THE

Affairs at South Omaha.

Senor Polo Yearns for Peace.

Affairs of the Grand Trunk.

6 Council Bluffs Local Matters.

General lown News Items.

7 News from the Farther West.

Decker Will Come to Omaha.

8 Latest News of the Exposition.

D Review of Current Publications.

Port Arthur Route and Omaha.

Schlitz Will Build a Theater.

12 "The Test." by P. V. Blake.

Hour. Deg.
5 a. m. . . . 27
6 a. m. . . . 26
7 a. m. . . . 27
8 a. m. . . . 27

11 Commercial and Financial News.

would add \$25,000,000 a year to the public

revenues. A slight increase in the tax on

tobacco, and a return to the system of spe-

cial taxes and licenses in vogue a few years

ago would contribute much to the revenues

without greatly adding to the burdens of

"A stamp tax on bank checks and drafts.

be greatly felt. The internal revenue re-

celpts amounting to \$310,000,000 in 1866 in-

cluded \$73,000,000 in round figures from in-

comes. The balance was made up by taxes

"But without the necessity of resorting to

sufficiently augmented by small taxes on tea,

be made to raise \$35,000,000 per annum.

barrels, where now there is only one.

might go into effect.

will see that any legislation is so framed as

to meet attempts to evade the increased tax.

BALFOUR'S STATEMENT IS WEAK.

of Commons.

LONDON, April 5 .- (New York World Ca-

blegram-Special Telegram.)-Arthur Bal-

four's statement of British policy on the far

eastern question in the House of Commons

this afternoon caused profound disappoint-

ment. There was a crowded house, every

embassy except the Russian being represen-

ted in the diplomatic gallery. Balfour's an-

nouncement, feeble in manner as matter, was

received with marked coolness by the support

ers of the government, who listened with un

concealed humiliation to the long tale of Rus-

sian diplomatic triumphs, unrelieved by

single substantial advantage obtained for

England. The fact that Balfour's tone in

speaking of Russia was consistently hostile

showing a deep sense of injury and apprehen

sion of future aggression, only accentuated

the weakness of the British government is

making no adequate counter move for the oc

cupation of Port Arthur and Talien-Wan.

Sir Charles Dilke put the case in a nutshell

when he said: "This policy of leasing Wei-

Hai-Wei was only adopted last Wednesday to

throw dust in the eyes of the public and sat-

isfy critics of the government in the min-

isterial press. Wei-Hai-Wei is valueless un-

answered my question whether the govern

ment proposed to garrison and fortify it. As

to the assurances of China in relation to the

Yangtee valley, they are equally illusory, as

the valley has no frontier and could not be

The important feature of Balfour's state-

ment considered by politicians to indicate

possible future developments was his appeal

to the commercial nations of the world, the

United States, France and Germany to join

tated, has been still further seriously weak-

Conclude Purchase of Four Ships

WASHINGTON, April 5.-The Navy de

partment this morning concluded the pur

chase of four of the ten ships contracted

for yesterday. The four vessels selected and

which are now the property of the govern-

ment are the Morgan line steamers El Rio

New York as to the disposition of these

defended if Russia chose to descend upon it.'

less garrisoned and fortified and Curzon never

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BEER TAX MOST AVAILABLE.

"The most available tax for immediately

Deg.

1 p. m ..... 38

3 p. m ..... 3

4 p. m ..... 39

6 p. m..... 39 7 p. m..... 39 8 p. m..... 38

5 p. m.....

4 Editorial and Comment.

Weather Forece

1 Presider England Uncle Se

## IT WILL COME TODAY

President's Long Looked For Document Will Be Given to Congress.

T MEETS APPROVAL OF THE CABINET

Recommends Armed Intervention, but Sets No Time.

OF PUSES RECOGNITION OF INDEPENDENCE

Does Not Call for Immediate Action Except in Relief.

It Will Suggest that This Government Supervise the Affairs of the Island Until Peace is Fully Restored.

