

THE ARMY BEING MOBILIZED

Infantry, Cavalry and Batteries Being Sent South.

WILL BE CLOSE TO CUBA

The Troops Will Be Stationed at Chickamauga, New Orleans, Tampa and Mobile.

Washington, April 18.—Decidedly the most warlike step taken by the war department in preparing for the possibility of an encounter with Spain was inaugurated today, when orders were issued for the concentration at four points in the South of six regiments of cavalry, 22 regiments of infantry, and the light batteries of five regiments of artillery.

At Chickamauga there will be six regiments of cavalry and the light batteries of five regiments of artillery; at New Orleans eight regiments of infantry; at Tampa seven regiments of infantry, and at Mobile seven regiments of infantry.

Since the civil war, no such proportion of the army has been mobilized, and the movement itself is the best evidence of the gravity of the situation, as looked upon by the president and his advisers.

The determination to rendezvous the troops in the South where they can be accustomed to the conditions of a more tropical climate, has been under consideration by the president and his cabinet for some time. It was not until today, however, that the president, in view of the enormous expense which will be entailed, felt justified in taking this step.

When Secretary Agler returned from the cabinet meeting, he at once called into conference General Miles and Adjutant-General Corbin and acquainted them with the result of the cabinet's deliberations.

There were hurried consultations, in which the quartermaster-general, who has charge of the transportation of troops; the commissary-general, who looks after their subsistence, and representatives in Washington of various railroads running to the South, participated.

The two new regiments of artillery recently authorized by congress have not been recruited to their full strength, and in addition are not well equipped with horses and other necessary requisites for service, and therefore are not included in today's orders.

The department has so distributed the 22 regiments of infantry at convenient places on the Gulf that they will be accessible for transportation to Cuba.

Proposals have been invited from steamship companies for chartering vessels to the government for this work.

Instructions to the commanding officers of the regiments ordered to move were sent out late today, with directions that they be put into effect as soon as possible. It is the confident expectation of the officials that the movement in some places will begin tomorrow. The railroad facilities are more than ample to meet the demands of the occasion, and no trouble will be occasioned in mobilizing this large body of men at the places designated within a reasonably short time.

PLOT TO INJURE THE MARIETTA.

Spaniards Intended to Blow the Gunboat Up in the Valparaiso Harbor.

New York, April 18.—It is stated that there was a plot here to injure the United States gunboat Marietta while she was in this port, says the Valparaiso correspondent of the Herald.

Just prior to the arrival of the Marietta, the United States consulate in Valparaiso was informed by trustworthy persons that an attempt against the gunboat was contemplated by Spanish subjects in Chile. Immediately upon receipt of this information the United States minister, Henry L. Wilson, Consul John F. Caples and Vice Consul August Muller, Jr., called upon the governor of the province and laid the matter before him. This explains the unexpected trip of the United States minister from Santiago to Valparaiso.

Once acquainted with the fears of the American representatives and the facts in the case, the governor immediately gave assurance that the city and maritime authorities would take precautions to protect the Marietta, and extended, through the minister, a cordial welcome to the officers and seamen.

During the stay of the Marietta no greater vigilance could have been exercised by the Chilean authorities had the safety of one of their own warships depended upon it. Before the gunboat sailed the American minister, consul and vice-consul, accompanied by Captain Symonds, of the Marietta, called upon the governor and on behalf of the United States government thanked the Chilean authorities for what had been done to protect the warship.

Powers Take Hold.

Washington, April 18.—It was learned tonight in high diplomatic quarters that an exchange of notes had been begun between the European capitals with a view of making strong representations on the Spanish-American situation.

CAMPAIGN MAPPED OUT.

Plans for a Combined Land and Naval Attack on Havana Now Complete.

New York, April 16.—A Times Washington special says: The plans for the joint land and naval attack upon Havana have been practically decided upon. They have been the subject of deliberation at a number of meetings of the naval strategic board, of councils of the joint war and navy board, and of conferences between the governmental and military officials.

