barding or of drawing the fire of the shore hatteries. The strategic purpose of effective blockade of the Cuban capifaction of the authorities. There is no indication that a part of the fleet will be withdrawn for the purpose of effecting additional protection to North Atdantic ports. As to the reports of imminence of a naval battle off the Philipdoubt whether the Spanish fleet will make a stand against the American ships. The reason for this belief is that the Spanish fleet is very inferior in number and quality to the American force under Admiral Dewey. The department therefore is satisfied that the Spanish fleet will not go to battle on the high seas with Admiral Dewey, but will remain in port to secure the protection of the bat-teries of Manila, and the department is not expecting an engagement for about two days.
Without giving any explanation for the

statement the department allows it to be surmised that this estimate is based on its knowledge of Admiral Dewey's whereabouts. There is no certainty that surmised that this estimate is based on its knowledge of Admiral Dewey's whereabouts. There is no certainty that there will be an engagement at all in the immediate future, the main purpose of the American expedition being to seize and hold some suitable Spanish territory in the Philippines as a base of operations in Asiatic waters. It is possible that this can be done without attacking the other fleet at all, by seizing a suitable point on some adjacent island without fortification, the sympathies of whose inhabitants are towards the insurgents. No word had come to the department up to the close of office hours of the arrival of the Montserrat at Cieufuegos. The officials are inclined to believe that if she has gotten in that port she did so before the blockade of Cienfuegos had begun.

ENCOUNTERS OFF CUBA.

The Spanish gunboat Ligera, it is announced here, encountered the Cayopiedra not far from Matanzas, an American torpedo boat destroyer, which opened fire on the Spanish warship. The gunboat, it is said, answered with eleven shots. It it claimed the American destroyer was damaged and retreated. damaged and retreated.

THE MEDITERRANEAN.

London, April 27.—Special dispatches from Gibraltar filed to-day were received here this evening. They announce that the Spanish battleship Pelayo, accompanied by a Spanish torpedo boat, was passing the rock at the time the messages were filed, bound for Cadiz. In the same hour two Spanish torpedo boats were at anchor in the bay of Algiers adjoining Gibraltar and apparently watching the straits.

Gibraltar, April 27, (8:15 p.m.)—All day long a Spanish warship and a tor-

day long a Spanish warship and a tor-pedo boat destroyer have been cruising in the Straits of Gibraltar, evidently on in the Straits of Gibraltar, evidently on the lookout for vessels carrying the American flag. Late this afternoon the torpedo boat destroyer anchored off Ceuta, Morocco, opposite Gibraltar. The warships proceeded westward.

London, April 27.—According to a special dispatch received to-day from Madrid, the Spanish minister of marine, Admiral Bermejo has received a cipher message from the Spanish admiral in

message from the Spanish admiral in command at Manila, Admiral Mortojo, announcing that after taking measures necessary to organize the naval defences of Manila and Gavito, he is about to sail with a squadron to take up a position to await the coming of the United States fleet. The Spanish minister of marine the dispatch continues, forthwith com-municated with Premier Sagasta, who summoned the minister of war, Gen. Correa. The three ministers held a con-Correa. The three ministers held a conference. Shortly afterwards another dispatch arrived from the captain-general in the Philippines, detailing the military measures taken to support the action of the Spanish squadron to defend Manila, Goyata and other places against the American attempts to land to form a combination with the insurgents. The news soon reached the clubs and newspapers and created a sensation. New York, April 27.—A dispatch to the Herold from Hongkong says: O. T. Williams American annul at Manila who

arrived here on the steamer Esmeralda, says he is delighted to escape, and im-mediately joined Commodore Dewey. He says the people of Manila are wild-ly excited, fearing that they will be bely excited, fearing that they will be between two fires, the American squadron and the insurgents. Two days before he left, the Spanish cruiser Castilla arrived. She is a wooden vessel of the old type, three masts, bark rigged, one smokestack. She had aboard a cargo of miscellaneous war ship supplies, in-cluding torpedoes. This is to be used in Manila harbor. Two weeks ago the authorities had no submarine cables, but thorities had no submarine cables, but cobtained eight miles from the telegraph company, and the harbor is now mined. Commander Castilla was immediately requested by the Governor-General to assist in the defence of the harbor. He declared with vehemence that he would sooner sink at his mooring than surrender his ship. He moored his ship at the currence to the harbor. Taking the guns entrance to the harbor. Taking the guns from one side of the ship, he placed them in the emplacements on Corregidor is-land, and on the other side of the harbor. His officers and crew declared that they

His officers and crew declared that they will die at their guns.