WASHINGTON, April 5 .- That the president's message will go to congress tomorrow in Cuba on the part of the executive branch is the best information obtainable in Wach- of the government, rather than the recogniington this evening, though the kaleidoscope tion of independence, and to an effort to of international events appears to be moving make smooth the way for reception of such so rapidly at Madrid as to make possible some new and possibly remarkable change in the aspect of affairs that will prevent this statement holding good.

words, and has been approved by the cabinet. acceptance of a policy in line with the pres-It recommends armed intervention (but so far as known without stating that this should be immediate), by the United States to prevent hostilities, and succor for the starving at large with a policy on the part of the

It makes an argument against recognition of independence at this time, and makes it clear that in the opinion of the administration it is the duty of this government to supervise the affairs of the island until in the light of fuller information a stable govecoment can be established.

The day has been prolific of reports of mediation on the part of the European powers, but a summary of all news on this point is that the powers of Europe cannot agree, and that their interference would be unacceptable to the government of the United States.

The safety of General Lee and of consule and other Americans in Cuba is a matter of concern to the State department, but advices from General Lee indicate that the transportation of all Americans from Cuba would take some time and apparently showed that he did not share fully in the apprehension

Throughout the day unusual activity was manifest at the foreign embassies and agations representing the great powers of Europe. These representatives are the British ambarsador, Sir Julian Pauncefote; the French ambassador, M. Cambon; the German ambassador, Dr. von Holleben; the Italian charge d'affaires, Count Vinci, and the Austrian minister, Mr. von Hengenmulier. These officials were kept fully advised and it was be made almost any moment.

About midday the British ambassador went to the French embassy and conferred

with M. Cambon on the situation. Again at 5 o'clock it was understood that the French ambassador and Austrian minister conferred with Sir Julian at the British embassy. But while the conferences were thus going

on, and apprehension was keen over an anticipated move, it could not be learned up to a late hour that any actual offer of mediation had eventuated.

The German ambassador, Dr. von Holle ben, appears to be the only one not actively participating in the conferences today, but there is reason to believe he is kept fully advised on the sentiments at Berlin concern ing the Spanish situation.

Accompanying the diplomatic comment wes an undercurrent of suggestion that developments in Cuba were not unlooked for, and that the pressure of the powers and the pope on Spain might yet bring about an armistice in which both Spain and the insurgents would participate.

Viewed from an official standpoint here the time for that has gone by and there is little likelihood that the insurgents could be inductd to lay down their arms even for a

The Spanish minister, Senor Polo y Bernabe, did not take part in any of the diplomatic conferences, nor did he have occasion to visit the State department during the day. If the negotiations have taken any new direction, it has been Minister Woodford and the authorities at Madrid, and not at Wash-

At the capitol today tremendous effort was made to have congress support the outlined policy of the president. A general belief was expressed, when the house adjourned, that a majority of the house committee on foreign affairs was ready to support Mr. McKinley's plan, and the impression prevailed that a resolution in line with the recommendations of the president would be reported from the

There is a great deal of uncertainty regard ing the senate committee.

An important conference of conservative senators was held during the day, when it was determined that in case the foreign relations committee did not report in accordance with the president's recommendations there would be a long debate on the resolution, and unanimous action by the senate could not be expected.

General Miles said today that the only regiment thus far ordered to Chickamauga was the Twenty-fifth regiment of colored infantry, and so far as the present intentions are concerned they are to stop there only temporarily on their way to Key West and Dry Tortugas, to which place they were originally ordered about ten days ago.

KEEPS IN TOUCH WITH LEE. There was no cabinet meeting at the White House today, but several of the members spent the evening with the president and Mrs. McKinley. There were present Secretary and Mrs. Bliss, Judge Day and Mrs.

Day, Secretary and Miss Long, Attorney General Griggs and Secretary Gage. Representative Cannon and Charles Emory Smith called in the course of the evening. tions with Madrid, but the president has

kept in touch with General Lee and General

Assistant Secretary Day was present, and

to the situation in Havana, and constant communication is kept up with General Lee in fear of a possible outbreak. It is thought

Havana tomorrow. To care for this crowd there are the Fern, the Bache and the Mangrove, all government vessels, and the passenger steamers Olivette and Mascotte, Whether any armed versel from the Key West squadron will be at hand tomorrow when the exodus begins could not be learned, but it was said at the White House: "All

Americans will be well cared for." It was definitely stated by the cabinet officers tonight that there was no thought of delaying the president's message beyond Wednesday.

DIFFERENCE OF OPINION.

