offeren aother of the amendments prepared by the minority members of the ways and

means committee. It provided for the coinage of the silver seignorage. It was ruled out on a point of order. tt o'clock the bill, under the order, was reported to the house. As Chair-man Dingley had no opportunity to offer the amendments agreed on by the majority of the ways and means com-

containing these amendments.

There was some question as to the regularity of this proceeding, but the speaker held it was in order. There were many protests from the democratic side against this parliamentary move and Mr. Bland insisted upon the reading of the substitute in full.

mittee, he offered as a substitute a bill

reading occupied almost an hour. Mr. Dingley briefly explained the comnittee amendments and demanded the previous question. The substitute was

then adopted without division. Mr. McMillan moved to recommit the bill with instructions to strike out the He argued the advisability of bond provision and insert in lieu thereof the income tax provision, but withdrew it and allowed Mr. Bailey to modify the motion to instruct the committee to add the income tax provision to the bill, the bond feature being retained. The

motion was defeated, 134 to 173. The motion to recommit was defeated

The democrats, populists and four re-Messrs Bartholdt (Mo.). publicans. (O.), Johnson (Ind.) and White (III.) voted for the motion.

The vote was then taken on the final passage of the bill, and it was passed,

#### 181 to 131. PORTO RICO IN AWFUL SHAPE Internal Strife, Starvation, and Disease Worse Than War.

St. Thomas, West Indies, May 3 .-Famine and smallpox are killing men, women and children in Porto Rico. The conditions in the interior are horrible. Children are perishing of starvation demic. Draught animals are dying and killing beeves in the highways, cutting them up and distributing the portions among the hungry.

The mayors of municipalities insist upon an extensive cultivation of vegetables in anticipation of a siege. nation has been excited by the rapacity of the merchants, who have decreased the pound weight by one-third and increased prices. Railroad rates provisional freight into the interior have aggravated the situation. The mad rush of frightened Porto Ricans to the interior upon learning of the declaration of war has raised to exorbitance the rents of houses porary palm huts have been thrown up and freight cars have been converted into human habitations. The asylum near the castle was vacated by its inmates, who fled into the interior. Laborers throughout the island have struck for higher wages because of the advance of the prices of food. Disorder and discontent are great.

The political situation is critical. The banks are suspending. Bankers refuse to sell drafts. Paper is discounted 90 Mr. Walker (rep., Mass.) offered as an per cent. The colonial bank refuses Spanish paper. Spanish exporters in New York exact prepayment on the that Canadian merchants offer supplies

at current rates. Twenty-five thousand troops are expected from Spain. Bakers are hurrying orders for 160,000 pounds of biscuits ment would save the people from \$20,- for them. The militia is organizing in to \$50,000,000.

Walker declared that the bill has accepted the offer of an escort composed of natives. A subscription to help defray the cost of the war and the augmenting of the navy has been The tug Borquin has either starved to death or been driven strength of the Spanish navy has been that by this bill it was proposed to tailed to lay new mines. The Manuto the country and murdered. Some opened in Mexico, and that 1.800,000 pe- issue \$500,000,000, the amount which Sec- ella towed two schooner laden with