Twenty-five thousand native insurgents are encamped outside Manila ready to rush upon the Spaniards as soon as

Washington, April 27.—The war situ-ation is substantially this: The blockad-ericans except one are now out of Man ila, many taking refuge aboard merchant ships. All American ships except the Great Admiral, also got away. Europeans who remain at Manila are fearropeans who remain at Managare tearful of outrages by the insurgents.

London, April 27.—The Hongkong correspondent of the Times says: The American fleet, headed by the flagship Olympia, sailed at 2 o'clock this after-

The British cruiser Immortaite will follow the American squadron.

HEADING FOR BOSTON.

Bayonne, France, April 27.—Mail advices from Madrid dated yesterday say that a Spanish squadron sailed yesterday and it was rumored that it was going to bombard the northern ports of the United States. The port of departure was not given was not given.
U. S. SHIP CAPTURED.

U. S. SHIP CAPTURED.

Madrid, April 27.—To-night Madrid is absolutely unmoved. The capture of the American steamer Saranic by a Spanish gunboat near Manila caused a momentary excitement but the town is expectant of the resut of the action likely fo occur off the Philippines and awaits the outcome with perfect confidence.

HAYTI'S POSITION HAYTI'S POSITION.

Port au Prince, April 27.—The Haytian government is somewhat worried by the obligations of the treaty with the United States fearing that a fulfilment of articles 5, 30 and 32 would invite a Spanish attack. United States Minister W. F. Powell, it is said, has assured the government that America will ister W. F. Powell, it is said, has assured the government that America will exact the obligations of the treaty, and has demanded that no shelter shall be given a privateer under any circumstances. Spain not having equal treaty privileges with the United States, an opposite course, Mr. Powell concludes, must necessarily be regarded by the United States as an unfriendly act. The government is will disposed to America and will probably acquisece. The French minister has intimated to the correspondent of the Associated Press that he expects European intervention in the expects European intervention in the war between the United States and Spain.

MINOR INCIDENTS:

The Portuguese state council meets to-day in order to decree the neutrality of Portugal during the war.

A despatch received at Paris from Rio Janeiro announces that the dynamite cruiser Nictheroy, purchased by the United States, sails northward on Saturday, escorted by a Brazilian warship.

The torpedo boat Cushing is on her way north in order that receivs may be The torpedo boat Cushing is on her way north in order that repairs may be made to her starboard engine which is wrecked as the result of an attempt to show off her fine qualities by naval cadet Boyd, who was temporarily in charge. The repairs, which will take about a month, will probably be done at the Norfolk navy yard.

Advices received in Newfoundland from English and Spanish agents of mercantile firms there indicate that the Spanish fleet from Cape Verde is likely to appear first in that locality, hoping to obtain coal.

Capt. Carranzo, military attache to Senor Polo, who is now at Toronto, being shown a dispatch from Niagara saying that Major Reid, champion swords man of America; wanted to take on his shoulders the challenge which Carranzo

had made to Capt. Sigsbee and Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, replied that Spaniard only fight gentlemen, not professionals, and added that the challenge having been made a week ago would expire to corrow. He said this was a truly Am rican way of treating his challenge.

The navy department has made no an

The navy department has made no arrangements for the care of prisoners taken by American warships but the officers of the department think they will be sent to the Boston naval prison.

Some vexation was felt at the injury sustained to the Cushing. It is said that this is the first serious breakdown she has suffered in the nine years of her services. Luckily the department will be able to replace her very shortly for President Malsters, of the Columbian Iron Works, announces that the torpedo boat Mackee, a 22-knoter, would be ready for a trial to-day. She will be sent at once to Norfolk to have the finishing at once to Norfolk to have the finishing touches added and then will poin the

for the interfor dreading the rigors of a siege and the terrors of a bombardment. The military authorities are actively engaged in preparing for the defence of the island. Thirty-four torpedoes have been planted in the main channel. In addition an old steamship has been sunk across the harbor entrance, the buoys in the channel have been altered and from Mondar lear effort the pays of the distract shout thirty miles went

ormed that Mexico, the Argentine Re-public, Korea and Belgium have pro-laimed neutrality. Korea's neutrality claimed neutrality. Korea's neutrality is considered important owing to her proximity to the Philippines. The state department has not heard from Germany, but this causes no apprehension owing to the strong assurance Germany has given out that she will observe strict neutrality between the two belligerents. This assurance as conveyed to the ambassador is looked upon as practically equivalent to a formal declaration of neutrality. Germany, Austria and Portugal are the last of the European nations to be heard from.

the Abbotsford Gold Mining Co., of Rossland, with the usual privileges of a privilege of a p

Auditor-General.