From the first it was considered absolutely essential that there should be a joint movement of land and naval forces of the United States against the Spaniards in Cuba, and the only thing left for discussion was the best course to be pursued in carrying out this plan. One difficulty that has continually presented itself is the fact that the navy is ready for an advance on Havana within an hour after the declaration of war, while the army could not possibly throw any considerable force into Cuba in less than 48 hours. Should the fleet of Captain Sampson wait until the army is ready? has been asked, or should it as soon as war was determined upon, proceed to carry out its instructions and invest Havana from the sea?

It is now decided that the fleet will at once move on Havana, invest it, and at the same time hold open the Florida straits for the free transportation of troops in the island. A part of the fleet will be employed for this purpose as well as to keep open the gulf to the west of Havana for a like purpose.

As soon as the army is ready, which will be within 48 hours, a considerable body of troops will be thrown into the province of Pinar del Rio, in the neighborhood, probably, of Bahia Honda, and an advance upon Havana will be begun at once. The fleet will co-operate with the land forces from the moment they land in Cuba, and both will attack Havana simultaneously. Even if the resolution finally passed by congress does not recognize the present Republican government in the island, the plan of the army is to unite with the armies of Gomez and Garcia as allies against the Spaniards.

It is probable that troops will be sent to join these revolutionary armies in Puerto Principe or Santa Clara, or that ships will be sent to transport some of the Cuban troops to the vicinity of the capital. In any event an effort will be made to co-operate at once with the armies of the revolutionary leaders in the work of driving the Spaniards out of the island.

With the establishment of a stable and independent government in free Cuba the army will have nothing to do, at least with the preliminary part of the campaign. Its task is to sweep the Spaniards out of the island. To do this most effectively it will at once seek the closest alliance with the revolutionary troops. The war department is certain that Gomez and Garcia have respectable armies in the eastern part of the island. This conclusion is based upon the fact that they have been able to hold back the Spanish arms, and even to win notable victories against some of the best officers of Spain. These revolutionary troops, aided by some American regulars and supplied with arms and ammunition, will be able, it is thought, to do very effective work against the soldiers under Blanco and Pando.

THE FLYING SQUADRON.

Will Be Stationed Within Easy Striking Distance of Porto Rico.

New York, April 16.—"Proceed to southern drill grounds for maneuvers and target practice, to continue for a period of 24 hours, upon the expiration of which return to Hampton Roads. Direct Minneapolis and Columbia to undergo speed trials."

In effect, says the Washington correspondent of the Herald, these are the instructions telegraphed to Commodore Schley, commander of the flying squadron, yesterday, which caused him to leave his anchorage off Fortress Monroe at 2 o'clock Wednesday and proceed to sea. It can be authoritatively stated that Commodore Schley had no other instructions. Should it be deemed advisable while he is at sea to direct him to a better strategic point than Hampton Roads, or should war come, instructions will be sent to him by one of the vessels now lying at Norfolk or Hampton Roads.

The authorities are desirous of stationing the flying squadron at a better strategic point than Hampton Roads. It is understood that the squadron will proceed first to Porto Rico and thence to European waters, and it is therefore considered a wise plan to put the ships as near Porto Rico as possible, in order that no time may be lost after hostilities have commenced.

There has been some talk of having the ships drop down as far south as Port Royal, but this would not be any great gain in the distance saved, and the officials have therefore considered the advisability of having the vessels go to the Bermudas or St. Thomas. No action, however, as yet has been taken.

Spanish Parliament to Reopen.

Madrid, April 16.—A cabinet council, at which the queen regent presided, was held this afternoon. It was decided to reopen the Spanish parliament next Wednesday instead of April 25. The queen regent, in cabinet council, signed a national subscription decree to increase the army and navy.

GENERAL LEE'S TESTIMONY

Reasons for Belief That Spanish Blew Up the Maine.

MINES IN HAVANA HARBOR

Two Rows of Torpedoes Placed Across the Entrance Recently—Lee Absolves Blanco From the Maine Plot.

