Oregon City Courier.

A. W. CHENEY, Publisher.

OREGON CITY.....OREGON

DOINGS OF THE WEEK

A Complete Review of the Telegraphic News of This and All Foreign Lands.

The war excitement sent December wheat up to \$1.711/4 in San Francisco

Monte Cristo island, 700 feet square, situated 18 miles above Dawson is the latest Klondike discovery. It was found by two woodchoppers, and is very

A Berlin correspondent says that Germany will take no steps prejudicial to the United States nor probably will she join in any intervention on Spain's

The state department has information that the governor of Hong Kong had issued a neutrality proclamation pertaining to the war between the United States and Spain. It is similar to that proclaimed by Japan and Newtound-

The devastation of Cuba has been commenced by Spanish soldiers. They have received orders declaring the armistice at an end, and are laying waste the interior, burning towns and plantations, and concentrating their forces on the sea coast.

The St. Petersburg Vidomosti, speaking of Russia's attitude towards the United States, says: "The friendship which has existed for many years between the two states excludes every idea of unfriendly attitude on the part of Russia at the present juncture."

According to the policy announced in a decree gazetted in Madrid, Spain will fit out a fleet to prey on American commerce on the high seas, and in our waters. The decree begins by saying that diplomatic relations are broken off between Spain and the United States, and a state of war has begun between the two countries.

Hawaiian annexation, which would not be accomplished in time of peace, is more than a probability now that war is on, says the Washington correspondent of the Herald. It is learned that a great effort is to be made in congress soon to procure the ratification of the treaty annexing the Hawaiian islands to the United States.

Montana's quota of volunteers is one regiment of infantry; Oregon, one regiment of infantry; Washington, one regiment of infantry; Wyoming, one battalion and one troop of cavalry; Idaho, two troops of cavalry; Utah, one troop of cavalry, two light batteries; California, two regiments of infantry, two battalion and four heavy batteries.

A Seattle Alaskan company bas wired Secretary of the Navy Long for six Gatling guns, to be placed on one of their steamers as a protection against any Spanish warship or privateer that be in the North Pacific ocean when the first steamers start on their return trip from St. Michaels with passengers and gold from the Klon-

The United States has cut the Havana cable. The cut was made about 10 miles out of Havana, and the southern end of the cable is now on the Mangrove, which was recently converted into an auxiliary cruiser. This gives the government exclusive use of the cable and entirely cuts Captain-General Blanco off from communication with Spain, as the insurgents are between him and the other cable ports.

George Parsons Lathrop, poet and author, died at Roosevelt hospital, New

Professor Jules Marcou, famous throughout the world as a geologist, is dead at his home at Cambridge, Mass.

It took the Republicans of the 10th Ohio district 1,877 ballots to nominate J. Morgan for congress, to succeed Representative Fenton.

A hundred colonists have offered their services to the American consul, George W. Bell, at Sidney, N. S. W. in the event of war between the United States and Spain.

Naval and military preparations continue with unabated vigor. Seven fleet steam yachts, suitable for navigation in Cuban waters, were procured and several bids for steam colliers were made in Washington Wednesday.

The police commissioners of San Francisco have adopted a resolution declaring that in case of war police officers who enlist will not lose their places, which will be filled during their absence by men whose appointment shall be merely temporary.

The departure of the First battalion of the Nineteenth infantry from Fort Wayne for Mobile was marked by a serious accident. During the firing of a salute in honor of the departing troops by those left in charge of the fort, Private George Engman had his right arm nearly blown off by the premature explosion of a cannon, and Sergeant John W. Annis, who was in charge of the firing party had his right hand severely injured. Engman's arm was amoutated.

The Russian government has placed orders for two 12,000-ton battle-ships in the United States, according to information which has reached the navy department. The new vessels are to equal any affoat or designed in the world, and are to be superior to anything in the fighting line heretofore produced in this country. They and all their equipment will be American in manufacture as well as in material, The Cramps will build the hulls and machinery, and the Bethlehem Iron Company the armor and the funnels,

LATER NEWS.