A debate which occurred in executive session of the senate this afternoon would indicate that no matter what was the character of the resolution to come from the committee on foreign relations, it would cause a serious and perhaps prolonged discussion.

It emphasized the fact that there are two elements in the senate. One for intervention CHIF AIM IS TO STOP HOSTILITIES with independence, and the other for independence alone, and these two factions will fight for their ideas.

The relations of the United States with Spain were the uppermost topic in the executive session, and constituted the subject of many conferences among senators. The activity was due to the announcement that the president's message would recommend the adoption of a policy looking to intervention a report.

The executive session was devoted to general discussion of the policy to be pursued toward Spain, and developed the fact The message is ready, makes about 7,000 that much opposition would be made to the ident's desires.

Senator Allen made a long speech predicting much dissatisfaction in the country executive that did not go to the extent of giving the Cubans their entire independence from the mother country.

Senator Allen was followed by other speakers in the same line, and the fact was made evident that if the committee on foreign relations should bring in a resolution merely complying with the president's request, and stopping short of a declaration for independence, there would be an effort in the senate to amend it so as to accome plish this end.

Indeed the announcement was made by more than one senator that he would offer such an amendment, and by many that they would support an effort in the direction of adding the independence declaration to a resolution providing simply for intervention.

URGED NOT TO YIELD.

The committee was therefore urged not to stand out strongly for complete action. The policy of the president for executive intervention only was criticised as one which of the president, and thus leave the matter gress in the premises-the right among others to declare war.

The greater part of the speech making was in opposition to the executive, and no one the Cuban consular report, and a suggestion was made that if this matter was of a character too inflammable to permit its being made public, it be given the senate in secret

A resolution was offered that the entire Cuban question be considered behind closed doors, because of the probable utterances which would afford information to the enemy. This was debated but without reaching a

conclusion. While the senate was in executive session a formidable element of the senate was considering what should be done in case reso lutions should be reported providing for recognition of independence. This faction was composed of what was known as the conservative element on the republican side of the

The conference was held in Senator Aldrich's committee room, and among those present were Senators Hanna, Platt, Spooner, Hale, Fairbanks and Aldrich. Senator Allison was also there for a brief time.

A general purpose was expressed to op pose the adoption of a report recommending he recognition of Cuban independence and which did not confine itself to the support of the president's recommendation for intervention only. This position was taken be cause of the generally expressed conviction among the senators present that in case of war with Spain and the triumph of the armies of this country this country should be left free to dispose of Cuba as it might

LACK CONFIDENCE IN THE JUNTA.

with the present Cuban administration and the opinion was broached that the recognition of independence at this time would bind the United States to the support of the Cuban administration and to guaranteeing its bonds, giving to the Cuban junta a position of influence and power, to which it was not, in their opinion, entitled. ilence a decision was reached to labor with the committee o foreign relations not to report a resolution with a double purpose, and the intention was expressed on the part of some to oppose its a loption if reported.

In accordance with the action of this meeting. Senators Allison and Aldrich had a prolonged conference later with Senators Davis, Frye and Lodge of the committee on foreign relations. These members of the foreign relations committee were able to assure the others that no effort would be made to report the resolution tomorrow, or the same day on which the message should be received; but they could not give the same assurance as to the character of the

They did not conceal from their visitors the fact that the committee already had agreed upon a resolution providing both for ndependence and intervention, and that it might be difficult to change the recommenda tion. But on this point no one could speak definitely until the committee could confer and the visiting senators were compelled to withdraw without receiving any very sat-

isfactory assurrances. The prevailing opinion among senators that the committee will recede from its position both from independence and intervention, and report a resolution in accordance with the president's recommendation for intervention alone, but this is not cer-

Of the three members seen, all classed as Senator Foraker, announced that he would not favor the change; a third, Senator Davie, refused to commit himself. Senator Lodge had previously said he would support the

SETBACK

England Declines to Be a Party to Any Buch Scheme.

Considered to Put a Quietus on the Plans of the Powers\_Reply of Great Britain is Definite.

GIVES CCLD SHOULDER TO PROPOSITION

LONDON, April 5 .- The move of the powers of Europe for a joint offer of mediation between the United States and Spain has received a severe and probably fatal rebuil in the form of a definite refusal upon the part of Great Britain to participate in it.