Washington, April 16.—The testimony taken before the senate committee on foreign relations in connection with the investigation into the relations between the United States and Cuba was made public today. It constitutes a book of about 650 pages, and includes not only the testimony taken since the disaster to the Maine, but also much that was known before and running back for a year or more.

The statement which contains greatest current interest is that made by General Lee on the 12th inst. In his statement Lee says he was informed on very good authority that the Spaniards placed two rows of torpedoes just at the mouth of Havana harbor within the past two months, or subsequent to the Maine disaster, and that switchboards are in a room in Morro castle.

"Had you any reason to suppose the harbor was mined at all before the blowing up of the Maine?" asked Senator Frye.

"No, sir. I had no reason to suspect anything of that sort up to that time."

He then went on to say that the writer of a letter to Santos Gusman had led him to believe mines might have been placed there previous to the Maine incident, and he said this supposition was strengthened by a telegram from Weyler, of which he had cognizance. Upon the whole, he thought the Weyler letter (the Laine letter) was a correct copy of the genuine letter. The telegram to which he referred was addressed to Eva Canela, a noted Spanish woman and admirer of Weyler, and to Senor Gusman, and it read as follows:

"Grave circumstances cause me to ask you to destroy the letter of February 12."

Lee said this telegram had never before been published, and he found in it strong confirmatory evidence of the genuineness of the letter.

With reference to responsibility for the destruction of the Maine, Lee said: "I am satisfied the explosion was from the outside. I have always believed the Maine was not blown up by any private individual, but by some officers who had charge of mines and electric wires and torpedoes in the arsenal, who thoroughly understood their business, for it was done remarkably well. I don't think Blanco had anything to do with it. I don't think he had any knowledge of it. I was sitting in my room at the hotel when I heard the explosion, and saw a great column of fire go up in the air. After ascertaining that it was the Maine, I went right down to the Palace and asked for Blanco. He came in at once. He had just heard the news and was crying. Tears were coming out of his eyes. He seemed to regret it as much as anybody I saw in Havana. I think it came from some subordinate officers, who had been there under Weyler, and who were probably anti-Blanco anyhow, and who had full knowledge of the business."

SPAIN'S PREPARATIONS.

Scouring European Waters for Warships—Mobilizing Her Fleet.

New York, April 16.—Official confirmation has been given to the announcement of the departure of the cruisers Vizcaya and Almirante Oquendo for the Cape Verde islands, where the Spanish torpedo fleet is lying, says the Washington correspondent of the Herald. They left San Juan five days ago, and are expected at their destination within the next two or three days.

In accordance with the instructions given by the Spanish minister of marine, the mobilization of the Spanish naval force at Cadiz continues. Spain is scouring the European markets for desirable merchant ships which can be transformed into auxiliary cruisers.

No confirmation has been received of the rumored purchase by Spain of the Saale and Spree, of the North German Lloyds line. Should it prove true, and should war break out within the next 10 days, it can be stated on excellent authority that the Saale at least will never fly the Spanish flag. The Saale will arrive at New York on Saturday next, and if the Saale has been sold to Spain there is no doubt the government would seize her at New York and impress her into the American navy.

The Spree is in German waters, so that it will be impossible to reach her. Besides the Spree, Saale, Normannia and Columbia, Germany has other merchant ships especially built for conversion into auxiliary cruisers, which it is believed here her agents are inspecting.

War Risks Advance.

New York, April 16.—Marine risks took another sharp advance today. Rates on vessels sailing for the southeast coast of South America were quoted at 4 per cent, or double yesterday's quotations.

REPUBLICANS OF OREGON.

Convention Held in Astoria—Nominations and Platform.

The Republican state and congressional conventions were held in Astoria last week. The congressional convention, which met on Wednesday, nominated Malcolm A. Moody, of Wasco county, for representative for the second district.

Thos. H. Tongue, of Washington county, was nominated for representative for the first district at the congressional convention held in Eugene a few days previously.

