thorities at Madrid. Up to tonight Senor CUBAN CONSULAR REPORTS Polo had received no instructions to withdraw, nor was there any intimation of his instructions.

At the other embassies and legations the But Extracts from Documents Sent in By message aroused the greatest interest. it cannot be said it was received with satis-faction. At one of the most important and most interested foreign establishments the general feeling was expressed by the state-ment that the president had, through his message, washed his hands of the subject. and imposed the responsibility upon the

shoulders of congress. In other high diplomatic quarters some question was expressed as to that portion of the president's message where he speaks of civilization in stopping the war in Cula, and the intimation was made that the great powers of Europe, so far as they represented civilization, did not represent this view expresed by the president. There has been no further conference be

tween the ambassadors or ministers of the in Cuba, which was transmitted today, was powers, nor is there any present indication prepared in response to resolutions of inof further action from that quarter. quiry adopted by both the house and sen-

NO NEW DIPLOMATIC PHASES.

ate. The correspondence was prepared for No new diplomatic phases of the questions developed today at the State department. Secretary Sheiman said he would not be sur-prised if the Madrid cable report proved itue to April 1. It covers the communications that Minister Woodford was about to leave Madrid. At the same time the State departof Consul General Lee at Havana, Consul ment was without advices that this step actually had been taken. General Lee is en without advices that this step McGarr at Cienfuegos, Consul Brice at Matanzas. Consul Hyatt at Santiago de Cuba here, and it is expected that his arand Consul Barker at Sagua la Grande. The rival will be the signal for a notable demoncommunications make about 60,000 words. stration.

War and Navy departments continued They deal largely with the distheir active preparations today. While trees and suffering which exists in eventualities are being prepared for, the senall the districts, but General Lee timent in army and navy circles is that war reports quite fully upon the decrees is not so imminent as it seemed to be a few of the government with regard to autonomy days ago.

can be stated on authority that no conelderation has yet been given to the with-drawal of the United States flect at Key West, as the administration holds that the situation has undergone no change which makes the withdrawal necessary or advisable.

with the public interest to make public CORRESPONDENCE OVER THE MAINE.

Local Officials Object to the Ships Coming.

WASHINGTON, April 11 .- The consular portant communications excerpts only are given. The period of the correspondence after the blowing up of the Maine contains no reference to that event, such communicacorrespondence in part was devoted to the Maino disaster and in this part of the correspondence some important and interesting consists largely of cablegrams exchanged by Assistant Secretary of State Day and Con-sul General Lee. The first of the telegrams is dated in Havana, January 12, and re-lates to the riots which were then occur-under date of November 13, repealing, o ring in the city. This and the subsequent rather modifying, General Blanco's order, under date of November 13, repealing, or rather modifying, General Weyler's order of published either in whole on the same subject have been concentration, which has how over a order of anuary 24, General Lee was notified by the department that the Maine would State Lee in this communication also enclosed the call at Havana in a day or two, and was directed to make arrangements for an interchange of friendly calls between officers and authorities.

Under the same date General Lee advised a postponement of the Maine's visit for six seven days, that the excitement might abate. Later on the same day General Lee was notified that the Maine would arrive in Eavana the next day and was asked to co-operate with authorities for its friendly Wieing the State department the next It is as follows: day, General Lee informed the State depart-

ment the Spanish authorities professed to think the United States had an ulterior purpose in sending the ship. "Say it will obautonomy, produce excitement and most probably a demonstration. Ask that in is not done with they can get instruc-tions from Madrid and say that if for friendly motives, as claimed, delay unimportant.

The telegrams from January 25 to February 4, relate merely to the reception of the Maine and the exchange of visits between its officers and the civil and naval

authorities in Havana. On February 4, Assistant Secretary Day informed General Lee that the secretary of the navy thought it imprudent for sanitary to keep the Maine long in Huvana. He asked if some vessels had better be kept there all the time, and requested his views.

In reply General Lee said he thought there be no danger to the health of the vessel's crow before May. "We should not relinguish position of peaceful control of the situation or conditions would be worse than if the vessel had never been sent. Amerishould be established there. Such proceedings would seem to be in line with prodence and forceight decessary to afford sufety to Americans residing on the island and to their properties."

Under itie same date General Lee cends another communication containing the statements of Senor Catalejas, the editor of the Madrid El Heraldo, who had just returned from Picar del Rio province after the con-flict between the Spanish forces under General Valasco and the Cuban forces under Diaz, in which Canalejas was quoted as saying the Spanish forces and displayed their usual valor, but that the province was not pacified; that out of 14,000 Spanish troops only between 3,000 and 4,000 were able to operate, the balance being sick at thespitals or in garrisons and towns; that he

autonomy premature and was inclined to the adoption of energetic military action for the purpise of pacifying the province; that the truth should be known in Spain, where public opinion and the press had been deceived regarding the termination of the war and the so-called pacification of the western provinces. Under December 7 date General Lee sen a communication to the department regardtransmission to congress just before the ing the measures for the relief of the reconcentrados, much of which is not made public. In the portion given out General held up since now includes communications Lee says: "I see no effect of the govern-mental distribution to the reconcentrados, "I see no effect of the govern-I am informed that only \$12,500 in Spenish silver has been dedicated to the Havana

province cut of the \$i00,000 said to have been set saids for the purpose of relieving them on the island and that reports from all parts of the province show that 50 per cent have already died and that many of these left will die, and most of these women and children. I am am informed an order has been iscued in some

parts of the island suspending the disposition to reconcentrados. • •

CATS USED FOR FOOD.