Many conflicting and erroneous bints cegarding this scheme to bring the Spanish-American quarrel within the jurisdiction of the "concert of Europe" have been telegraphed from the different European capitals. From the highest authority the Associated Press has obtained an outline of the details of the movement, as learned by London diplomats. The project is distinctively of Spanish origin and was set on foot by two influences, official and personal, the former requesting the good offices of the chancellors to prevent war, while the queen regent attempted personally to influence the

ROME. April 5 .- It is authoritatively said that the pope's proposed terms are such as cannot be accepted by Spain and supported by the United States minister, General Woodford, in forwarding them to President McKinley.

The pope's initiative is based wholly on the fact that Spain, when it asked for the good offices of the powers, also asked for the pope's good offices. The interposition of the pontiff has thus far been confined to efforts to bring about an armistice between Spain and the insurgents.

NO SUCH PROPOSAL MADE. WASHINGTON, April 5 .- Regarding the intervention of the pope between the United States and Spain it can be again reiterated that no such proposal has been made to this government, and that if there is to be papal mediation it must be between Spain and the insurgents, and that any suasion the vaticun can exert should be directed at Madrid. Archbishop Ireland was in Washington last week and informally, knowing no formal and direct proposition would be at all acceptable, personally, as stated by the Associated Press last Friday night, urged the president to adopt as pacific an attitude as possible, but

as stated, did not go beyond this. Archbistop Ireland came to the State de partment at 12:30 o'clock. He evidently had to yield to the wishes of the president, but arranged for the call beforehand and was expected, for he was shown at once into Assistant Secretary Day's room. To reporters who asked his mission Archbishop Ireland would place the entire question in the hands was evasive and said he simply came to pay his respects. Assistant Secretary Day where it now is, except that it would be a cald at noon that there had been no mediavoluntary relinquishment of the right of con- tion or intervention of other powers, material or moral.

It is understood that the tenor of these communications was to the effect that European interests are threatened by what expected that a concerted movement would attempted to outline the probable action of Spain terms "the pretrasions of the United the committee. There was also a recurrence | States to the right to interfere in colonial

AUSTRIA WOULD CALL OFF SPAIN. Attempt to Make the Proud Castilland

BERLIN, April 5 .- (New York World Cablegram-Special Telegram.)-Great interest is excited in diplomatic circles here by well authenticated report tonight that the emperor of Austria is exerting every effort to bring pressure to bear on Spain to accede to the American demand all along the line, West. and hope is not altogether abandoned of Spain finally yielding. The Austrian court assured Spain that in the event of war the Spinish dynasty would be wrecked. Although expressions of sympathy for Spain find utterance here, I can state positively that the German foreign office is pursuing a line of the strictest neutrality. There is no truth in the allegation that papal mediation was initiated by Germany. Papers tonight are warm in their expressions of ad-

miration of McKinley's statesmanship. ROME, April 5 .- (New York World Cable gram-Special Telegram.)—I learn from high authority that the pope's intervention was brought from a latent personal idea into actuation by suggestions from the emperor of Austria, and the proposal of a Cuban armis Pecci, whose wife is a wealthy Cuban woman, The pope now realizes that an armistice is almost impossible to arrange with the guerrlila warriors and the conditions concerning it proposed by Spain, namely the withdrawal of American wen-of-war from Cuban waters and a momentary abeyance of the question of Cuba's independence, will certainly be re-

jected by the United States. He is accordingly down-hearted. MADRID, April 5 .- (New York World Cablegram-Special Telegram.)-Even Spanish papers now publish telegrams from Rome fully explaining that the whole scheme of mediation originated in an exchange views on the subject between Cardinal Rampollo, Delegate Martinelli, in Washington and Archbishop Ireland, the latter two leading the pope to believe the president would perhaps accept his mediation if exercised to induce Spain to make a concession on the basis of such assurances as the pope made officially on Sunday. The auggestion of mediation was at once accepted by the regent and her ministers and then the vatican drew up the official mediation, which was sent to Madrid Monday, but has not yet been received by mail. At the same time instuctions were sent by Cardinal Rampollo to Ireland and Martinelli to sound the disposition of ture that is imminent and gain time to secure a suspension of tostilities in Cuba through the efforts of the insular government with the insurgent chiefs and with the full assent of the Madrid government. The pope seems tilities could be thus reached both Spain and the United States would approach the exam-

