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this 20th day
ON & BARNARD,
Executors, Bank
Victoria, B. C.

ON THE EVE OF BATTLE

The Calm Before the Storm of Sea Fighting on the Atlantic Coast.

Admiral Dewey's Squadron Receives Reinforcements—Troops for the Philippines.

Vague Tidings of an Engagement With Loss of Fourteen Warships.

Yesterday's despatches show little material change in the situation, vigorous press censorship by both American and Spanish authorities having closed all avenues of information as to the movement of the rival fleets in Atlantic waters. It is generally believed that the American squadron and Admiral Cervera's fleet are crouching for the spring, and that the great sea conflict cannot now be long deferred.

The United States is hastening forward a strong land force to the Philippines, while the coast defense ship Monterey and the cruiser Charleston are ordered to join Admiral Dewey at Manila. General Cores, the Spanish minister of war, has expressed his intention to fight until the bitter end for the retention of the Philippines, although his plan of campaign at present awaits the turn of events, the hope being expressed that concessions to the insurgents may secure their friendship and active support.

The new Spanish cabinet is said to have decided upon aggressive measures in the hope of evoking the intervention of the European powers, as the internal economical situation in Spain is becoming desperate.

PLANNING THE CAMPAIGN.

The Cabinet Considers Merritt's Detail of Men Sufficient to Hold the Philippines.

Washington, May 21.—The cabinet was in session yesterday. So far as can be learned, no official information has been received as to the details of the Spanish fleet has left Santiago de Cuba. Whether or not the navy department will proceed on the assumption that the Spaniards are in Santiago is not known, but it is assumed they will ascertain the facts beyond question before sending a squadron on so long a journey. The Philippine invasion occupied a considerable portion of the meeting. The discussion as to the expediency of expedition upon what the United States troops would encounter there. The population of the islands, the fighting force of the Spaniards in that quarter and the geographical phases of the occupation of the islands were considered. Estimates of the number of troops the Americans would have to reinforce those already upon as about 10,000. The force already selected to go with Gen. Merritt was believed to be more than adequate for the Spanish soldiers who were thought to be in not the best of condition. If the number were greater the administration would send as many men as would be required to reinforce the force to start with Gen. Merritt. A significant feature of the session was the absence of any discussion of the military or naval movements of the Spanish fleet. This was one result of the policy which has been agreed on between members of the President's cabinet, and aside from Secretary Long and Alger, very little is known as to what is going on. As to the Spanish intentions in the Philippines, the cabinet is quoted as saying that he will fight to retain Manila, and the islands as long as he has a rifle to use or a man to handle it.

B. C. FRUIT IN THE EAST.

Mr. Hutcherson Assured in Winnipeg That It Will Prove a Great Attraction.

Winnipeg, May 21.—E. Hutcherson, manager of the British Columbia Fruit Exchange, of New Westminster, arrived in the city yesterday. Mr. Hutcherson stated that his business here is in connection with the sending of an exhibit of fruit to the exposition. It should prove a good attraction.

THE MONTEREY FLEET MANILA.

Such are the Orders for the Coast Defense Ship—Camara's Fleet Under Sealed Orders.

San Francisco, May 21.—The United States ship Monterey has been ordered to Manila to reinforce the Asiatic squadron. Her passage of the Pacific will be watched with interest quite as keen as her performance in any action that may follow, for she is far from a good sea boat and has had as much difficulty as a seaman care for in her few voyages along the home coast in times of peace. The cruiser Charleston left Mare Island today on her way to Manila. She will stop at Red Rock to confirm the adjustment of her compass and then proceed on her journey.

New York, May 21.—A special from Kingston, Jamaica, says: The Norwegian steamer America, Captain Eversh, from Baltimore, has arrived at Port Antonio, bringing news of the capture of a Spanish vessel that was some distance from Jamaica yesterday. The vessel was an American warship towing a vessel to all appearances was a Spanish gunboat. The vessel was too far distant for their names to be distinguished, but Captain Eversh says that the United States vessel that was doing the towing was either the St. Louis or the St. Paul. The place where the American warship and its

prize were seen was off Cape Maysi, the eastern extremity of Cuba.