& N. railway was presented to parliared and that the settlers had strong sounds for believing and expecting that they would ultimately receive the same title to the lands they claimed, which other settlers on lands outside of the reserved tract obtained by provincing the official corwing grant. Mr. Rothwell refers to "studied cod-blooded indifference to the claims of the settlers" on the part of the other settlers on lands outside of the reserved tract obtained by provincing the same title to the lands they claimed the same title to the same title to the lands they claimed the same title to the

party propose to leave Juneau and Skag-way in an endeavor to reach Dawson. The orders for the Yukon military con-tingent will probably be issued to-mor-row. The detachment leave Ottawa on Thursday of next week. The public accounts committee meeting this morning was remarkable for a violent attack by Sir Louis Davies on

the auditor general.

The house resumed discussion of the franchise bill when Mr. Fitzpatrick proposed his amendment removing the provincial disqualification of Dominion officials. The bill passed the committee stage with the exception of one or two unimportant clauses.

unimportant clauses.

Mr. Fielding proposes to amend the Dawson bank bill, fixing the head office at some place in Canada instead of at London.

The neutrality proclamation, a copy the British, was issued to-day. LAKE VESSEL BURNED.

The Servia Lost After Many Hours Fight-C. P. R. Steamer Takes Crew.

Buffalo, April 28 .- A special to the Commercial from Sault Ste Marie, Mich., says: "The steamer Servia was burned on Lake Superior about fifteen miles northwest of Whitefish Point at 3 o'clock this morning. Cept. Abstron and his crew were brought here by the tug Mer-

rick.
"The Servia, with the schooner Frant
D. Ewan in tow, bound from Duluth to
Kingston with cargoes of corn, sighted in the channer have from Monday last, after the news of the flow Monday last, after the news of the blockade of Havana reached here, accompanied by a report that the Cuban capital had been bombarded, all the lights were ordered to be extinguished at night.

The French residents, when these adfree force out in the forward part of the french residents, when these adfree french residents are the french residents.

lights were ordered to be extinguished at night.

The French residents, when these advices left San Juan de Porto Rico, were seeking refuge on board the French cruiser Admiral Regault de Genoully.

Danger is apprehended from the incompetent and youthful volunteers of Porto Rico. They are armed with Mauser rifles and are displaying considerable, war enthusiasm.

Arecigo Bay, on the west coast of the island, has been planted with torpedoes. Spanish steamers landed at Mayagues, seventy miles from San Juan de Porto Rico, on Wednesday, a quantity of arms and ammunition and there was a similar landing of supplies at San Juan de Porto Rico on Tuesday.

Besides this about 5,000 tobs of provisions were landed at San Juan de Porto aprain and crew of the Servia. A

Collision Reported Between Spanish Gunboats and Small Blockading Craft.

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Collision Reported Between Spanish Gunboats are a desperate tooks, place ten miles Cardenas after a desperate tooks place ten miles Cardenas after a desperate tohase, during which the Terror and gunboat Machias fired, almost blowing the Spanish war. The Tree Press last evening published a disperate to the Sample of Press says: "The Nanaimo Pree Press says: "The Prench effective Press last evening published a disperate to the Spanish war. The United States and Spain has been constingency may be among the possible ontification the despatch the French ambassador, M. Cambon, wrote to the state department informing them of France's neutrality of the despatch the French and the Market of the despatch the French Santa All the Art of the Cardenas after a desperate chase, during which the Terror and gunboat part of the Argentia for the Argentia fraction in the water. The Value of the Value of the Cardenas and the Market of the Market of the Cardenas and Spain has been information among our citizens, for we feel certain that while such a serious contingency may be among the possible to california for the despatch of the Market of the Market of the Market of the Value of the Value of

Yesterday's Gazette contains notices of the incorporation of two new companies, the Abbotsford Gold Mining Co., of

Dominion Commissioner Holds Last Party Over the Winter Trails

Vancouver, April 27.-The Pakshan ment to-day. The document and evi- J. Deland, of Kansas City. They left dence covers a return of 640 pages. The Dawson on March 30, and say that report itself is strongly in favor of the they will be the last to come out over the settlers. It says they have suffered a trail this season. The party had two grievance, and that their claims have deg trains and made the trip almost een neither carefully nor fairly consid- light, in the fast time of twenty-one days

beyond most sanguine expectations.