The state convention met on Thursday and completed a state ticket before adjournment was taken.

The following resolution was adopted immediately after organization was effected:

"Resolved, That the following message be at once wired to President McKinley: 'The Republicans of Oregon, in convention assembled, to the president of the United States, greeting: With the utmost confidence in the wisdom of your administration and pledging you the support of the state of Oregon, we express our earnest convictions that the Maine was destroyed by design or criminal neglect of Spanish officers, and that this outrage is just cause for the United States to drive the Spanish nation from the Western hemisphere.'"

The State Ticket.

Governor—T. T. Geer, of Marion.

Secretary of state—F. I. Dunbar, of Clatsop.

Supreme judge—F. A. Moore, of Columbia.

State treasurer—Chas. S. Moore, of Klamath.

State printer—W. H. Leeds, of Jackson.

Attorney general—D. R. N. Blackburn, of Linn.

Superintendent of public instruction—J. H. Ackerman, of Multnomah.

The Platform.

"We, the Republican voters of the state of Oregon, in convention assembled, congratulate the people of the state as well as of the whole nation on the unmistakable fact that the dark cloud of adversity, which has hung like a pall over our fair land, has been dissipated. We recognize that the return of prosperity is due to the restoration of the Republican party to power.

"We are in favor of the maintenance of the present gold standard; we are unqualifiedly opposed to the free coinage of silver and to all other schemes looking to the debasement of the currency and the repudiation of debt. We believe that the best money in the world is none too good to be assured by the government to the laborer as the fruit of his toil and to the farmer as the price of his crop. We condemn the continued agitation for free silver as calculated to jeopardize the prosperity of the country and to shake the confidence of the people in the maintenance of a wise financial policy; we particularly condemn as unpatriotic the efforts of the free-silver agitators to array class against class and section against section; we declare that the interests of all classes and of all sections of our country alike demand a sound and stable financial system.

"While we deplore the imminence of war, we recognize that the country is on the eve of war, undertaken for the vindication of the national honor and the performance of a work dictated by every instinct of humanity; we declare that the administration is entitled in this conflict to the confidence and support of the entire people.

"We are firmly attached to the principles of the federal constitution; we recognize that representative government is one of these principles, and we are opposed to any change in law or constitution which will abrogate this time-honored principle.

"We are in favor of retrenchment and reform in state and county matters. We demand strict economy in public affairs, and the abolition of all needless offices and commissions.

"The salmon fishing industry, so fruitful a source of revenue to the state, should be fostered, and to that end we favor state aid in the artificial propagation of salmon, and their distribution in the waters of this state.

"We affirm our allegiance to the principles of the Republican party of the United States, as enunciated by the Republican convention in St. Louis in 1856.

"We denounce the fusion party of Oregon as an aggregation of spoilsmen, who are ready to subordinate principles to offices. Each of the parties to this compact is willing to stultify itself and form alliances with elements which it has heretofore denounced as dangerous and unfit to be intrusted with power; we declare that good government cannot come from such an alliance."

A Western man has designed an endless chain propeller for boats in which a double chain of buckets is hung to two shafts extending crosswise through the boat, with power transmitted to the shafts by piston rods attached to a crank section in the center of each shaft.

Moscow has a hospital large enough to hold 7,000 persons. It was founded in 1764, and at present takes in children at the rate of 40 a day, or about 15,000 a year. There are 26 physicians and about 900 nurses.

ALASKA SALMON FISHERIES.

Secretary of the Treasury Has a Bill for Their Protection.

The secretary of the treasury has submitted to congress the draft of a bill for the amendment of the laws now in force for the protection of the salmon fisheries of Alaska. The secretary thinks that the present laws are inadequate to meet the existing requirements and should be amended. The proposed changes are based on recommendations submitted by agents who were appointed to investigate the state of the fisheries, and are as follows:

Traps should only be erected under regulations prescribed by the secretary of the treasury.

The protection to salmon trout should be withdrawn, as those fish are said to be destructive to salmon spawn and fry.