The characteristic feature in this nove mong all classes that Spain is entering thus inevitably upon a revolution to prepare public opinion for a very radical settlement the Cuben question. This would have fired pular and patriotic feeling a year ago, but es not excite now in the governing classes even in the masses the same interest

ination of a settlement of all the issues of

great Castilian statesman once told me: Moorish invaders left in our people some-

This applies to the present situation won-derfully in some respects, though Hera.do, El Liberal and republican papers are be-ginning to try to fan pepular and patriotic feeling against mediation if it were calculated to lead the way in the direction advocated lately by the bishop of Barcelona, the personal friend of Cardinal Rampolla, who coolly admitted the possibility of the cession ARTHUR E. HOUGHTON. of Cuba.

MUCH ANXIETY EXISTS IN MADRID. All Seem to Pin Their Faith to Papal

Mediation. (Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company. MADRID, April 5 .- (New York World Cablegram-Spera! Telegram.)-Independent papers having the largest circulation, Heraldo, Imparcial. Liberal, have again today broke out against the government on patriotic grounds attempting to make out that some members of the cabinet are disposed to go farther in concessions than their colleagues, especially the war minister. All military men and popular centiment would consent to the call for immediate and energetic resolutions, they having arrived at the point where they will indulge in no more illusions, as mediation is meaningless in the eyes of America. An armistice is condemned by all competent authorities as detrimental to the Spanish cause, and a mere etepping stone to more humiliating concessions or more disadvan tageous conditions. They give the pope to understand that his good offices are unavailing unless favorable to Spanish views.

Pessimist impressions are dominant to day, both in political and official circles and the press this evening is in visible uncertainty and more anxiety than yesterday because everybody feels uncasy about th line of conduct of the president and the American congress. Ministerial papers advise people to expect nothing fresh until to-

The French, Austrian and German ambas sadors today held long conferences with the minister of foreign affairs. The nuncio also 1885-90. today celebrated conferences with the principal ambassadors. The government is much pleased to hear by Marshal Blanco how the Cuban autonomist provisional government has sent a message of peace to the insurand holding out such ample promises of extension of home rule, both meeting with the full approbation of the home cabinet. In financial circles there is great enthusiasm. The moneyed classes and speculators are ardently wishing for the adccess of mediation ge the best plan for paying the way to a settlement of the Cuban question on a basis that will put a stop to further sacrifices in money on the part of Spain and rid her of the burden of Cuban debt shifted by mediation or diplomatically upon the choulders of Cuba herself or her patrons. Seldom have financial circles and the moneyed classes been so plain spoken in expressing a desire to be rid of the dram in the way of expendi-ture upon Spanish finances. Four per cents were quoted today at from 57 to 59.25; exterior from 67 to 72.50. Cuban bonds lost 4 points. Exchanges gre weaker and Paris dropped 1 point.

ARTHUR E. HOUGHTON. CRUISERS ARRIVE AT PORTO RICO.

Vizenya and Oquendo Show Up at Spain's Other Island. (Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) (New York World Cablegram-Special Telegram.)-The Spanish cruisers Vizcaya and Almirante Oquendo, which sailed from Ha- harbor banks throughout the whole country vana last Saturday, arrived here today. Their officers were much surprised to hear out disturbing business, has made them that the Spanish torpedo flotilla, due here tomorrow, had been turned back to the Cape country's welfare than impregnable fortifi-Verde islands by storm. Spanish officers are secretive. It is believed here that the two big war ships were to get as convoys for the torpedo fleet and that both would have their loan accounts by \$50,000,000 and at the

Active preparations are going on here. The place is being fortified. No American is permitted near the forts or war ships. A correspondent named Halstead has been arrested, charged with being a spy in the employ of the United States. He was caught photographing the fortifications. The case looks black. The English consul is indifferent. Holstead was required to select a lawyor for defense from a list of officers pre sented by the Spanish authorities. This is a customary Spanish method. Halstead re fused and appealed again to the British consul. Halatead may be transported or imprisoned in a distant Spanish colony. The censorship of dispatches is very rigid. GEORGE BRONSON REA.

tice was urged by the pope's nephew, Camillo MISSION OF COURT IS FINISHED.

solution. WASHINGTON April 5.- The last chapter in the history of the court of inquiry, which investigated the loss of the battleship Maine, was written at the Navy department today in the form of a letter to Captain Sampson, commanding the North Atlantic squadron, notifying him that the department had no further instructions to give in regard to the work devolving upon the court and authorizing him at his discretion to dissolve the court and thus end its official existence.