and other political phases of the situation In preparing the correspondence for trans "The condition of these people is simply rrible. I hear of much suffering in the mission to congress, considerable portions o suffering in the the important communications, a dies ecally those marked confidential, are omitted. The resolutions to which they are the response Spanish hospitals for want of foodhear also that the Spanish merchants in in each instance asked only for such corre-epondence as it was not deemed incompatibl ome parts of the island are placing their stablishments in the name of foreigners to avoid having their provisions purchased General Lee's correspondence rune over the period from November 17, 1897, to April 1, 1898. Much of the correspondence is of a on credit by the military administration. In some parts of the island I am told there

s senreely any food for soldiers and citi ens and that even cats are used for food urnesses, selling for 30 cents aplece. It is fair inference to draw from existing con litions that it is not possible for the govion with the means at his disposal. * * December 13 came the following from Genral Lee:

The contest for and against autonomy h The contest for and against autonomy is most unequal. For it, there are five or als of the head officers at the palace and aix of the head officers at the palace and twenty or thirty persons here in the city, * * Against it, first, are the insurgents, with or without arms, and the Cuban non-combatants. Second, the great mass of the Spanlards, bearing or non-bearing arms --the latter desiring, if there must be a change, annexation to the United States. Indeed, there is the greatest apathy con-cerning autonomy in any form. No one neks what it will be, or when or how it will come. I do not see how it could even be put in operation by force, because ag-long as the insurgents decline to accept it so long, the Spanish authorities say, the war must continue. * *

the Cubaa military operations, addressed t the Cuban people and informing them of the "firm resolution" of the insurgent army to ontinue fighting until the attainment absolute independence. It was on November 23 that Consul Genera December 14 General Lee sends anothe

communication, saying that the total number of reconcentrados in Havana province will Lee made his first report to the Departmen of State on the condition of affairs in Cuba each 150,000 and that the death rate from starvation alone would be over 50 per cent For the relief of these people, he says, \$12.-AUTONOMY UNSATISFACTORY. Sir: I have the honor to briefly submit a statement of what appears to be the pres-ent condition of affairs in this island. 1. The insurgents will not accept au-000 in silver has been set asile, "so that if every dollar appropriated reaches them the iletribution will average about 17 cents to person, which, of course, will be rapidly 2. A large majority of the Spanish sub exhausted, and as I can hear of no further succor being afforded it is easy to perceive what little practical relief has taken place jects who have commercial and busines interests and own property here will no

in the condition of these poor people." NEW SCHEME OF AUTONOMY.

December 28 General Lee makes the first

the United States rather than an inde-pendent republic or genuine autonomy under the Spanish authorities are sincere in doing all in their power to encourage, pro-tect and promote the grinding of sugar. The grinding season commences in De-comber.

Genera

The grinding season commences in De-comber. 4. The insurgent leaders have given in structions to prevent grinding wherever I van be done, because by diminishing the export of supar the Spanish revenues are decreased. If will be very difficult for the Second authorities to prevent cane burn Spanish authorities to prevent cane burn-ing, because one man at night can start a fire which will burn hundreds of acres just as a single individual could ignite a prairie by throwing a matca into the dry he vessel had never been sent. Ameri-s would depart with their families in to if no vessel was in the harbor on ac-tot distrust of preservation of order by nortics. If another riot occurs it will be not many seven or general and autonomy, but it include anti-American demonstration First-class battleships should replace ent one if relieved, as an object lesson to counteract Spanish opinion of order lesson In this city matters are assuming better shape under charitable committees, e'c, large numbers are now cared for and fee by private subscriptions.

8 96

stop it, and ifferwards being supported by the mob. turned the demonstration into an anti-autonomiatic affair. • • I send to-day an analysis of the autonomistic plan. The intense apposition to it on the part of the Spaniards) arises from the fact that the first appointments of the officers to put into form its provisions was made generally oulfde, of their party. In order to show the Cubans in arms that autonomy was instituted for their benefit and protec-tion. • • The intelligent Spaniards • • see no prosperity in the future, but rather other wars and more confusion, in the same old attempts to make the waters of commerce flow in unnatural channels. The lower Spanish classes have nothing in mind when autonomy is mentioned except Cuban local Turn hence their opposition.

ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF RELIEF. January 21 General Lee transmitted a copy

of the decree which established the auto-nomic regime on the island of Cuba. Cn January 15-22 he reported by cable

daily that all was quiet in Havana, and that the recent rioting had caused some delays. but that no difficulty was apprehended as to the landing of supplies. February 4 he reported the receipt of moneyo from various sections of the United States for relief purposes, and the manner

in which it is being distributed. February 10 he telegraphed the State de partment as follows;

Captain general returned yesterday; me everywhere unfriendly; rumors of coming demonstration against him here. I think him an excellent man, but in an unfor-tunate position. Three serious combats re-ported within a week, in each insurgents victorious victorious.

The same day he sent to the State depart ment a statement of the condition in the towns in the neighborhood of the city of Havana, made by a person he had sent to those places for the purpose of inspecting the num-

ter and condition of the starving. The statement covers four towns in the neighborhood of Havana and is largely a repetition of the awful tale of suffering which came from the other portions of the Island. At Melcna del Sur the statement says is impossible for the mayor, owing to the unhealthy conditions prevailing and the want of resources to relieve the miserable people who die in great numbers from starvation fever and smallpox. There are other towns in the same condition, for example Guines. Catalina and Nadruga, whose situation could be in some degree relieved if the country people were allowed to leave the town freels In search of food. In some towns this is entirely prohibited, in others they are obliged to pay a tax. Not having anything

to eat, how can they pay a tax? In every town the first thing noticed is the unhealthy conditon of the men and their total lack of physical strength."

BLANCO'S RELIEF A FARCE.

At Cataline de Guines the statement re-ports the condition of the reconcentrador as sad and desperate. "There are," it says "no zones of cultivation," and the recoucen trados are not allowed to leave the town in search of work or food even with a military pass. "Food is so scarce that one must walk four or five miles before finding a sweet polato. In these districts the relie given to the reconcentrados by General Blanco is a farce."