The state department sent notice to all foreign nations of congress having declared war, and that war has existed since April 21. Reponses have already begun to flow in. A neutrality proclamation was issued by the British government. Among the first to take cognizance of the existence of a state of war were the British colonies. This in a measure supports the contention of this government that war actually existed before the declaration by congress.

The conference report on the army reorganization bill was passed by both houses of congress and signed by the president. No progress was made on other pending war measures.

Secretary Day's nomination was sent to and confirmed by the senate.

The cabinet has decided that no Spanish prize ship shall be released previous to the passing upon of their respective cases by the courts.

A Hong Kong dispatch says the Philippine islands insurgents are massing around Manila, and a massacre of the Spanish is feared.

The Mangrove took in the big steamer Panama, of the Ceballos line, a Spanish auxiliary cruiser, off the Cuban coast, and brought her prize to Key West. The Panama is a steamer of 2,800 tons, and carried a valuable cargo, including stores for the Spanish army in Cuba. She sailed from New York April 20. The capture of so large a steamer by so small a vessel as the Mangrove is regarded as a notable achievement, and there was unusual rejoicing at Key West over the capture.

A rebellion is again imminent in Spain. Towns are in the hands of rioters at frequent intervals daily. The authorities are totally unable to control the mob. All revolutionary parties are active and the stability of the present monarchy is threatened.

A royal decree proclaiming neutrality has been issued by the government London Gazette. This was followed by the issuance of proclamations of similar import by a majority of the British colonies in all parts of the world. As a result of the issuance of this decree, the international laws respecting vessels sailing under the flags of belligerent powers will be strictly enforced in the ports of the British

Two more Spanish prizes have been captured by the gunboat Newport. The Newport brought in to Key West the Spanish sloop Paquette and the Spanish schooner Pireno, Cuban coasting vessels, captured off Havana.

Cuban advices are to the effect that the insurgents are forcing the fighting. The Spanish, fearing assault by land and sea, are hurrying their troops into the cities. Insurgents have appeared in force within 30 miles of Havana. There was a raid by them just before Bocade Jaruco early in the morning, and the combatants must have had a full view of the blockading squadron.

The house committee on naval affairs has decided to report a disagreement be the house conferees.

It has been announced by the Richard Silk Company, of Chicago, that if any of their employes desire to go to war, his salary will be continued during his absence, his position will be retained until his return, and if he is killed \$2,500 will be given by the firm to his family.

There was a meeting on Trafalgar Cuba and the Philippines. "Tom" Mann, Louise Michael and Lathrop Tathington, an American, who was greeted with cries of "Good old Yankee," made speeches. Resolutions fa-

CONTRABAND OF WAR.

Character of Merchandise That Is Lin. ble to Seizure.

Inasmuch as there exists a great amount of misapprehension, not only among foreign countries, but also among American shippers, as to the formed the Spanish government, after character of merchandise that is contraband and liable to seizure during placed the American legation in Madthe progress of war, the following un- rid and American interests in Spain official but authentic statement has generally in the hands of the British been obtained from a high official, of the government:

In determining, according to the law of nations, whether merchandise is contraband of war, it is classified:

1-Absolute contraband. 2-Occasional or conditional contra-

band. 3-Goods not contraband.

The first class includes all goods of

an essentially warlike character. The second class includes provisions, naval stores, coal, horses, certain kinds of machinery, certain forms of steel, iron, etc., that are destined for the use of the enemy. They are contraband or not, according to occasion and conditions as to their character, shipment and destined use. Every such caes de-

pends upon its own facts. The third class includes articles not suited to warlike use, such as church service and musical instruments. Ihousehold wares and goods of such like, and including many that are purely of a mercantile character.

A New York World dispatch from Madrid says that a revolution is imminent there. The correspondent says no one can tell what will be the result of her rapidly increasing domestic troubles-the cabinet crisis; the dissentions among her statesmen and warriors: the intrigues of the Carlists, the plotting of Weyler and Romero Robledo, and the popular agitation.

United States warships made demonstrations against Cardenas and Mariel

WAR NOW EXISTS

Sampson's Fleet Ordered to Blockade Havana.