May Yet Get the O'Higgins.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, April 5 .- (New York World Cablegram Grani Telegram.)-The O'Higgins, the Chillen cruiser, has been taken over tonight by the Chillan naval committee without undergoing speed or gun trials. A tempting offes from Commander Brownson is being considered. The veese may, but is not expected to, sail immediately. Communications are passing between the Chilian agent in Paris, Admiral Urdiband. and Commander Brownson, and it is believed by the Chilian naval complission here that its acquisition by the United States is only a question of price. The Chillan governmen s understood to be also freating with Spain the president with a view to avert the cup- playing off one government against the

> Troops Held in Rendiness. CHEYENNE, Wyo., Adril 5.—(Special Tel-egram.)—The commanding officer of the Eighth United States Infantry, stationed here, received cipher orders tonight to have he regiment ready to move upon the receipt of additional orders. The necessary stores and rations have been issued and the regiment is in readiness to leave the post should orders be issued in a few hours' time.

HAVANA, April 5 .- The Bache and the Blake arrived this morning from Key West to take American citizens to the United States who desire to leave the island. It now appears that the yellow fever prohias Americans are concerned

MADRID, April 5 .- The French ambassa ence with the minister of fereign affairs,

FOR MEDIATION proud countries view with stoicken that PLENTY OF MONEY FOR WAR

National Treasury is in a First-Olass Condition.

COUNTRY'S VAULTS FILLED WITH GOLD

Conditions Now Are Vastly Improved Upon What They Were at the Time of the Outbreak of the Rebellion.

WASHINGTON, April 5 .- "While the Navy and the War departments have necessarily been much in evidence in the making of preparations for the poseibly impending conflict between the United States and Spain," said Assistant Secretary Vanderlip, the Treasury department has not been behind in giving close attention to what is quite as essential as battleships, namely, the national finances as they relate to war. "Recently ex-President Harrison said: 'The

Treasury department is the steam plant from which all other departments get their Hour. power.' "While battleships are being overhauled, repaired and made ready for action, the offi-

cials of the Treasury department have been cials of the Treasury department have been | p a. m..... 29 going over this power-generating establish | 10 a. m..... 33 ment of the government, looking into the 11 a. m ..... history of past conflicts, seeing what its 12 m....... 37 organization is capable of, measuring new conditions and generally making complete preparations for speedy action in case of ne- year produced \$167,000,000 in revenues. An ceasity. When war comes new influences addition of \$1 a barrel in the tax on beer operate upon the public revenues.

"The first boom of cannon is a call for inreased resources, and is likely to be followed by sharp decrease in ordinary receipts. Fortunately at no time since the civil war has the United States treasury occupied so strong a position as it does now, with the ex- anyone. ception, possibly, of the surplus days of

"The circulation statement of the department issued April 4 shows that we have an enormous stock of gold in the country, almost \$730,000,000. Of this the United States treasury holds \$175,000,000 net gold. We are on articles and occupations which included gents, inviting them to suspend hostilities \$75,000,000 above the traditional reserve almost incumerable items. maintained for the redemption of the United States notes and the notes of 1890, and the tendency is toward an increase at the rate of \$200,000 a day. About 10 per cent of the aid from internal revenue sources, might be customs receipts are being paid in gold. CONTRAST OF CONDITIONS.

> "Contrast the condition of the government at the outbreak of the civil war. July 1, 1861, the United States treasury had but \$2,862,000 in gold and scarcely any other kind of money. Today our cash balance of \$226,000,000 is 77 per cent in the yellow

"In 1861, from August to November, the treasury had to resort to the associated banks of New York, Philadelphia and Boston. The banks of these cities held only a small amount in gold, and they furnished practically \$150,000,000 in gold to the treasury.

"The government then began ite paper issues and these added to the strain on the ing the idea that any one of them, or all banks' specie reserve, and resulted in the suspension of specie payment by them in De-

cember of that year. banks alone hold more than \$220,000,000 Since the dieaster to the Maine in Havan: have quietly pursued a policy which, withfinancially strong, not less important to the cations and coast defenses.