Daniels has claims on Dominion and Hunker, which he says will enrich him.

Dr. Caldwell and R. Caldwell have claims on Sulphur, Hunker and Hender-washington, April 28.—Naval circles-

The attention of the reader is called to an attractive little book lately published by that eminent physician, G. H. BO. BERTZ. M.D., 252 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich. This book is one of interest to every man and its plensant and honest advice will certainly be of the greatest value to any one desirous of securing perfect health and vigor. A request for a free and sealed copy will be complied with, if addressed as above and the Victoria Colonist mentioned.

"That ancient Miss Thyme seems to be bustling about at a great rate."
"Yes. She's getting ready to attend the National Congress of Mothers."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

# EPPS'S COCOA BREAKFAST COCOA

DELICACY OF FLAVOR. SUPERIORITY in QUALITY. GRATEFUL and COMFORTING to the NERYOUS or DYSPEPTIC. NUTRITIVE QUALITIES UNRIVALLED In Quarter-Pound Tins only, Prepared by JAMES EPPS & CO., Ltd., Homosopathic Chemists, Leudon, Lr\_land

# Porto Rico on Sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the content of the sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the sunday last in the content of the sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the sunday last. The ware-houses of Porto Rico are pronounced content of the sunday last. The ware-houses are pronounced content of the sunday last. The ware-houses are designed of cumarkable seamanship in keeping his he call the possible of the his house and the exhibit. ANOTHER PRIZT, Key West, April 28.-(8 a.m.)—The same his cargo of provide and the possible his possible his possible h

Spain Provisioning Porto Rico and Making It a Secure Base of Operations.

the Matanzas batteries was the topic of the fast collier Rockwood. It is claimed absorbing interest throughout naval and that the firm purposely delayed turning official circles generally to-day. It was her over until the war broke out, hoping ver on the subject. Secretary Long in response to his demand on the subsaid at 4 o'clock this afternoon, as he ject, that Hayti will fulfil all the terms closed up his office work for the day, of her treaty with the United States in that no report had been received from regard to privateering, etc. Negotia-Admiral Sampson nor was the navy de-

that he felt no disposition to keep from the public any news concerning such an important event as a naval engagement or battle. While it was essential that future strategic events should be guard-ed with the greatest care, yet Mr. Long made it clear that this did not apply to events after they had extually occurred That Province Should Remove
Railway Belt Grievances.

New Bank's Head Office Must Be in Canada — Minister\* Attacks

A Story That Dominion Officials

Have Unfairly Located for Auditor-General.

Their Friends.

and did not assume the proportions of a regular bombardment.

When his attention was directed to reports that the shelling was the result of direct orders from the President, the secretary said this was not so, as the President was giving no direct orders on any of the movements.

The navy department has completely converted to make the president was a first for converted to the property of the

Hunker, which he says will enrich him.

Dr. Caldwell and R. Caldwell have claims on Sulphur, Hunker and Henderson and remained working them. Lieut. Joslyn, Danlels says, is doing well as, a mining broker, and Will Ewing had just left on a stampede to Henderson. Capt. B. Olson has got a lay on Cowley claim 22, above Bonanza, as also has A. Byers.

W. D. Comer has gone to American territory. F. E. B. Smith and Martin. Harris have rich claims on Sulphur creek and are working them.

Dawson has plenty of provisions. Phillips says the Yukon will be open for a traud.

Dawson has plenty of provisions. Phillips says the Yukon will be open for mavigation about the first week in May. The sun was blistering hot in Dawson.

Major Walsh is still at Lake Bennett. The Chilkoot aerial tranway is in operation. The charges are 5½ cents a pound to the summit, 7½ cents to Linderman, and 12½ cents to Bennett.

OF INTEREST TO MEN.

The attention of the reader is called to a traited the companion of the reader is called to a traited and his position consequently is much his position consequently is mu

which he may stay as long as he pieases and his position consequently is much more perilous than that of the Cuban blockading squadron.

