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IS SPAIN BLUFFING

London Dispatches Intimate that Such May Be the Case.

LIKELY TO WRIGGLE OUT AT LAST MOMENT

Additional Reason Why Dons May Not Face the Music.

JAPAN HAS DESIGNS ON PHILIPPINES

Liable to Make it Lively for Dons in Far East.

SPAIN BETTER LET GO HOLD ON CUBA

Only Way of Receiving Any of Its Colonies is to Comply with Demands of United States.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) LONDON, April 18.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram)—At the House of Commons, which reassembled today, the settled belief that war between Spain and the United States is a certainty was universally expressed by politicians of all parties, this despite the fact that dispatches were published in the morning papers declaring the Spanish government was only playing a game of bluff and was sure to find some means of evading war in the last resort. But evidently this solution of the difficulty is not relied on by the British government, as a member of the cabinet specially interested in foreign affairs stated in the lobby this evening:

"All chance of peace has now passed. We can only hope that hostilities will be concluded without dragging in any other European power."

The view taken here is that the Spanish government has no option but fight or face a revolution, however much the queen regent and several members of the cabinet would prefer peace, even at the cost of European power."

A prominent politician, speaking this evening, said he had reason to believe the Spanish government was now provided with further cause for anxiety by the revelation that Japan has designs on the Philippines when the Spanish sovereignty in Cuba is overthrown by the United States. Said he: "Sagasta has been advised that by peacefully withdrawing from Cuba Spain can retain the other colonial possessions, but if she goes to war with the United States it will be the first step toward the inevitable loss of them all. That is a fresh incentive to concessions to the United States, which at this moment is exercising considerable influence at Madrid."

CARLIST PLANS.

In reality the Carlist movement, first definitely announced in these dispatches, though since denied, is now too potent to be any longer contested. Don Carlos is reported by some of his English sympathizers, among whom is the earl of Ashburnham an ultramontane peer and a leading figure, to have left Venice and now awaiting at a convenient place to cross the Spanish frontier at the proper moment to place himself at the head of his followers. As in former Carlist insurrections, it is expected that a considerable body of Catholic young men and some officers serving in the British army will volunteer for service with the Carlists, although they have proceeded very circumspectly in order to evade being made amenable to the foreign enrollment act, under which Jameson was convicted, but it is an undoubted fact that Don Carlos has lost a large part of the sympathy and support formerly given him by old English Catholics, owing to his selfish and masterly conduct. Since he inherited the large fortune of the late Comte Chambois he has treated the men who made great sacrifices for him with absolute indifference and has starved the Carlist organization in Spain so that it has been only kept alive by the enthusiasm of fanatical supporters. These facts are given me by an English Carlist who fought in the last two Carlist insurrections and was active in organizing support for the pretender now.

RUSIA ANTAGONISTIC.

The antagonism of Russia to the United States has been one of the remarkable features of the present crisis. I have the most reliable ground for stating that the pro-Spanish tendencies of the Russian official press will be modified and that these journals may be expected to take a more enlightened view of American Action. This impending change has been effected by the unofficial intervention of an influential sympathizer of the United States, who within the last few days has been in a position to convince the Russian diplomatist who has the ear of Munavieff of the impolicy of Russia's recent declarations.

I bear that the Spanish government is greatly disengaged with the speed trials of the Spanish crew of the steam yacht Giralda, which it bought ten days since for \$60,000 from Captain McCalman, M. P. The Giralda covered only sixty-eight knots in four hours, while eighty-four were expected of it. It is now at Gibraltar and an effort has been made by the Spanish authorities to induce the English captain and crew to retain charge, as they could be better relied upon in the contingency of the ship being required for the queen regent's flight than a Spanish crew.

But the Englishmen have declined and will surrender it to their Spanish successors tomorrow, when the Giralda leaves Gibraltar under sealed orders.

CONTRABAND OF WAR.