The land near the town comprised in the zone for cultivation, the statement says, has been rented by four Spaniards, who have wealth and influence, and they employ the ew reconcentrados who are able to work at or 40 cents per day, but nobody can leav the town without a pass good for a month and which costs 20 cents. The working have to leave at 6 in the morning, and no being able to take meals with them, are obliged to work until 6 in the evening with out food. The women who leave in search of vegetables are sometimes deprived of them n their way back, by guerillas. In fifteen lays 200 reconcontrados have diel la Guines rom starvation.

"Cue of the few protectors of the recon contrados, in fact a heroic one," says th ommunication about the new scheme of austatement, "is a young man named Jose Amohedo, whose father and mother died at enomy. He says that he has been informed that the authorities are engaged in forming tending the suffering poor, and who himself has given up eight houses belonging to him as dwelling places for the reconcentrados, all an autonomistic cabinet, arranging for the members to take the required oath on Janustry 1, and "also for an election thirty days thereafter. • • • My present information is that most of the Spanlards will refrain the contents of a grocery store which he possessed, and who is as destitute as they are, but always attending to those who suffer." from voting and nearly all the Cubane. • • • The feeling in Hayana, and I hear in other parts of the island, is strong against it, the Cubans desiring an independent re-On February 15 General Lee transmitted to

the department a letter, with its translation, signed by the insurgent commander-in-chief, public and the Spaniards preferring annexa-General Gomez, addressed to President Mc-Kinley. General Lee says the letter was deon to the United States rather than auton-

States, and her active and experienced as-sistant." He says that the number of the poor and

destitute is so large that it is impossible to relieve large numbers in each locality, States shall offer its good offices to Spain with a view of securing an armistice of twenty days' duration for the purpose of dis-cussing the terms of settlement between Spain and the insurgents, the United States but that he can state with confidence that under the present system of distribution the supplies are not lost or wasted, but reach these for whom they are intended. CONSUL BARKER IS HANDICAPPED.

March 14 he encloses a letter from Consul Barker of Sagua, who requests him to transmit the following letter, which is adtry and to employment. ressed to him (General Lee):

Dear Sir: I will thank you to communi-cate to the department as quickly as possible the fact that the military com-mander and other officers of the military positively refuse to allow the reconcentra-dos to whom I am issuing food in its raw state to procure fuel with which to cook the food. starve so long as there is an armed Spanish soldier in the country, "since the people, for fear of being murdered, do not go country homes. On January 15 Mr. Barker says:

state to produce ther what the food. In addition, they prohibited this class of people (I am only giving food to about one-fifth of the destitute) from gathering vege-tables from within the protection of the fortresses, telling them "the Americans propose to feed you, and to the Americans you must lock." Yours truly. WALTER B. BARKER, Consul, WALTER B. BARKER, Consul,

March 18 General Lee informed the department that the governor general, by de cree March 5, prorogued in all parts to March 31, 1899, the decree of the general government of April 19, 1897, relative to the sus-pension of legal proceedings against real estate with the reservation of what may be agreed upon by the insular chambers, due season.

March 24 General Lee cabled that the work of relief was progressing and gave details about the distribution of supplies and added been greatly assisted by Mr. "Have

March 28 General Lee reports that instructions have been given by the civil govern-ment of Havana that the alcaldes and other authorities shall not give out any facts about the reconcentrados, and if any of the American relief committees should make inquiries concerning them all such inquiries must be referred to him.

General Lee's dispatches conclude with a dispotch under date of April 1, transmitting e decree of the governor general terminat the work done by the Red Cross society, the ing the concentration. of whom he gives due credit.

There is one communication from Ower McGarr, consul at Cienfuegos, under date of January 10, informing the department that the sugar mills in his district had been grinding since the first of the month. He says vive. He thought to keep 25,000 the utmost diligence is required to preven the firing of the cane fields, and concludes 'The sugar crop is the support of all classes, especially the laboring classes; should it be destroyed a famine would be inevitable." BRICE REPORTS FROM MATANZAS. umber with rations of rice and beans.

The communications from Mr. Brice, con sul at Matanzas, number only seven or eigh and most of them are brief. The correspon once from him begins with November 17 las and closed with February 8, 1898. Probably he most striking feature of Mr. Brice's communications is a distinct article written on January 18 last and devoted to Cuban desti-In this he notes the receipt of a tution. ircular letter of the State department dated ten days before.

On March 25 Mr. Barker Hierensed his "This," he says, "intimated that help is t estimate as to the amount of food necesbe extended by the United States to the starving people of Cuba. The news of this relief has been known." he continues, "for sary to keep life in the people of that prov-ince. In the telegram of that date he said that fifty tons were needed for that time and that the distress was far greater than he last two weeks and has extended all over he province. This consulate has been overhis former reports had shown. In the letter of this date he recounts the

whelmed with people of all classes, asking to a remembered when this relief comes." Mr. Brice then gives a number of facts ilustrating the suffering in the province. He buys there are in Matanzas province alone 90,000 people who are in actual starvation condition and without food, clothing and medcine. Continuing, he says:

In addition to the above are a thousand families of the better classes, and formerly well to do, who today are living on one meal a day and that very scant. They have sold or pawned furniture, jewelry, clothing, itc., to eke out an existence until all is gone, or nearly so. Too proud to beg, they suffer in silence and many die of starvation. suffer in silence and many die of starvation. The daughter of a former governor of this province was seen begging in the streets (incognito) of this city. Many of these people call on me privately as my residence, asking and praying for God's sake to be remembered when this re-lief comes from the United States. One has to be here, know and mingle with the people to fully realize the terrible desti-tution and misery existing in Cuba. It is to be hoped that this relief from the United States will come quickly, for hundreds are dying daily of starvation. Conditions are dreadful and no relief afforded by the Span-ish authorities.

Mr. Barker adds that if \$5,000 could be

telegraphed to Consul General Lee blankets. cots and medicines could be purchased there and in the several towns adjacent, and thus

resident of the Red Cross of the United the Island. Such a step would caution the fixed and the Spaniah positively will contribne subjects, as well as the government, acquiese, without disturbance, in the s of the island.