The Admiral is believed to have sailed to-day for the Philippines. Assuming that his squadron is travelling at the speed of ten knots it is calculated at the navy department that he should occupy sixty hours in the passage to Manila. which would bring him off that portearly Saturday morning. It is probable that if the Spanish fleet can be driven into any harbor under the protection of the batteries Admiral Dewey will detach some of his ships to blockade the port to keep them there while using another part of his force to seize and occupy with native assistance some unfortified port as a base.

New York, April 28.—A Hongkong pecial says: "I will take Manila in 38 ninutes." Rear Admiral Dewey said this at Mirs Bay before starting for Manila with the United States fleet at o'clock this afternoon. The primary bject is the capture of the anish leet, which Admiral Dewey thinks more portant than capturing Manila. He is etermined to prevent its preying upon merican vessels.
MINOR INCIDENTS.

Washington, April 28 .- The shelling of to recover part of the purchase money of

shelling of Matanzas. Mr. Long added ericans of the Wilson line steamers Galithat he felt no disposition to keep from the public any news concerning such an Governor Tanner's hopes of leading

dier general, and the President lias some expectation that he will be able to nominate a few of these officers to-morrow.

LOOKING TO PHILIPPINES.

LOOKING TO PHILIPPINES.

Washington April 28—Naval circles

Compania Transatiantica are being rapidly armed as cruisers. The Buenos Ayres is mounting four 16 centim. guns, four 15 centim. guns and two 9 centim. guns. The Antonio Lopez is mounting four 12 inch, and the Joaquin Pielage two nines and two Maxims. The Ciudad de Cadiz, which will accompany the tornedo squadron has 12 centim the torpedo squadron, has 12 centim, guns, two nines and two quick-firing guns. The forts at Roto, six miles northwest of Cadiz, and at San Cataline, are being strengthened and new guns/are being mounted there.

An extra provincial company's license has been granted to the Jenckes Machine Co., of Sherbrooke, Quebec, and they are now authorized to manufacture and carry on a general foundry and machine business in British Columbia. The extra provincial companies registered during the past week are: Northwest Gold Dredging Co., of Tacoma, Wash., and Quesnelle, British Columbia; Big Stump Gold Mining Co., of Spokane, Wash., and Rossland, British Columbia; and the British Columbia Copper Co., of New York and Anaconda.

DYSPEPSIA INDIGESTION.
HEARTBURN.
HEARTBURN.
And all stomach Troil And all stomach Trouhamerican vessels.

MINOR INCIDENTS.

The United States embassy in London
s suing the Messrs. Polly, shipowners,

dress Frankin Hartibett Z. New York. THE TABLE

Public Meeting

Songhees Reserv

Hon. Mr. Beaven

A representative provincial government the removal of the calling upon the g provincial rights. removal of the Indi

dealt unfairly with the John Thompson also hact dealing with the Northwest, as it was f the rights of the appointed at the failure tions for the settlement reserve question. The o see out of the difficulty

ans. If so it was by th toria and he was sure not wish to deal with t also contended that the In much for the city, the In their supplies from the ants. A settlement, he obtained without going and getting that they leave. They are perfect long as they know that fairly treated. Knowing sion of three men could have the could be seen that they want to be seen they want to be seen that they want they honorable and equitable

honorable and equitable the question. The Indian ed in the same condition serve as they are at I Songhees reserve. Very called on him to complain not get the few articles the but these were always su quest. It seemed hard, the members of a tribe tall,000 stood, should be for what they were entited Mr. Helmcken said he expected to discuss the ticipating the stand that would take. All he desire Indians should be fairly would have liked to have would have liked to have tion settled when Mr. here. The Dominion gove by their actions that they to settle the question and Macdonald and Templema terest in it there should erest in it there should in reaching a solution. all in his power to brin tiement. (Applause.) Mr. Belyea asked Mr. I out prejudicing the loca could say why the provinc had refused the offer of to remove the Idians with out perjudicing the local right to the land.

Mr. Helmcken could no given notice of a motion matter up in the house when ment would no doubt ex

Mr. Belyea wanted to Mr. Helmcken considered cne. It provided for the Indians within twelve mo tion of the ownership of settled afterwards. Mr. Helmcken consider

satisfactory one, if the quesettled on that basis. Hon. Robert Beaven the agreed that it was desired that it was desired terest of the Indians and Victoria that the Indians victoria that the Indians more suitable home, but yemoved it should be on tory to the Indians. The menced with the license Hudson Bay Company to sively with the Indians Island. Later all the la land was given to the comunderstanding that they whites on the land. Still land was taken from the covernor was appointed. ernor was appointed.