"Since February 19, the week of the Maine dieaster, the New York banks have reduced same time wey have increased their specie

holdings by \$25,000,000. "The contraction in the lcan item rep resents to a considerable extent liquidation at the stock exchanges, and the sale of sterling exchange collateral, but back of it all there has been the strong tendency to fortify against the uncertainties of the fu-

"What is true of New York banks is gen erally true of banks throughout the country pare for a strain, and it would seem they are well provided for all contingencies. ADDITIONAL REVENUES NEEDED.

"But notwithstanding the strong position of the government and of the moneyed institu tions of the country, there would, in any sort of a conflict, soon be a necessity for additional revenues. This has given grave concern to those charged with the administration of the finances of the government "Unquestionably if war should come out first duty should be the placing of the national treasury on a war basis. Expedition in this direction is of the utmost importance. We have already noted the experience of a little delay in passing a tariff bill, which resulted in abnormally heavy importations to such an extent that not until a month ago did the new tariff begin to give promise ca a sufficient revenue to support

taxation is, when accompanied by the utmost expedition, rather a slow process, there should be some means existent whereby the government could raise funds more speedily. "A temporary loan for say \$100,000,000, to be made in the form of treasury notes, limited to a time not longer than one year, to bear interest at the market "ate, might ice of great benefit to the government in an emer gency. Such authority was asked for by the reasury has ample facilities and egencies for financing such a loan. With the recessary authority a loan for that amount would be subscribed, it is believed, with rapidity. "It is believed by the best authorities that a long time loan could be negotiated among our own people for an amount as large as

tiated among our own people at par. INCREASE REVENUE TAX "Loans of these kinds, to take the place of the necessarily slower means of raising money by taxation, might be followed by some important increases in interenal revenue schedules, as well as some additions to the items of the customs tariffs.

\$500,000,000, say at 2 per cent. In the present

state of finance such bonds could be nego

"We have been looking into the operation of the internal revenue act in force in 1866 It produced during that fiscal year revenue to the amount of \$310,000,000. Of course it is not probable at all that there would be a return to the heavy taxation of those times. We would not have to make the effort now to raise \$310,000,000 a year that was made bitions are modified in Florida only so far in 1866. We have doubled our population since then, and more than doubled in wealth.

"The internal revenue schedules in force at this time subject to taxation distilled spirits, fermented liquors, tobacco and snuff, oleomargarine, filled cheese, opium and playing cards. These items the last fiscal cruisers will begin immediately,

## BUYS MINES

houlders Mediation.
Money for War.
Hines by Spain. Orders Them for the Defense of Havana Harbor.

China Linble to Collapse. Hot Cuban Debate in the Senate. Spain Shows Signs of Crawfishing. PURCHAS:S THEM OF A LONDON FIRM The Bee's Special Nebraska News Returns from Municipal Elections

Supreme Court Sits Today. Holcomb Would Succeed Holcomb. Eighty Bought in 1896 by the Spanish Government.

POWERFUL ENOUGH TO WRECK A WAR SHIP

Five Hundred Pounds of Guncotton Placed in Each One.

MANUFACTURERS GIVE THE INFORMATION

Turn to Their Books and Read the Details of Spain's Order-Amerienn Officer Looking the Matter Up.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) LONDON, April 5 .- (New York World Cablegram-Special Telegram.)-The World today ascertained the true history of the purchase of submarine mines which were laid in Havana harbor. Lieutenant Colwell said in reply to a question, "I have no information further than that a number of mines were bought in England by Spain in 1896 from the firm of Latimer & Rhoades, Mulrhead. These were the most powerful of their kind, such as might account for the destruction of the Maine. I have reported the matter to the State department and am doing more about

mortgages, deeds, receipts, etc., would not it." The World next called on the Westminster Engineering company, which took over the business of Latimer & Rhoades, Muirhead, in 1896. Mr. Girdlestone, managing director, afforded every assistance in tracing the history of the mine transaction by a reference to the firm's books. He said:

a great majority of these it is probable that the government revenues, in addition to the "Spain's first transaction with the Latimer firm was in 1885, when eighty mines were purchased, and in 1896 the Spanish governcoffee and spices. These items might easily ment expressed themselves so well pleased with the way the first order was filled that they gaye a repeat order. I have here," increasing the revenue, however, would be a referring to his letter book, "an estimate tax on beer. The government machine in given by Latimer on January 24, 1896, to this line is so well organized that if an additional tax of \$1 a barrel on beer were the Spanish naval commission in London, to be authorized this afternoon, tomorrow for forty submarine ground mines in square morning the government would begin the recases for use in shallow water, each conceipt of the additional tax. It would mean taining a charge of 500 pounds of guncotton, simply the placing of two stamps on the also forty floating mines with all attachments for electrical discharge, also with 500 pounds "I mention these things in nowise officially, and without the intention of conveycharge of guncotton. These are about the most powerful mines used and the cases of them, will be resorted to, but merely to guaranteed to withstand a countermining show that the engineers of this big steam plant, the Treasury department, have been charge of 500 pounds of guncotten within a "The situation between that period and the measuring the capacity of its engines for distance of fifty-five feet. Shortly after this "The situation between that period and the present is in marked contrast. Of the great and when the strain comes you may be sure turned over to the present company and ow-With respect to prospective legislation into Mesars. Sien ens Brothers, who filled it creasing the tax on beer and other articles it is said that fortunately legislation can be on Latimer's estimate.

so framed that brewing interests will not be "These mines, as well as the original orable to anticipate an increase in tax by heavy der in 1885, were of the J. P. Gibbons purchases of stamps prior to the actual propatent. He was formerly in the submarine mining department of the royal engineers, The trouble of the department about the from which corps he retired to join the Lattime of the passage of the Dingley tariff, which repealed the provision of the old law imers firm. He had long ceased to have providing for a rebate of 71/2 per cent on any connection with that firm before Spain's stamp purchases, will not be repeated, but 1896 order had been received and he never advantage, it is said, can easily be taken had anything to do with laying the mines. from that experience to frame legislation so We only deliver mines on board ships at that the additional tax will accrue on beer to be stamped on and after the day any act | London. They are laid by the engineering department of the purchasing government. In anticipation of this increased tax, brew-This order for eighty mines was last placed in ers in different parts of the country have England by Spain and they constitute a very already made application for large supplies formidable defense for Cuban harbors. The of speer stamps, but in all cases these requests have been refused and the department

mines would last for yours." CONFIRMED BY A HAVANA STORY.

bor by Spanish Authorities, (Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) HAVANA, April 5 .- (New York World Cablegram-Special Telegram.)-Careful investigation proves that buoy number four was not used during two months prior to the Maine's arrival 'n Havana harbor. The as sistant superintendent of the harbor commission went to the arsenal for a mine detonating cable about a month before the Maine's

Before the Maine's arrival here the mammoth floating dock of the harbor commission was dredging in the place for emplacement and operation. The last two weeks the work was day and night. An electric light was needed and the assistant superintendent in charge of the dredgers asked the local electric light plant the cost of furnishing the same. The answer showed very great expense for a long submarine cable necessary. The superintendent well knew the Spanish arsenal, its contents and their uses.

He said: "Would a mine cable do?"

He was answered in the affirmative. He then said there was plenty of that in the arsenal. The next day he told the electric light people that all such submarine cable had been used up. So a small electric plant was put upon the dredge itself and night

work went on without shore connections. Had there been a submarine cable in the arsenal it is very certain it would have been forthcoming, for a loan only was asked. It was the government's and time was precious.

Where was this cable used? At buoy number four. When the Maine was moored to it it had been shunned for months. Captain England in preventing Russia absorbing Chinese trade, but the belief is universal that Rouse's letter noting the fact printed in the the government so far from being rehabili-World was true. It has been later corroborated by printed testimony before the board,

ened by Balfour's general outline of their far I have seen almost every European captain touching in the harbor since the Maine disaster. All say the same. I do not use their names, because if Spain continues here and the captains resume regular traffic things would be made very hot for them. Spanish fair. They even will not explain why the El Norte, El Sol and El Sud. No orders bad Maine's pilot gave the navigating officer one number as proper for the buoy while the platas yet been sent to the naval authorities at ting of harbor charts showed its location to vessels, but it is understood that the work be much nearer another section. of preparing them for duty az auxiliary

I can produce sworn testimony to the facts SYLVESTER SCOVEL