St. John, Nfld., May 21.—The government is taking steps to prevent the Spanish Cadiz squadron getting coal in Newfoundland waters, and will despatch the revenue cutter Fionia to patrol the southern coast and report the presence of Spanish shipping. Warships are also prepared to visit the coast.

Madrid, May 21.—Admiral Camara, after a conference with the minister of marine, has returned to Cadiz. His fleet will sail to-morrow under sealed orders.

Key West, May 21.—The little steamer Tecumseh yesterday made two landings on the Cuban coast, 35 miles apart and both within six hours.

LOOKING FOR AID.

Spain Seeks a Continental Alliance As Her Only Hope.

New York, May 21.—A despatch to the World from Madrid says: A continental alliance to aid Spain or intervention to stop the war is now the aim of Premier Sagasta. Events will soon demonstrate this. The new cabinet is regarded as a makeshift and only temporary. The ministry announced to the cortes through Premier Sagasta, the spokesman, that they had fully resolved to carry on the war and to employ for that purpose every means which the cortes places at its disposal, confident of the support of the crown and country. The ministry undertakes at the same time to crush the rebellions in Cuba and the Philippine islands "with the utmost severity, reserving for the day of pacification the accomplishment of promised reforms." As for finance, the cabinet expects to raise money through the assistance of bankers in France and Barcelona and through the assistance of the Bank of Spain. It will be almost impossible to raise a loan in Spain, even with the guarantee of the tobacco and stamp monopoly, and the proposed increase in taxation has been abandoned because it was so unpopular.

In presenting the new ministry to the chamber, Senor Sagasta explained that the appointment of the minister of foreign affairs had been postponed because Senor Leon Castiella had not accepted the portfolio, being "detained in Paris by very important negotiations which may lead to fresh developments in the present grave situation." It is anticipated that Senor Pinger, minister of finance, will wait until the cortes is closed before taking action in the negotiations of the new loan. He will then negotiate a loan in gold for \$12,000,000.

DRUNKENNESS A DISEASE.

Ontario Grand Jury Advise the Establishment of a Provincial Hospital for Inebriates.

Toronto, May 21.—The grand jury in its findings today disapproved of the manner of sentencing drunkards for short terms of imprisonment, and recommended asking the Ontario government for a grant to establish an inebriate asylum.

Berlin, May 21.—Public attention in this country has temporarily been diverted from the war between Spain and the United States to the significant speech recently made at Birmingham by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the British secretary of state for the colonies. The bulk of opinions since the text of the speech has been available corresponds to the utterances of Prince Bismarck on the subject, in which the former chancellor was quoted as saying:

"The importance thereof depends upon whether Mr. Chamberlain's private opinions are those of the British government. Closer Anglo-American relations are doubtless feasible, but an alliance is improbable and unscrutable to both. Germany's duty plainly is to maintain her interests by carefully nursing the good neighborhood of the European powers."

Serious diplomats say they do not believe that an Anglo-American alliance is feasible except, possibly, for purely pacific and defensive purposes. They utterly repudiate the idea of Germany's entering into an alliance with the United States in expression of her subject but is inclined to be friendly towards Mr. Chamberlain's declarations. "It is a mistake to undervalue a man who so intimately knows and expresses the wishes of his countrymen. Far from being an expression of Great Britain's weakness and embarrassment, the speech must be regarded as the expression of a political leader who is so sure of the strength of his country that he does not hesitate to point out a weak place."