REIGN OF TERROR PREVAILS.

ute nothing." Mr. Barker dwells in nearly all his communications upon the paucity of the food for Spanish soldiers. In the letter of December Mr. Barker then suggests that the United 14 he says:

In my recent trips I found the Spanish soldiers are not only suffering for neces-sary food, but I was often appealed to by these pitiable creatures for medicine. One has only to look upon them to be assured of the needs complained of. to be the umpire. Pending negotiations he would have all troops quartered and held in

the large fortlfied coast towns, in order that In his letter of December 28 Mr. Barker the reconcentrados may return to the coulrepeats his observations upon the suffering and destitution among the reconcentrados, He adds that the relief from the United saying:

States must be continued or the people must to their

saying: How could the situation be otherwise, since the island is producing absolutely nothing save some growing cane and at the sume time completely exhausted of all food? Relief alone can be obtained from the outer world in the way of charitable contribution. To grind cane without interruption would be the means of saving the lives of thou-sands who, without this aid, within thirty to forty days must die of actual hunger. Over a month since the planters were offi-cially advised of Spain's inability to provide protection in order to operate their mills. This leaves the sugar grower entirely in On January 15 Mr. Barker says; In this consular district a reign of terror and anarchy prevails which the authorities, if so disposed, are utilerly powerless to con-trol or in any measure subdue. Aside from the suffering caused by the unparalleled destitution, I regard the situation as rap-idly assuming a critical stage. As stated heretofore, in no way have the authorities departed from the policy pursued by the late, but not lamented, General Weyler. Spanish troops, as well as the guerillas, under the cruei chiefs, Carreras, Olavari, etta, and Lazo, continue to despoil the country and drench it with the blood of non-combatants. chally advised of Spain's inability to provide protection in order to operate their mills. This leaves the sugar grower entirely in the hands of the Cubans in revolt as to whether they will be allowed to grind without hindrance or fear of total destruc-tion of their property. I know that strict orders have been given to subordinate com-manders that under no circumstances must mil's be permitted to grind, under penalty for violation of the order for destruction of property. property.

Although the "bando" of the captain-scheral provides that laborers may return s to estates, it restricts their operations to hose having a garrison. Last week a num-ber belonging to the "sta ana" estate, lo-stated within a laguage of Same and estate. in many places in Mr. Barker's letter stars are inserted, showing that portious have been omitted. These omissions are in places generally where he deals with the condition of the reconcentrados.

FROM SANTIAGO DE CUBA

ber belonging to the "sta ana" estate, lo-cated within a league of Sagua, and owned by George Thorndike of Newport, R. L. were driven off after returning and refused a permit as a protection by the military commander, Mayor Lomo, one of the trusted officers under the Weyler regime. The reports of the condition of affairs at Santiago are made by Consul P. F. Hyatt, beginning on November 15 last. Mr. Hyatt had then but recently returned to the island The latter part of Mr. Barker's correand he begins his reports with a review of pondence, beginning with March 12, is dethe conditions of the insurgents and of the voted to a statement of the relief labors, and an estimate of the funds required to autonomists.

He had been disposed, he said, to believe ontinue this work. He states that from February 15 to March 12 he cared for 1,200 that the insurgents were weakening, and that the autonomists were coming to the ersons, increasing the number on the relief ist after that date to 2,000. He then details front. After investigation, however, he was convinced that such was not the fact. The convinced that such was not the fact. hange of policy as expressed by Cantain various local committees and other, to each General Blanco is, as he says, doubtless

nodifying the feeling of resentment which formerly prevailed, and should the experi-Having done this, Mr. Barker stated his opinion to be that if provision could be made ment prove discouraging to the insurgents o care for 25,000 persons in that province shoever would be left might manage to surwould probably smooth the way to pacifica-

In this same communication Mr. Hvatt live would require eighty tons of provisions scusses the policy which the United States a month. He then stated that of the 5,000 shoull pursue. Among property holders, whether Americans or of other nationalities. itterly destitute in that city the mayor had in a manner relieved about one-third of the ne says there is but one sentiment. This

sentiment is, "Hands off," or such active intervention as will quickly terminate the In this communication Mr. Barker indicated that the Spanish local authorities were struggle. They, he says, greatly deprecate constant agitation, which makes the governvilling to accept aid from the United States and he added that while he had been gen-erally doubtful of the willingness of the og Classes enemics to American interests and brings no corresponding advantage. On November 26 Mr. Hyatt says: military authorities to receive this assis-

The text of the new autonomy as pub-lished here is not meeting with favor by the most ardent of the Spanish. There is, however, a feeling of relief and safety since the change in the captain general-

hlp.

A portion of this dispatch is withheld by he State decartment. Writing on December 5 last Mr. Hyatt said:

The reconcentration edict is relaxed, but The reconcentration edict is relaxed, but not removed, but many people have reached a point where it is a matter of entire in-difference to them whether it is removed or not, for they have sost all in the prob-iem of existence. A census of the island taken today, as compared with the one taken three years ago, I feel confident, would show that two -thirds of the resi-dents are missing, and the Spanish army would make no better showing. particulars of a visit to Santa Clara, the seat

EFFECTS ARE DISAPPOINTING.

On December 14 Mr. Hvatt wrote: The order of reconcentration is now sat-factorily wiped out and so far as the Spanish government is concerned men doing nearly as they please. The insurgents and their sympathizers will unquestionably take advantage of the revocation to get from the towns and cities what they need and otherwise strengthen their cause. while failines, without clothing to hide their nakedness, are sleeping on the bare ground, without bedding of any kind, with-out food, save to such as we have been able to reach with provisions sent by our own noble people. And the most distress-ing feature is that fully 50 per cent are ill and without medical attention.

and otherwise strengthen their cause. The effects on agricultural pursuits will be disappointing, because the great major-ity of those who would or should take up the work joined the insurgent forces when compelled to leave their homes, and the portion which came within the lines of re-concentration are women, children, old and sickly people, most of whom seem to have little interest in the problem of life. There is no one to take these people back

of government of the province of the same name, where he says he learned from his own agents and also from the governor of that province that the number of persons in actual want exceeded any estimate which he had previously sent to the government, and he had said only three days before that he thought twenty tons per month should be added to the eighty tons previously sugguested. In this communication of March

ance he

cerity.

hal accepted their co-operation

when convinced it was tendered with sin-

INCREASES HIS ESTIMATE.