Minister Woodford Is Given His Passports and Diplomatic Relations Between the United States and Spain Are Declared to Be Severed.

Washington, April 28. - War between the United States and Spain is a fact, though not officially declared so by congress.

The stirring events of yesterday were succeeded today with rapidity by others of more importance, culminating in the afternoon in orders for the departure of the North Atlantic squadron for Havana. This practically is an act of war, so that the war between this country and Spain may fairly be said to date from today.

Two minutes after the opening of the state department this morning, came word from Minister Woodford that the Spanish government, having anticipated and prevented his intentions to present the president's ultimatum, he had asked for his passports. The administration, in a public statement, announced that it regarded the action of the Spanish government as rendering unnecessary further diplomatic action on the part of the United States, and further stated that it regarded the of Great Britain and printed in the course adopted by Spain as one placing upon that country the responsibility

for the breach of friendly relations. Mr. Woodford's telegram resulted in the calling of a special cabinet meeting to arrange an outline for a plan of campaign, or rather to determine how to begin the execution of the plan of campaign already prepared by the strategic boards of the army and navy depart-

The Blockade of Havana.

The result was the immediate order for the Atlantic squadron to begin the blockade of Havana.

How much further than this the cabinet progressed in its deliberations it is not possible to say, for the obvious reason that the time has now come when the interests of the government requrie that the movements of the ships and troops should be guarded with the greatest care from undue publicity, in order to prevent the enemy from taking advantage of information.

The North Atlantic squadron, under Captain Sampson's command, his a splendid array of fine vessels, and this force is quite competent to blockade all with the senate amendments to the the ports in Cuba, or at least all of the I shall turn the legation over to the eagerly discussed as an outward evinaval bill, and ask for a conference. ports connecting by rail with Havana, British embassy and leave for Paris dence of the actual existence of war. Boutelle, Hillborn and Cumming will and so likely to be used to supply that be the house conferees.

I have notified the secretary Long, however, had not replace in the event of seige with food consuls.

I have notified the ceived word of the capture, except countenance privateering, protect neuand munitions of war.

This statement is to be taken with the understanding that it does not contemplate the coming to Cuban waters of the Spanish fleet. In such case, however, the probable policy would be to abandon the blockade and endeavor to force the Spanish fleet to battle.

Minister Woodford's action during the day, as reported to the state depart-Square, London, Sunday afternoon to ment in a late telegram, indicated that protest against Spanish barbarities in be was following a carefully prepared programme. A significant feature of his message was the statement that the Spanish government notified him that it regarded the withdrawal of Minister Polo yesterday as terminating diplovoring free Cuba were adopted amid matic negotiations, showing that it was not disposed to accept the expressed intention of our government to continue Minister Woodford as a medium of communication any longer.

Mr. Woodford also announced that he had instructed Consul-General Bowen, at Barcelona, to call upon all American consuls to withdraw.

He further stated that he had inasking for his passports, that he had ambassador. The ambassador, Right Hon, Sir H. Fry-Drummond Wolf, is not at present in Madrid, so American interests will be confided to the Brit-

ish charge, Sir George E. Bonham, To all intents and purposes, this relieves the state department from further negotiatins as to Cuba, save those relating to privateering, neutrality observances and the like.

Sending of Troops to Cuba.

Captain Sampson's fleet, which has seen ordered to Cuba, later on will be supported by troops which will be dispatched to Cuba as soon as in the opinion of the president it is possible to use them advantageously in the occupation of the island. Meanwhile, as rapidly as troops can be rushed to Key West and other points on the South Atlantic and Gulf coasts, they will be hurried forward. It is estimated that it will take 10 days to concentrate an army sufficient in size with supplies to make the campaign.

It is the purpose to gather these troops and make a sharp, decisive movement. Immediately upon the passage of an army volunteer bill by congress, the president will call for 100,000 men. Of this force, it is intended to use 80,000 men in Cuba, in conjunction with the regular army, now already assembled or assembling at points of concentration. The remaining 20,000 men will aid the artillery departments in guarding the sea coast and in manning the heavy guns of the coast defense.