The Liberal press favors a friendly understanding between the two countries, but the most of the favorable papers do not go to the length of advocating an alliance with Great Britain—still less with the United States. A notable example of Anglophobia is furnished by an article in the Tagliche Rundschau vehemently supporting the Russian Uchtonoski for an anti-English European combination for dealing with an Anglo-American alliance. This paper says:

"The British lion would rather roar than fight. It sounds well and costs nothing. But England finds herself confronted with the question of her very existence. Consequently the nation of shopkeepers suddenly appears in the shape of Brother Jonathan. America with its wish-wash of waste pieces of nationality, millions of emigrant murderers, English tongues, and black, red and yellow skins, suddenly becomes an Anglo-Saxon race." The Tagliche Rundschau proceeds to argue that:

"Money-hay selfishness constitutes the basis of the coming alliance between the Cockney and the Yankee and in order to counteract this Germany must join Russia, thereby also helping to increase France's anger or intervention could firmly establish it."

SOMEWHAT SIGNIFICANT.

France Requested To Withdraw From West Africa Or Take the Consequences.

New York, May 21.—The Sun this morning prints the following London despatch: A grave report, having its origin in official circles, has caused serious un-

business in quarters not often disturbed by a political rumor. It is to the effect that the British government has served notice on France several days ago in terms amounting to an ultimatum that she must renounce her claims to the West African hinterland within a month, or withdraw her expeditions and other representatives. The correspondent of the Sun does not venture to voice for the story, but it is significant that it finds credence among persons whose knowledge and judgment are entitled to respect. The impression has been general for some days that the recent speeches of Lord Salisbury and Mr. Chamberlain were intended to prepare the nation for a grave announcement.

THE DAY AT WASHINGTON.

How the Monterey Will Cross the Waters—Hourly Expectations of Great Things.

Washington, May 21.—The news event of the day in the navy department was the order to the Monterey to proceed to the World to reinforce Admiral Dewey's squadron. The Monterey is a ship of strength in herself and her addition to Admiral Dewey's force, together with the despatch of thousands of troops to Manila, is ample evidence that the administration has assumed no half-hearted attitude towards the Philippine question. The Monterey is a ship of disposition until such time as the United States itself has arranged for the disposition of the islands.

The Monterey is probably the most formidable monitor in the world, yet she combines with the enormous offensive and defensive qualities of a monitor, seaworthiness that is almost phenomenal. The Monterey is described technically as a barbettes turret, low freeboard monitor of 4,000 tons displacement. She is 256 feet long by 50 feet beam and 14 feet six inches deep. She carries two turrets, surrounded by barbettes, two 12-inch and two 10-inch guns, while in her superstructure between the turrets are mounted six 6-inch guns, and in her armor are two Gatlings. The turrets are 12 inches thick and the surrounding barbettes are 14 inches and 11½ inches of armor. In presenting the new ministry to the chamber, Senor Sagasta explained that the appointment of the minister of foreign affairs had been postponed because Senor Leon Castiella had not accepted the portfolio, being "detained in Paris by very important negotiations which may lead to fresh developments in the present grave situation." It is anticipated that Senor Pinger, minister of finance, will wait until the cortes is closed before taking action in the negotiations of the new loan. He will then negotiate a loan in gold for \$12,000,000.

NOT YEA CONFIRMED.

The United States Government Has No Advice of the Reported Battle Off Mole St. Nicholas.

Washington, May 21.—No confirmation of the rumored engagement off Mole St. Nicholas has been received at the navy department up to a late hour to-night, and only two hundred tons of coal are believed that the American fleet has encountered the Spaniards. It is denied that the department that information of a fight had been received and further it is stated that a meeting between the two fleets was hardly to be looked for. The report that the American fleet was in the neighborhood of Mole St. Nicholas is not confirmed. The only doubt as to the feasibility of sending the Monterey is her small coal capacity. She has bunker room for only two hundred tons of coal, and though more might be stored on her decks it is doubtful whether she could carry more than enough coal to take her to Honolulu. It is probable that the Monterey will go in company and attempt to capture the vessel that she will take to Honolulu, she must either be towed about 2,000 miles off her trip or perform the difficult operation of coaling at sea.