20 Mr. Barker says: The distress is simply heartrending Whole families, without clothing to hide

CFFICIALS CONFIRM STORY OF HORRORS Autonomy Not Favored by Either the Spanish or the Native Popula-

tion of the In-Jand. WASHINGTON, April 11 .- The consular correspondence with regard to the situation

General Lee.

blowing up of the Maine, and having been

confidential nature, and of some of the im

tions probably being deemed irrelevant to th

shortly after General Lee returned to Havan.

proclamation of J. M. Rodriguez, major gen

eral in charge of the western department

AUTONOMY UNSATISFACTORY.

pt autonomy, but prefer annexation t United States rather than an inde

from the United States last fall,

hosto if no veasel was in the harbor on account of distrust of preservation of order by authorities. If another riot occurs it will be against governor general and autonomy, but present one if relieved, as an object lesson and to counteract Spanish opinion of our navy, and should have torpedo host with it to preserve communication with admiral."

The next telegram of importance was sent by General Lee early on the morning of Feb reary 16, announcing to the State depart-ment the destruction of the Maine. That telegram has been published. During the forty-eight hours that followed General Lee kept the department informed of occurrences chronological order. In a dispatch of bruary 28, he said that after the divers under Captain Sigsbee had made a cursory examination of the wreck, "the Spanish gov ernment would like to unite with ours in having the bottom of the ship and harbor in the vicinity jointly examined."

The next day Judge Day informed General see that his government had already instituted an investigation of the disaster which would be conducted independently. He added, "This government will afford every however: facility it can to the Spanish authorities whatever investigation they may see fit to make their part.

The first intimation of the cause of the explosion was given by General Lee on Feb-ruary 22, when he telegraphed:

Copper cylinders, ammunition, found in-act in ten-inch forward magazine, star-neard side, this morning. Seems to show hat magazine not exploded. Evidence be-finning to prove explosion on port side by tornedo

Coneral Lee informed the department or February 28 that arrangements had been concluded for both governments to conduct independent investigations of the disaster, his co-respondence with General Blanco being transmitted in full. In concluding his letter to Blanco General Lee said:

I am quite sure that neither government has any other object except to nscertain all the facts connected with the explosion of the Maine and that the great desire of both governments is to proceed harmoniously with the work with, the work.

At this point correspondence between Gen end Lee and the State department concerning the Maine disaster abruptly terminated. to far as the report submitted to congress is concerned.

Ministerialists Triumphant.

MADRID, April 11 .- The result of the senatorial elections is that 140 ministerialists have been elected out of 180 senators voted



the season for new life in nature. new vigor in our physical systems. As the fresh sap carries life into the

- trees, so our blood should give us renewed strength and vigor. In Its impure state it cannot do this, and the aid of Hood's Sarsaparilla is imperatively needed.
- It will purify, vitalize and enrich the blood, and with this solid, correct foundation, it will build up good health, create a good appetite, tone your stomach and digestive organs, strengthen your nerves and overcome or prevent that thred feeling. This has been the experience of thou-

sands. It will be yours if you take Hoods Sarsaparilla America's Greatest Medi tias. Sold by all druggists. \$1.

Hood's Pills eure Liver Ilis: easy to

I witnessed many terrible scenes and saw some die while I was present. I am told General Blanco will give \$160,000 to the relief fund. lers.

HORRORS OF LOS FOSOS.

November 28 General Lee sent to the d partment the communications of two gentle men whose names he says are suppresse for obvious reasons, but whom he know personally as standing high in the commu-nity concerning the condition in Los Fosos (the ditches) in Hayana. The communication ays, among other things: "Forty-six women and children thrown on the ground, heaped pell mell as animals, some in a dying cond-tion, others sick, others dead, without the

slightest cleanliness or the least help, not even able to give water to the thirsty, without either religious or social help, each one dying wherever chance laid him."

The communication goes on to state that the deaths among these reconcentrados average forty or fifty daily and that on an aver age there were but ten days of life for each person. It says that the unhappy creatures received food only after having been eight days in the Fosos, during which time they were obliged to subsist upon the bad food which the dying had refused. Some horribl instances of the distress witnessed are given

"Among the many deaths we saw," says the communication, "there was seen one im-possible to forget. There is still alive the only witness, a young girl of 18, whom we found seemingly lifeless on the ground. On her eight side was the body of a young mother, cold and rigid, but with her young child still alive and elinging to her breast. On her left side was the corpse of a dead woman holding her son in a dead embrace. A little further on a dying woman, having in her arms a daughter of 14, crazy with pain, who, after twelve or fourteen days, died in spite of the care she received."

Further along the communication says that if any young girl came in who was nice lo king, she was infailibly condemned to the most shominable of traffics. The communication says that 1.700 persons had entered the Fours since August, and of these but 233 were then living. It places the number of deaths among the reconcentrados at 77 per cent

On December 3 General Lee sent to the State department a communication referring to a cipher dispatch he had sent two days previous, in which he informed the depart-ment that he had learned from the United States consul at Matanzas of an "Extensive

and dangerous conspiracy under the ex-gov-ernor of the province directed against Ameri-cans, action against them to be contingent on the movement of the United States government in favor of the independence

Cuba. WANTS WAR SHIPS HANDY.