Charles Dilke, in a reply this evening on the question of coal being made contraband of war, said:

"The practice with reference to belligerent ships taking coal at neutral ports has been that they are supplied with sufficient to take them to the nearest port and no more. Should ships of opposing powers be coaling at the same time? One is dispatched twenty-four hours ahead of the other so as to obviate as far as possible their making a neutral port a base of attack. That, however, is a perfectly different question to making coal contraband of war. Contraband of war only arises in connection with a blockade and coal will doubtless be treated as contraband by the belligerents, but there is no practice in the matter to guide us, but probably one will be created to form a precedent, should war break out between the United States and Spain."

"Supplying England saw a tempting opportunity by rendering help in a quiet way to the United States, and refused to let Spain have coal. Would that be tantamount to a declaration of war?"

"Not necessarily, but Spain might regard

it as a causa belli. I anticipate a lot of squabbling and high words, perhaps something more practical, as a result of the chaotic state of the international law rule that contraband of war covers the necessities of war and nothing else. That an English ship taking rifles to Havana might be lawfully seized by an American cruiser, but not if she carried quinine, applies only to a blockade. Even this won't apply in the event of war between Spain and America, because neither United States nor Spain were parties to the convention of Paris of 1856. They must go back to the old custom of allowing neutral ships to carry goods, and either party settle all claims afterward in prize courts, which will lead to bitter feeling, and perhaps war."

"But will Spain be at liberty to search British Atlantic liners?"

"England will have something to say if she does. My sympathies are with the United States. Cuba has been terribly misgoverned, but I am sorry to see a great old empire like Spain going to pieces, not only the empire but the dynasty as well."

QUESTIONS FOR BALFOUR.

J. H. Datzell, radical member of Parliament, informs me he intends to ask Arthur Balfour as leader of the government tomorrow the following questions: "Whether he can state what instructions, if any, have been given the British ambassador at Washington with reference to the British attitude and Spain; whether any representations have been made to the government of the United States by the British government in concert with any European powers, and, finally, whether the British government has made any representation either itself or in concert with other powers to the Spanish government with a view of securing such concessions as would lead to the establishment of peace and order in Cuba."

Datzell said: "My object is to show a friendliness of feeling here for the United States, and although Balfour probably will decline to state whether instructions have been given Pauncefote, I am hopeful he may let fall some indication that the British government has been actuated in these negotiations by good feeling toward the United States. My view now is that the only hope of successful mediation by the powers is at Madrid, where concessions may be obtained that would render American intervention superfluous."

POET ALLEN'S TRIBUTE.

William Allen, radical member of Parliament from Gateshead, an ardent advocate of an Anglo-American alliance, whose songs are widely known and popular among workingmen in the North of England, wrote tonight the following sympathetic verses entitled "John Bull and Uncle Sam":

John Bull had once a little boy, who ran away from home.

The hardy fellow, full of joy, loved in the west to roam.

He had the daring of his sire;

He had his genius too;

And though he passed through storms of fire,

He aye the stronger grew.

Fighting little Sam, plucky little Sam,

A world to be for mankind free,

Save pushing little Sam.

III.

John Bull once tried to stop his growth,

But Sam hit out at once;

So poor old John for peace was loath

And ceased the youth to bounce.

To manhood's lusty forces and vim

He grew at freedom's call;

He went to work for himself,

So he made room for himself,

Mighty Uncle Sam; glorious Uncle Sam;

From sea to sea, great, brave and free,

Spread dauntless Uncle Sam.

IV.

John Bull, with proud and loving heart,

Wrote message to him sends:

"Friend Sam, of this you are a part.

We must be dear friends.

United we'll share war's alarms.

Shake hands, my Sam,

Hurrah! Come, all the world in arms;

We will not care a d—n.

The Union Jack of John.

The Stars and Stripes of Sam,

Shall rulers be on land and sea.

Three cheers for John and Sam.

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try and a battery of artillery for service by the close of the week. If a call is made for the state troops they will be mobilized here preparatory to taking the field. The state has equipments for one full regiment of infantry and a battery of artillery.

SECRETARY'S ADVICE IS NEEDED.

Ordered to Report to the Navy Department.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Probably with the view of availing himself of the large experience of Rear Admiral Sicard, Secretary Long has revoked the sick leave of that officer and ordered him to duty in his own office at the Navy department. The admiral at present is at his home in New York state, and is expected to report at the department within the next twenty-four hours.