The navy department gave out no news to-day touching the movements of the American and Spanish squadrons in the neighborhood of Cuba. It is plain to be seen, however, that the officials are expecting great events to occur at any moment. What they most fear is the effect that might be produced upon our people by greatly exaggerated and misleading reports from Spanish sources of some great naval engagement, in which Spanish should claim the victory. It is realized that the first news of an engaging between the two fleets would be to the eastward may reach the United States through the Spanish cables via Madrid, and these are almost certain to matter what the result may be. To make such a claim of victory for the Spanish. Obviously the only manner in which the truth could be discovered would be through our own officers.

The department is proud of the record made by the Oregon from an engineering point of view, the reports from the ship showing that she does not need five cents' worth of repairs to her machinery after her 13,000 mile continuous run. The Oregon is said to have been equalled since the building of the first iron warship.

The Buffalo, which comes with the Oregon from Brazil, is to be overhauled at Newport News, furnished with armor, given a good battery of five-inch guns and together made a very effective modern cruiser. This will take about two months.

The Chicago naval reserve has come to the aid of the navy department in a most gratifying manner. They have not insisted upon entering the navy as an organization, but have enlisted individually as volunteers, to the number of five hundred. Commander Hawley, who is doing the work of recruiting for the department, telegraphed that they would be ready for service Monday, that are splendid men, and in a large proportion seamen.

SOLDIERS OF UNCLE SAM.

New Arrivals at San Francisco Receive an Ovation—No Trouble in Filling the Banks With Volunteers.

San Francisco, May 21.—Over 3,000 volunteers arrived this morning from eastern States. The troops from Kansas numbered 964 men and 43 officers; while Minnesota sent a regiment of 993 men and fifty officers. Colorado was represented by 386 men and 42 officers. One section of the Utah special arrived bearing about 520 men. The remainder of the troops from Utah will get in to-morrow. When the men arrived on the side of the bay they were taken in charge by the ladies of the Red Cross Society, who had been up all night preparing refreshments for them. As they marched up Market street on their way to the old race track, now Camp Stadium, they were given a reception by the people who lined the sidewalks. As they passed the street corners the soldiers were greeted with flowers. The men will rest to-morrow, but hard drilling will be inaugurated on Monday. There are over 11,000 of Uncle Sam's men now quartered in this city, and 5,000 more are scheduled to arrive next week.

chartered by the American government to be used as transports for the Philippines, as follows: Steamers City of Peking, City of Sydney, Australia, Zealandia, and China. The first three leave within a few days of each other. The City of Peking probably to-morrow; China and Zealandia on the 25th of June, probably escorted to their destination by the cruiser Philadelphia, which is almost ready to go into commission.

It is not expected that any portion of the Washington volunteers will form part of the first instalment of the Manila expedition, as it will be impossible to have the men properly equipped in time. The Washington men are comfortably located, and are now devoting four hours a day to drilling. Col. Whoolsey says that he will feel it a personal disgrace if his regiment is not sent to the Philippines.

Vancouver, May 20.—By direction of the secretary of war, Companies A and C, Fourteenth Infantry, under command of Leo A. Matlie, will leave Vancouver barracks on May 21 for San Francisco, and report to Maj. Robe for duty. Brigadier General Corbin, and by instructions from Washington, and will command the first brigade to the Philippines. He was accompanied by his personal staff.

Washington, May 21.—One hundred and three thousand volunteers have been mustered in the service of the United States, according to the reports which have been received from the various States. The end of next week the officials hope every one of the 125,000 called for will have taken the oath and sworn allegiance. The mustering in of the regular army branch with a view to increasing it to 60,000 men, the work is not yet at hand it indicates the precise number of recruits required. The arrangements are being made for the coining of the "Immune" regiments in the Gulf States; owing to the great cost of business, the mustering in of a week will elapse before anything final can be done in this direction. Six columns of business men have volunteered yesterday and it would not be surprising if some of the remaining columns were given to colored men who have been pressing for appointments.