General Lee stated that rumors had been

more or less frequent regarding the riotous demonstrations of some dissatisfied elements against American citizens there and in other parts of the island. Such demonstrations, he said, must come from Spanish noncombatants or from volunteer forces. He lid not think there was any danger from the former, many of whom seemed to favor au-nexation rather than autonomy or the in-dependence of the Cuban republic. "I am inclined to think," says he, "that if General Blanco can manage the volunteers as yester-

Th day he said he could, the trouble from that source is diminishing. The origin of the mobs in this city in the past has always been

alone have organization and arms."

omy. On the night of the 24th instant there seems to have been a concerted plan over the island to testify the disapprobation of the people to the proposed autonomistic plan of the Spanish government."

He goes on to describe how it culminated

about 2 o'clock on the morning of the 25th, when a mob assembled in the principal square with cries of "Death to autonomy!" and "Viva Weyler!" He says the men in the mob had stones in their pockets and some of them were armed with weapons. "They nade a demonstration, too, against the office f the Diario de la Marina, a paper published n this town favoring autonomy, but were

spersed by the military police and sol-The same day General Lee acknowledges the receipt of President McKinley's procla-mation calling upon the people of the United States to make charitable contributions for he relief of the distress in Cuba. Other tel egrams follow during the next few days t the class of contributions which would be nost valuable in relieving the suffering. January 8 General Lee makes the following

eport: RESULT OF RECONCENTRATION.

I have the honor to state, as a matter of ublic interest that the "reconcentrado order" of General Wayler, former governor ceneral of this island, transformed about

several of this island, transformed about 100,000 self-supporting people, principally women and children, hato a multitude to be sustained by the contributions of others or die of starvation or fevers, resulting from a low physical condition and being massed in large bodies, without change of clothing and without food. Their homes were burned, their fields and plant beds destroyed and their live stock driven away or killed. I estimate that probably 200,000 of the rural population in the province of Pinar del Rio, Habana, Matanzas and Santa Ciara have died of starvation or from resultant causes, and the deaths of whoie Santa Ciara have died of starvation or from resultant causes, and the deaths of whole families almost simultaneously or within a few days of each other, and of mothers praying for their children to be relieved of their horrible sufferings by deata, are not the least of the many pittable scenes which were ever present. In the provinces of Paerto Principe and Santiago de Cuba, where the "reconcentrado order" could not be enforced the great mass of the people are self-sustaining. * * * A daily average of 16 cents worth of food to 29,000 people are self-sustaining. * * * A daily average of 16 cents worth of food to 29,000 people and of course the most humane efforts upon the part of our friends cannot hope to ac-complish such a gigantic relief, and a great portion of these people will have to be abandoned to their fate. * *

General Lee enclosed in this communication an editorial from the Diarlo de la Marina, which vigorously denounced the

"seditious tumult" of the day before as a victory for Gomez and the enemies of Spain. On the same day he also sent to the depart-ment statistics about the mortality in Santa Clara showing that while there was 5,489 deaths in that town in the seven years pre-

vious to 1897, which included 1.487 in one year from an epidemic of yellow fever; there were in 1897, owing to the concentration order, 6,981 deaths out of a total population of 14,000. The death rate increased monthly from seventy-eight in January, the month before the concentration order went into effoct, until December when there were 1,011

deaths. MAY NEED SHIPS.

January 12, 13, 14 and 15 General Lee sent brief cablegrams to the department with re-gard to the rioting and the demonstrations against autonomy and Blanco and the three newspaper offices. January 13, he said some of the rioters "threatened to go to the

United States consulate." "Ships," he said, "are not needed, but may be later. If Americans are in danger, ships should move promptly for Havana. Uncer-tainty and excitement widespread."

rioting ceased the next day and Gen eral Lee reported all quiet. On the 18th General Lee sent a dispatch marked confidential regarding the risting,

it follows: alone have organization and arms." In consequence of the assurances that American life and property would be pretected General Lee suid that he had declined to make applica-tion for the presence of one or more war ahips in Havaa harbor and children not to send them away, at least for the pres-ent. "I still think," continued General Lee, "that two war ships at least, should be at Key West prepared to move on short notice and that more of them should be at Dry Tortugas and that a coaling station The recent disorders in this city ar

sh authorities livered by a messenger, who at once de parted before he saw or had any communica tion with him.

LETTER FROM GOMEZ. The letter is as follows:

To William McKinley, President of the United States.—Sir: The heroic Cuban peo-ple possess a characteristic quality of its moral being, and developed to a high de-gree, one of the most noble sentiments, namely, gratitude; whoever has done well for Cuba wins for himself forever the life-ner cuba wins for himself forever the lifeations and clothing, but no attention was aid it. In this communication he places the eath rate at over eighty persons dally. for Cuba wins for himself forever the life-long recognition of the sons of Cuban soil, Your great people have given to the whole world an example of lofty virtue, and to the soame and stain of Spain; not only has it shown compassion before the great misfor, tunes brought on Cuba by the feroclous Spanish pollcy but has extended a helping hand to the unhappy victims of the war-fare carried on by the army of that na-tion. corly all of whom are dying for want o medicinee, and clothing. "'As I write this," he says, "a dead negre

voman lies in the street within two yard f this consulate, starved to death. She died ome time this morning, and will lie there navbe for days."

Mr. Brice also notes the issuance of an tion. The gratitude of this people must be or a par with that great and generous impulse rder allowing the reconcentrades to return o the country, but he says the restriction a par with that great and generous impulse, and if Cuba, by its geographical situation and the necessity of its commercial exist-ence, is called to maintain, once that it is tree, and for the mutual benefit of both countries, closer relations with your great republic than with any other nation what-ever from this day forward. Cuba will con-sider itself bound by a closer tie in the affection it bears for the noble American magnanimity. n the order are such as to practically pro hibit, "If they went," he says, "what would hey do without money, food or shelter?" Adding, "only these who can obtain em loyment on sugar plantations can live. In surgects say no one will be allowed to grind in the province of Matanzas. This situation a indeed deplorable, and I am free to say to real help can be expected from the Span