The Ultimatum to Spain. Following is the text of the president's ultimatum to Spain, as given

out this morning: "April 22, 1898 .- Woodford, Minister of the United States, Madrid: You have been furnished with the text of the joint resolution voted by the congress of the United States on the 19th inst., and approved today, in relation to the pacification of the island of Cuba. In obedience to that act, the president directs you to immediately com-

municate to the government of Spain said resolution, with a formal demand SPAIN REJECTS ULTIMATUM upon the government of Spain to at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters. In takng this step, the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over the island, except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination when that is accomplished to leave the government and control of the island to its people under such free and independent government as they

may establish. "If by the hour of noon on Saturday next, the 23d day of April, instant, there be not communicated to this government by the government of Spain full and satisfactory responses to this demand and resolution, whereby the ends of peace in Cuba shall be assured, the president will proceed without further notice to use the power and authority enjoyed and conferred upon him by said joint resolution to such extent as may be necessary to carry the SHERMAN." same into effect.

The following statement regarding the sending of the ultimatum to Spain

was issued today: Yesterday, April 22, 1898, at about 11 o'clock, the department of state served notice of the purpose of this government by delivering to Minister Polo a copy of the instructions to Minister Woodford, and also a copy of the resolution passed by the congress of the United States on the 19th. Immediately after the receipt of this notice the Spanish minister forwarded to the state department a request for his passports, which were furnished him yesterday afternoon. The United States minister at Madrid was at the same time instructed to make a like communication to the government of Spain.

This morning the department received from Minister Woodford the following telegram, stating that the Spanish government had broken off diplomatic relations with this government. This course on the part of Spain renders unnecessary any further diplomatic action on the part of the United States:

"Madrid, April 22 .- Early this morning, immediately after the receipt of your telegram, and before I had communicated the same to the Spanish government, the Spanish minister of foreign affairs notified me that diplomatic relations had been broken between the two countries, and that all respective representatives have ceased. I accordingly asked for safe passports.

THE OREGON IN DANGER.

Feared That the Spanish Squadron Will Head Off the Battle-Ship.

Washington, April 23 .- It was suggested at the navy department that it is possible the Spanish squadron, which sailed from Cape Verde islands today, is heading to cut off the fine battleship Oregon, now on its way from the Pacific coast to join Captain Sampson's command. There is also some fear that the Oregon may be taken at an unfair advantage, without knowledge of the existence of war, by the Spanish torpedo-boat destroyer Temerief, which is now at Buenos Ayres. Possibly, with a view of avoiding a conflict in the straits of Magellan, where she would be at a disadvantage, the Oregon has been ordered to go around Cape Horn. The Oregon sailed from Callao the 9th inst., since which time nothing has been heard from her. It is believed she is now nearing the port of Montevideo, Uruguay.

The formidable Spanish torpedo-boat is supposed to be somewhere in that vicinity awaiting the arrival of the Oregon, and some fear is expressed that she may creep on her unawares and, consequently, considerable relief will be telt when the arrival of the Oregon at some South American port is reported. It is probable that when the Oregon reaches Rio de Janeiro or Bahia, she may be joined by the Brazilian cruiser Nictheroy, recently purchased for the United States navy, and the two vessels will come to the United States together.

Weyler Will Take a Hand.

London, April 23 .- The Madrid correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says: Bullfights have been arranged to be devoted to the national defense fund. It is still asserted that General Weyler will command an army corps.

Ruu on a Barcelona Bank. London, April 28 .- A dispatch from Barcelona says the act of the Bank of Barcelona, in withdrawing a large sum from the local branch of the Bank of cenorship of telegrams, forbidding the Spain, caused a run on the latter institution, but all demands were met.

Malaga Correspondent Leaves Malaga, April 23. - The United States consul, R. M. Bartleben, has started for Gibraltar. The American flag over the consulate has been removed, and the archives transferred to the British consulate.

Spain Calls Out Her Reserves.