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THE BIRTHDAY HONORS

Knighthoods for Speakers of Canadian Parliament and the Clerk of the Commons.

Principal of Upper Canada College in the List—Victoria Crosses Awarded.

London, May 20.—The royal birthday honors are characterized by innumerable military rewards for service in the campaign against the rebellious Afriids on the Indian frontier. No fewer than six Victoria Crosses are awarded.

Several honors are bestowed upon distinguished Canadians. The Hon. Chas. A. D. Pelham, speaker of the House of Commons, the Hon. Jas. David Edgar, speaker of the Canadian House of Commons, and Mr. Geo. Bourinot, speaker of the House of Commons, are made Knights Commanders of the order of St. Michael and St. George.

TRIBUTES TO GLADSTONE.

Leaders in the Lords and Commons Feelingly Refer to the Departed Statesman—At Ottawa.

London, May 20.—The eulogies of Mr. Gladstone, formed a historic episode in the House of Commons. There were more members assembled in the house to-day than upon any occasion since Mr. Gladstone himself introduced the Home Rule bill. They filled every seat and the gallery was crowded with members of the House of Lords. The United States ambassador, Col. John Hay, and all the members of his staff were among the diplomats present. After prayers the house silently awaited Mr. Balfour's speech. The Liberal leader's voice broke through the silence, and he was compelled to pause and wipe his eyes. Mr. Dillon was in his most oratorical style, and his eulogy was listened to with intense interest. The Liberal leader's voice broke through the silence, and he was compelled to pause and wipe his eyes. Mr. Dillon was in his most oratorical style, and his eulogy was listened to with intense interest.

STIKINE NAVIGATION.

The Ogilvie Makes a Record Trip—Ramona Takes a Rest.

Steamboat traffic has been in earnest on the Stikine for some time, and a question of water depth now worrying navigators, the matter of quick transportation is being considered. The Ramona, which became queen of the river fleet a short time ago for making the run from Wrangell to Glenora and return in 26 hours, has been beaten, and now the record passage is held by the Canadian Pacific steamer Ogilvie. On Thursday last she left her maiden trip up stream in 26 hours, and returned on Saturday evening. According to news yesterday the City of Seattle yesterday the Ramona had grounded in coming down the river on her last trip. She was not ashore for long before the Ogilvie pulled her off, it is believed, with little if any damage. The Conquer, too, had a little mishap through her machinery being disabled, but the Stikine fleet apart from these accidents has thus far been operated without misfortune of any kind.

Among the passengers to arrive at the City of Seattle yesterday were Captain Troup, the official in charge of the Ogilvie, and Mr. E. B. Perry, C. E., who pronounces the river in admirable shape for handling all the business offering.

THE WHEEL.

Will Not Be Disappointed.

Although the original promoters of next Monday's bicycle races at Oak Bay have decided to forego the date, the public and those riders who have religiously trained in preparation for the several races, are not to be disappointed. The track is in no good condition to escape use, and Mr. A. Virtue, the manager of the track and grounds, has opened the first afternoon of the celebration a combination entertainment consisting of cycle races under C.W.A. and C.A.C.C. sanction, three or four high class vaudeville acts, Lyon in trick bicycle work, a basket ball match, and the regiment band. Taken altogether the show is a very promising one.

NEUROUS DEBILITY SUFFERER.

In an aggravated form shows it in his face—a haggard, worn-looking man. The same with women. But what of the man who has lost all vital and manly power, and yet looks like a physical giant? That is just the question to which Dr. Sanden has devoted twenty years of study. It is true that men who look strong ARE weak in the respect that they have found the cause and explains it in his "Three Classes of Men," which send shivers by mail, sealed from observation, or by direct communication. It gives full information relating to

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