The laws should be extended to territorial waters so as to prevent the erection of obstructions in rivers and streams.

No salmon canneries should be erected in Alaska without permission from the secretary of the treasury.

An annual statement should be made by all canneries and such establishments to special agents for salmon fisheries, and employees of the treasury department should be assigned to act as special agents without extra compensation.

A tax should be levied upon the output of all canneries, salteries, fish oil and fertilizer works; and the penalty for violation of the fisheries law should be increased from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 80@81c; Valley and Bluestem, 82@83c per bushel.

Flour—Best grades, \$3.00; graham, \$3.55; superfine, \$2.50 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 38@39c; choice gray, 35@36c per bushel.

Barley—Feed barley, \$19@20.00; brewing, \$21 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$17 per ton; middlings, \$23; shorts, \$17.

Hay—Timothy, \$12.50; clover, \$10 @11; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton.

Eggs—Oregon, 11@11½c per dozen.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 45@50c; fair to good, 40@45c; dairy, 35@40c per roll.

Cheese—Oregon full cream, 12½c; Young America, 13@14c.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50 @4.00 per dozen; hens, \$4.00@4.50; geese, \$6.00@7.00; ducks, \$6.00@7.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 13@13½c per pound.

Potatoes—Oregon Barbanks, 40@50c per sack; sweets, \$1.75@2 per cental.

Onions—Oregon, \$2.25@2.60 per sack.

Apples—14@16c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 4@6c.

Wool—Valley, 14@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7@12c; mohair, 25c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 4c; dressed mutton, 6½c; spring lambs, \$2.50@3 each.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.25; light and feeders, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, \$5.00@5.50 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$3.50@4.00; cows, \$2.50@3.25; dressed beef, 6½@7c per pound.

Veal—Large, 6@6½c; small, 7@8c per pound.

Seattle Market.

Potatoes—Yakimas, \$13@14 per ton; natives, \$11@12; sweets, 2½c per pound; box of 60 pounds, \$1.75.

Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 25c; ranch, 14@15c; dairy, 16c; Iowa fancy creamery, 23c.

Cheese—Native Washington, 12@13c; Eastern cheese, 12½c.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 15c; California ranch, 14c.

Meats—Choice dressed beef steers, 8c; cows, 7@7½c; mutton, 8½c; pork, 7c; veal, small, 8c.

Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, 13c; dressed, 14c; turkeys, live, 12c; dressed, 16c.

Fresh Fish—Halibut, 6@7c; steel heads, 7@8c; salmon trout, 12½c; flounders and sole, 3@4c; tom cod, 4c; ling cod, 4@5c; rock cod, 5c; smelt, 3@5c; herring, 4c.

Olympia oysters, per sack, \$3@3.50.

Corn—Whole, \$23; cracked, per ton, \$23; feed meal, \$23 per ton.

Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$23; whole, \$22.

Flour—Patents, per barrel, \$4.25@4.50; straights, \$4.00; California brands, \$4.75@5; Dakota brands, \$5.40 @5.75; buckwheat flour, \$6.

Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$16; shorts, per ton, \$17@18.

Feed—Chopped feed, \$15@20 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$24; oil cake meal, per ton, \$35.

Hay—Puget Sound, new, per ton, \$11@13; Eastern Washington timothy, \$16@17; alfalfa, \$12; straw, \$7.

Wheat—Feed wheat, per ton, \$23.

Oats—Choice, per ton, \$23.

San Francisco Market.

Wool—Nevada, 11@13c; Oregon, 12 @14c; Southern coast lambs, 7@8c.

Millstuffs—Middlings, \$23@25.50; California bran, \$19.50@20.50 per ton.

Onions—Silverskins, \$2.50@2.85 per cental.

Eggs—Store, 12½@13c; ranch, 13½ @14c.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 18@19c; do seconds, 18c; fancy dairy, 18c; good to choice, 16@17c per pound.

Fresh Fruit—Apples, 25c@1.35 per large box; grapes, 25@40c.