London, April 28 .- A dispatch from Madrid says War Minister Correa authorized the call of 80,000 reserves. Three vessels loaded with troops left Caliz: destination unknown.

CAPTURED A PRIZE

The Nashville Takes a Spanish Merchant Steamer.

BROUGHT HER TO KEY WEST

Vessel-The Skipper Surprised, as He Did Not Know That War Had Been Declared-Prize Crew Put on Board.

States fleet was about 12 miles off Sand Spanish navy. Besides these two we key light this morning at 7 o'clock have the Bennington and Mohican. when the Spanish merchantman Buena which are now en route from the Ha-Ventura was sighted bound north. The gunboat Nashville ran her down and be in commission by May 1, and if it put a shot across her bows from the were necessary we could have the 4-inch gun on the port side aft, manned Yorktown and Philadelphia in fighting by Lieutenant Dillingham.

The Spaniard ignored the shot, but another closer to her bows brought her plete our coast defenses are the ten to. A prize crew, under Ensign Magruder, was put aboard.

her, was astounded. He said he did nearing completion at Portland and one not know that war had been declared, on the Sound. This number can be but when he was informed of the state of affairs, he shrugged his shoulders presents, since each requires only 60 and accepted the situation philosoph- days for building."

The Nashville has taken on stores and will return to the fleet, carrying United States Acted Wisely in Declar-Ensign Magruder, who will be received by Ensign Carleton, of the Snow. A body of marines is pacing the deck of the Spaniard, and her crew of 28 are lounging about the decks in nonchalant fashion. Not a man is in irons.

According to prize laws, Captain Maynard will turn the prisoners of war over to the United States district attorney, who will decide the question of their dsiposition.

The Buena Ventura is a tramp steamer of 1,155 tons, and hails from Bilboa, Spain. She has a cargo of lumber, loaded at Pascagoula, Miss., and was bound for Rotterdam.

The news of the capture of the Spaniard set the people of Key West frantic with enthusiasm. All work was suspended, and the docks were crowded with people.

Commodore Lyons, of the Dolphin, has delivered to United States District Attorney Stripling the papers of the Buena Ventura. He will libel the ship in the United States admiralty court.

Satisfaction at the Department. Washington, April 25 .- The report that the gunboat Nashville had captured a Spanish merchant ship gained official communications between their rapid circulation throughout the navy department shortly after noon today. It caused much excitement, and was through newspaper sources. Notwithstanding this, naval officers credited the report and discussed it as though it was an accepted fact. It was said that a part of the crew had been placed on board, and the captured vessel had a valuable cargo, including considerable

> Among the officials, the report caused much satisfaction, although it was said the capture of a Spanish warship would have been more acceptable. There is said to be no question as to the right of taking Spanish merchant ships at this time. Two of these ships left Galveston within the last day or so with considerable cargoes of cotton on board. Another Spanish ship is said to be en route from Vera Cruz, Mexico, with 1,000,000 pesetas on board, representing the subscription of Vera Cruz to the Spanish in Cuba.

Volunteer Army Bill Signed. Washington, April 25 .- The volunteeer army bill was signed by the president at 3:06 P. M. The bill, as agreed to, reduces the time of enlistment from there years to two. The amendment that a blockade in order to be binding authorizing the president to organize must be effective. independent troops was retained, but limits the number to 3,000. The bill leaves it optional for regiment and company militia officers to receive commissions from governors. The senate receded from the amendment attaching an engineer officer to the staff of each brigade commander.

Topeka Reported Lost.

London, April 25.-The Daily Mail says that it is stated in Falmouth shipping circles that the American cruiser Topeka, which left Falmouth the evening of Tuesday, April 19, was in collision with the bark Albatross, at midnight, Thursday. According to the in all of the large towns, the proceeds Mail, the captain of the Albatross asserts that after the collision the steamer, whose name he did not ascertain, flashed a light and suddenly disappeared. He believed she foundered.

> States government has established a transmission of code messages to or from Havana. This begins at once.

United States Censorship.