affection it bears for the noble American magnanimity. However true and minute may be the re-ports that you have heard, never will you be able to form a just conception of all the bloodshed, the missery for ruin and the sorrow caused to the afflicted Cubans to obtain its independence, and how the despote spirit of Spain, irritated to the last degree befors the most just of all re-bellions, has revelled in the most impla-cable destruction of everything, lives and property. The nation which at one time adopted the inquisition and invented its tortures sh government, and the fate of the remaining concentrados is slow, lingering death from starvation." Writing on December 17, Mr. Brice says that the relief offered to the reconcentrado. and other people by the Spanish authorities is ineffectual. "I have," he says, "personally visited the head masters of distribution sta tions. Two thousand rations were given out for a few days only to 8,000 persons. There are more than 12,000 starving people in this

the inquisition and invented its tortures iastly conceived the concentration scheme, the most norrible of all means to martyrize alty today. One out of four or six receive two sunces of rice, one and a half ounces of the most norrhile of all means to martyrize and then to annihilate an entire people, and if it has stopped in the path of de-struction it is due in a great measure to the cry of indignation which the knowl-edge of such horrors unanimously drew from the states over which you govern. The people who are saved from extinction and whose cvils your gifts assuge are the people for whose liberty are daily shed our blood on the fields of battle; the country whose independence we now conquer at the point of the sword. For them is also for us; blood of our blood and fields of our flesh, we must rejoice with them in their joys and we weep and sympathize with them in their sorrows and griefs. ASKS AID FOR HIS PEOPLE. ferked beef, and sometimes a small plece o read per diem. Even this rating of food has een discontinued since December 11." listrees, among others the following: In a amily of seventeen, living in an old time killn, all were dead except three, and they arely allve. allowing reconcentrades to return and cultiavail.

ASKS AID FOR HIS PEOPLE.

own property in the country, and were they good living. All these have begged and pleaded with the authorities under Blanco's order, only to be refused."

in their sorrows and griefs. ASKS AID FOR HIS PEOPLE. Be not surprised, then, that as the gen-cril-in-chief of this Cuban army, I am so deeply moved at the wave of compassion which agitates your noble country and that I accede to the request of the patriots I command to appart before you, the repre-sentative of the great nation, as the ex-ponent of our immense gratitude. I have therefore, sit, to fulfill a con-scientions duty by setting forth a fact which I beg you will please transmit to the knowledge of the persons to whom is recom-mended the philanthropic mission of suc-coring the unhappy, destitute Cubans, and in order that dynamics of certain ante-cadents may not deprive many needy ones of the enjoyment of that American charity. The revolution, as absolute master of the country, has never prohibited any clitzen, whatever his nationality, from earning his living and it has happened that as soon as the barbarous inongentration decree was derogated, innumegable families have left and still leave the city for the fields. Im-pelled by hunger to wrest from the fruitful Cuban vegetation the means of relieving the most pressing needs of life, those un-happy heings ignore the fact that if the Spaniards by steel and privation have shrouded their hearts in mourning, so also it may be said that the flora of Cuba was in mourning, devastated by the builet and torch. ing in Santa Clara province in a number o

Wherefore, being in the same circum-stances, these unfortunates have the same moral right to participate in the relief fur-nished to needy Cubans by your generous people. Many a widox, many a mober, many an orphan do we meet in our way, who asks of us succor that we are not able to give but most sparingly, and therefore, upon pointing out to them the charity awakened in their behalf in your noble ma-tion. I desire to honor myself by offering my services to co-operate in the noble work with all the power and means within the reach of the forces I command. I am, sir, with the most distinguished consideration. M. GOMEZ.

save the thousands who must die if com-pelled to await the sending of these sup-"I have," he says, "found the civil gov-NO SYMPATHY WITH AUTONOMY.

ernor willing to lend every aid in his power, but he admits that he can do nothing but In his ficst communication, ceries dated November 17, Mr. Brice stated that neither asaist, with his civil officials, in expediting he Spanlards or Cubans of that section relief sent by the United States. The mili were in sympathy with the proposed auton-omy and reforms. He noted the issuance o tary obstruct in every way possible. In the earlier portion of his correspond-nce, Mr. Barker indicates the reasons why he order to municipal authorities to issue

General Blanco's orders relieving the recon entrades must prove of no avail. He says that while the first article of the order grants permission to the starving class to return to the country, the second article abrogates this permission in exacting that the places to which they go must be gar-

risoned. This condition alone, he says, will pre-clude over one-half of these poor unfor-tunates, for their homes are in ruin, and the sugar estates able to maintain a guard on care for but a small percentage of the whole.

Mr. Bayker says that while he does not question the good intention of those now in oower, yet "it is a self-evident fact that authorities are utterly helpless to extend any relief to those who have thus far Mr. Barker says that his observation does

not bear out the statement made by the captain general to the Spanish minister, that 'extensive zones of cultivation have been organized, the daily rations are provided by

the state, and that work is funnished." MILITARY IS POWERLESS.

Mr. Barker also points out the impracticability of grinding cane under the presen conditions. He says in his letter of Novem

ber 20 that he interviewed most of the large planters in his consul district and that they had stated that unless assured of immunity from the insurgent chief Gomez, they would not attempt to grind, as by so doing they would techardize their property. He adds that it is an "unquestioned fact that the mil-

itary is powerless to give this necessary pro tection." Mr. Barker devotes much space to the suffering and mortality of the people of his province. He places the mortality figures for six of the principal cities of his district for the period beginning with January 1, ending November 15, 1897, at 80,851. He says this

vate their crops is inoperative and of no s the official record and that fully ent of should be added to cover deaths of Writing on January 18 he says: "The poo which no record was kept. "Undoubtedly," he says, "one-half the conare shut up in cities and towns like rats to starve. We have fifteen of eighteen families of Americans among the reconcentrados whe

centrated people have died, and today sol-diers are companion victims of the surviving non-combatants. This death roll is the mute. although convincing proof of the loss of the attempt of stamping out the rebellion. I do not feel that I am speaking wrongly, when I say that ninety days will bring 75 per cent of the population to starvation. The suffer-ing among the troops, as well as the reconcontradoe, simply beggars portrayal. On December 13 Mr. Barker relates the particulars of a visit he made to the prin-

CUTS OFF THE SUPPLY.

