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best speed for the California coast. As it is quite inkely that the British admiralty's intelligence department in Washington, D. C., would be apprised immediately of the decision of the Unit-ed States government, the transmission of the information to the admiralty, and the despatch of its orders to Esquimalt, would phace the Grafton in a position to be in pretty close proximity to the Gold-en Gate before the expiry of the twenty-four hours of grace allowed the Russian to denart. That is, before the order of the United States government could be handled to the commander of the Lena. the Grafton would be far on her way to the California waters prepared to keep the Lena good company from the mo-ment she reached the three-mile limit from the Golden Gate.

from the Golden Gate. Should the United States government decide to order the Lena out of San Francisco hay and the Grafton there-upon be released for special duty, there is every probability of another coast record for fast steaming being broken. as the British cruiser would be certain to push southward at top speed, which would mean the covering of the sight hundred miles between Victoria and the Golden Gate in less than half the time taken by the ordinary steamers. It is also considered likely that should the Lena be cast loose to work her will amongst the shipping of the Pacific ocean, the Grafton would have more than one worthy comrade in the task of watching the Russian, as it is certain that the United States admiralty would order one or more of the American war-ships now in San Francisco to follow and the United States admirally would order one or more of the American war-ships now in San Francisco to follow the Lena and see that she did not get into mischief with vessels carrying the Star-Spangled banner.

Last night nothing could be learned in substantiation of the wild rumor that a fast cruiser from the Japanese fleet had been detached for the special work of hunting the Lena and exchanging compliments with her wherever found; but this course would not surprise any-one who has been studying Japanese methods of conducting hostilities.

TEST THE KIDNEYS.

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