Key West, April 25 .- The United

Monadnock Goes North. Vallejo, Cal., April 25 .- The United States steamship Monadnock has left for sea, en route to Puget sound. her coat of gray paint the Monadnock is not visible at sea 1,000 yards distant.

Woodford in Paris.

Paris, April 25 .- General Stewart L. Woodford, the United States minister to Spain, accompanied by the party this city at 7:45 o'clock this evening.

PACIFIC COAST SAFE.

Warships in These Waters More Than

Mare Island Navy Yard, April 25 .-"We are prepared today to capture or destroy any force that Spain could posbly send against the Pacific coast," said Rear Admiral Kirkland. "In the first place, the Spanish government has no vessels in Pacific waters nearer than the Philippines. We have a greater force than Spain, and can easily take care of the opposing fleet. The next possibility lies in sending a fleet through the Straits of Magellan. Even if Spain had the ships, they would be practically useless after they got into the Pacific, through the lack of coal.

"We have two monitors, the Monadnock and the Monterey, that are more Key West, April 25 .- The United than a match for any vessel in the wallan islands. The Charleston will trim by the 1st of June.

"What I rely upon largely to comvessels recently acquired. Another valuable adjunct to our Pacific coast Captain Luzarraga, in command of defenses is the two torpedo-boats now increased materially if the necessity

A MASTERLY STROKE.

ing Against Privateering.

New York, April 25 .- A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: The announcement that the United States, in the event of hostilities, will not resort to privateering and will be governed by the four rules of the declaration of Paris, is considered a masterly stroke in diplomatic circles. While England's sympathy has been with America from first to last, Spain has gained some tactful advantages as negotiations have proceeded. point has been scored, not by many, but by a few English journals, that while Spain has made a series of concessions to America, congress in the end has compelled her to fight. All the continental journals have agreed in describing the negotiations as one-sided, with Spain in the position of offering one sacrifice after another, without

pleasing American opinion. It was important that the state department, while justifying war on humane principles, should restrict the area of disturbance as much as possible and guarantee security for neutral commercial interests. This has been done by the official announcement from Washington that the government will adhere to the principles of the declaration of Paris. Nothing could be more satisfactory to England, France and Germany. It is pledged that the United States will respect the four tral goods under any flag and the enemy sailing under a neutal flag, with the single exception of contraband of war, and recognize the necessity of making a blockade effective in order to render it binding. These four pledges will be the safeguards of European

commerce in the pending war. So far as the American practice is concerned, Spain will be placed on the defensive. She will be compelled to repeat these assurances or else alienate

European sympathy. The judgment in diplomatic circles is that America has adopted a course which will embarrass Spain, conciliate the commercial and mercantile classes of England and the continent and strengthen the position of the United States. Every one of the four rules of the declaration of Paris is in favor of America in the event of hostilities. Diplomats perceive at once that America has nothing to lose and much to gain from the abolition of privateering and the protection of neutral commerceand private property under any flag, and the establishment of the principle

It would be to the manifest advantage of the United States if both belligerents were under obligations to respect the declaration of Paris. The state department, by taking high grounds in the interest of civilization, may force Spain to follow it. If Spain draws back, owing to a wanton desire to capture and destroy private property at sea, it will be an offense against the commercial interests and moral opin-

ion of Europe. This is the judgment of diplomatists. members of parliament and representatives of mercantile England, and they sincerely hope that the announcement of the American intention in today's papers will be followed by similar assurances from Spain. It cannot be doubted that the adherence of the United States to the declaration of Paris will strengthen English feeling in favor of America and greatly impair the anti-American sentiment on the continent. It will be an appeal to self-interest all around, yet will have a moral justification in the high aims of

civilization. Old Glory Burned.

Madrid, April 25 .- This evening a crowd 6,000 strong carrying flags and shouting "Viva Espana!" war!" and "Down with the Yankees!" burned the Stars and Stripes in front of the residence of Senor Sagasta, who was accorded an ovation.

New York, April 25 .- A dispatch to the Herald from Saint Thomas, savs a revolution has broken out in the Ponce with which he left Madrid, arrived in district of Porto Rico, and there is rioting all through the island.