Government Will Turn Down Any Suggestion that President McKinley May Make Along that Line.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) MADRID, April 18.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram).—Sunday passed quietly in Madrid and the provinces without any fresh demonstrations, though the extreme parties are still trying to make mischief. For instance, by distributing in some streets of Madrid violent little hand bills against the monarchy and publishing in their papers all sorts of exaggerated and absurd articles in the name of the Cortes.

Financial circles are gloomy. All the papers this morning say that even official circles now expect that a rupture is only a question of days, as the government will avoid opposing a refusal to any suggestion President McKinley might make for the independence of Cuba.

The cabinet is now much engrossed in preparations for the session of the Cortes, having carefully selected candidates for presidents, vice presidents, secretaries and chiefs of great commissions, with a view to keep discipline in the ranks of the liberal majority in view of unpleasant debates.

The Navy department has changed its plans as to the Venezuela, just purchased from the Red D line. Instead of using the vessel as an auxiliary cruiser, as originally intended, it is now destined to be employed as a transport for marines.

NEW YORK WORKMEN FOR WAR.

Promptly Vote Down Set of Peace Resolutions.

NEW YORK, April 18.—Bishop Potter presented a set of resolutions against war at the meeting of the Central Labor union last night, but they were defeated by a vote of nearly two to one. The resolutions were signed by the bishop, Ernest H. Crosby, William Dean Howells, Bolton Hall, Charles Frederic Adams and John C. Crosby.

The resolutions are a masterly arrangement of war and a plea for peace, couched in the most persuasive language of men renowned for their ability in the use of words; but they failed to stem the tide of patriotism. They say the destruction of the Maine is a question of fact, and should be left to arbitration; that the poor of our land equal that in Cuba; that war will add only suffering to both Cuba and the United States; that a Cuban republic would be more cruel and oppressive than the Spanish rule; that the speculators would make money while the workingmen of the two nations shot each other down, and that a foreign war would interfere with the great battle for industrial freedom, which is more important.

ATTITUDE OF MEXICO CORRECT.

Takes Steps to Prevent Lawlessness on Frontier.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Assistant Secretary Day had three diplomatic callers this morning, the Chinese minister, the Guatemalan minister and Senator Romero, the Mexican minister. Some significance attached to the visit of the latter, as it was believed that his call was with the purpose of assuring Assistant Secretary Day as to the attitude of the Mexican government toward the United States in the event of the breaking out of hostilities with Spain. The news from the City of Mexico that a concentration of Mexican troops had been ordered on the Texas frontier is rather satisfactory to the authorities here as evidencing a purpose on the part of the Mexican government to repress sternly and promptly any attempts that may be made to raid across the border by either sympathizers with Spain or by some of the many lawless Mexicans who are quick to take advantage of any disturbance to profit by the organization of filibustering expeditions.

SPANISH PREPARING TO LEAVE.

Passage Will be Paid for All Who Return Home.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Acting under instructions from the Spanish minister here, the Spanish consul in various parts of the country are making arrangements for the departure of the Spanish colonies in their several localities. Arrangements are now concluding for the departure of the Spanish residents of Boston, about thirty in number. Similar arrangements have been made to the Spanish colony in New York. The start from New York will be on Wednesday, a steamer having been chartered for this service. The Spanish officials at Philadelphia and many other points are taking a register of all Spanish within their jurisdiction. The Spanish government pays the expenses of all those who go to Cuba or other Spanish ports.

MAJOR POND ARRIVES AT MOBILE.

General Coppinger and Staff Will Be There Today.

MOBILE, Ala., April 18.—Major George E. Pond, quartermaster general of the Department of the Missouri, arrived here today with 100 clerks. General John J. Clegg, commanding troops to arrive here, will reach Mobile tomorrow morning, and will be followed by the Twenty-second Infantry on Thursday.

Bids have been opened for the daily supplying of large quantities of fodder and fuel.

Today the government purchased additional loads at Fort Morgan for the erection of another barracks