This order from the captain general was

opparently given because of the insufficiency of the food supply for the Spanish soldiers

The mayor of Santa Clara had also told Me Barker that the military commander had in formed him that he was to give food to no one having relations in the insurrection, which would include 75 per cent of the desti-

tute. From this Mr. Barker said that however

sincere may be the desire to help the recon

communications, beginning on November 20 1897, and closing on March 24 last. His let tere constitute one long story of distress, of nickness, destitution and death, until, indeed, ipal railroad towns in his consular district, which tour had been undertaken to verify

the previous statements. Speaking of this trip, which covered the towns of Santa Clara, the picture, even as drawn in the plain lan guage of official communications, is revolting Mr. Barker devoted comparatively little Cruites, Esperanzza, Jicotea and Santa Do mino, he says:

mi co, he says: The destitution is simply too harrowing to recite and must become intensified each day. The death rate for last month shows an increase of about 25 per cent. In these towns I got my information from the mayors of each. From them I learned that while there was an issue of food running from three to five days, beginning on the 28th ultimo, consisting of three ounces of for adults and half this a'lowance for chil-dren under 14 years, the pittance given was sufficient only for one-fourth to one-tenth of the starving. No further relief has been given up to date and the mayors of these towns are authority for stating that the captain general had ordered the discontin-uance of the food to the reconcentrados. CUTS OFF THE SUPPLY. cace to political questions, but one or two of his letters are along these lines. Prob ably the most notable of these is his communication of January 10 last, in which he volunteers some suggestions to the Depart-ment of State. From this communication the following extracts are taken:

Mr. Brice mentioned several instances o

He says again that General Blanco's order

ed to go to their homes could make a living. All these have begged and

CONSUL BARKER'S REPORTS.

Consul Barker covers the conditions exist

When Spain will admit defeat no mortal, in my numble judgment, dare predict. Pending this admission on its part, thou-sands of human beings, guiltless of being or having any part in the insurrection, are

sands of human brings, suillless of being or having any part in the insurrection, are dying for want of sustemance. This condi-tion must continue to increase. The United States, in taking action rela-tive to Cuba, which seems inevitable, de-sires to avoid a clash with Spain. Then let congress altar our citizen laws by amending the statute relative to the de-citizens by naturalization, so that the sub-jects or citizens of any government at present residing at Cuba may go before any United States consul in that island and make declaration of intention of be-coming a citizen of the United States, and while them to recognition as citizens until the expiration of two years, when any be required to reside in the United States until five years shall have elapsed before granted naturalization papers. With such a privilese I am confident 20 per cont of the resident Spaniards will avail themselves of the opportunity of rebuking the mother country for attempting to folst upon them changes in the exciting laws of

centrades by the Spanish authoritics, they are powerless to do so for want of means, and popular subscriptions have proved a total failure, "because the Cubans are poorly

There is no one to take these people back to the fields and utilize their remaining strength. Their houses are destroyed; their fields are overgrown with weeds; they have no seeds to plant, and if they had face cannot live sixty or eighty days until the crop matures, which, when grown, would more than likely be taken by one or

the other of the contending partles Closing this communication Mr. Hyatt says:

I give it as my opinion, an opinion that is not biased in favor of Cuba, that Spain will be compelled to prosecute a far more vigorous war than has yet been done if it conquers peace in Cuba. I think I speak advisedly when I say that in this end of the island at least there are many thousand square miles where the foot of the Span-ish soldler has never trod. Within this gone the insurgents have their families, corral their horses and cattle and raise their crops. Why Spain with a large body of as obedient and brave soldlers as ever shouldered a gun has not penetrated these grounds and scattered to the four winds the comparatively small body of men who are there is a question I will not at-tempt to answer. As I write a man is dying in the street in front of my door, the third in a compar-atively short time.

atively short time.

Mr. Hyatt's letter of December 21 deals largely with the sickness and the death rate on the island, which he characterizes as holocaust. Statistics, he cave, make a gelevoue showing, but come far short of the truth. The disease, he cays, is generally brought on by insufficient food. He mentions some who are attacked who have plenty, but these dis

quickly, while others die or make very slow recovery.

DISEASE AFFLICTS THE PEOPLE. The prevailing disease is cometimes called paaludal fever, and at others la grippe, and t is epidemic rather than contagious. At the date of this letter from 30 to 40 per cent of

(Continued on Seventh Page.)



beautifying soap in the world, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery.

It is the only preventive of pimples, blackheads, red, rough, and oily skin, red, rough hands with shapeless nails, dry, thin, and falling hair, and simple baby blemishes. It is so because it strikes at the cause of most complexional disfigura-tions, viz., THE CLOGGED, IRRITATED, INFLAMED, OVERWORKED, OR SLUGGISH

I suffered two years with Acne. I have tried all kinds of medicines but they did me no good I have used nine cakes of your Soar, and I am curod. My skin is as smooth as any baby. Feb. 22, 1898. LKE L. FISHER. 923/4 N. Compton Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Before using CUTICURA SOAP, my face and hands were just as rough as they could be and my face was all covered with pimples. I was unfit to look at, but after using CUTICURA SOAP three weeks my face was equal to velvet. Feb. 6, 1508. PAUL DUPRE, Chaler, La.

I suffered with blackheads and pimples for two or three years until it became chronic. I tried everything inaginable, but it did us no good. Currouns Soar ouroit me. Feb. 20, '18. L. V. GILLIAM, Oak P. O., Va.

I was troubled for eight years with pinoples on the face. I commenced using CUTICURA SOAP. In a very short time the pimples all disappeared and my skin is now in a bealthy condition. JAMES FOSTER. Feb. 17, 1858. Dirmont, Allegheny Co., Fr.

Sald throughout the world. Prior, Me. Portan Dare

Wherefore, being in the same circum