

ST. JOHN WEEKLY SUN.

VOL. 21.—NO. 13.

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 1898.

SECOND PART.

\$13.00.

We are making to order Nobby Spring Suits, from Scotch, English or Canadian Tweed, for \$13.00 this month. We have some fine suits made up that you can have for \$8 50, great value. Send breast measure if you want one.

FRASER, FRASER & CO., CHEAPSIDE.

40 and 42 King Street, St. John, N. B.

Queer Economy

It is to be continually rebuilding fences when you can buy the "Star" 13 bar woven wire fencing, 4 feet high, for 60 cts. a rod. When once put up it will last a lifetime

Wire Fence Manufacturing Co.

A. J. Maehum, Manager.

Water Street, St. John, N. B.

YORK CO.

Illegal Slaughtering of Deer The New C. P. R. Houses at Mc. Jam Junction.

McADAM JUNCTION, York Co., March 22.—The Waukegan Recreation and Sporting club held their annual meeting last evening. The finances of the association show prosperity and careful management. The officers elected are: President, M. C. Woodcock; vice-pres., R. H. Robinson; sec., Geo. F. Fitch. The highway road has been completed to the lake, and it is understood that a number of cottages will be erected on the new road during the summer.

The bass ball club is again to the front. It met last evening and appointed E. F. Perkins chairman. The election of officers resulted as follows: B. Donahoe, captain; J. B. Johnston, sec.; S. Tracy, treas. It was resolved to hold a concert and dance in April to provide funds for the necessary expenses. The committee to carry out the resolution are J. B. Johnston, W. Jenkinson, S. Tracy, B. Donahoe and G. Green.

The many friends of Arthur Gardner will be pleased to learn that he is recovering.

Mr. Shields was the first to become an occupant of the new C. P. R. houses. His family came last week, and at once moved in. All the new houses are taken, mostly by men who have been boarding here while their families live elsewhere.

HARVEY STATION, York Co., March 22.—Rumors of the illegal slaughtering of deer in this vicinity during the present season have been about for some time. Yesterday morning Deputy Game Warden Edward James, acting on information supplied him, applied to Parish Court Commissioner Murray for warrants to search the premises of Thomas Burrill and William Burrill. No evidence was found in the barn of William Burrill there was found a young deer strong of limb and wind but quite tame. Burrill claimed that the animal had been found by him some time before in the woods in an exhausted state and had been taken by him and cared for. Upon his agreeing to see it from the warden decided not to prosecute. The deer was set at liberty this morning. It is said that in the woods around here deer heads are almost as plentiful as heads of deer.

In regard to the stories of the brutal treatment of a horse last week on the road between here and Fredericton by two young men from Marysville, it appears that conclusions were drawn as certain which at the most were only probable. It is true that about twenty-five miles from Fredericton on the journey to St. Stephen the horse became useless and that they killed it; but whether, as they claim, they destroyed it humanely, or whether it died from abuse, is a matter of doubt. Mr. Westmore, St. John, agent of the S. P. C. A., on Monday visited the scene of the occurrence, but it is believed he will not prosecute.

QUEENS CO.

WHITE'S COVE, Queens Co., March 21.—Charles D. Pitus has sold his farm and mill property at Mill Cove to Philip White of the Narrows for \$1,800. Leslie E. Wright is prosecuted with lung trouble.—Mrs. J. E. Austin is suffering from a severe cold.—C. W. White, who has been in ill health, is convalescing.

Wm. B. Ferris, while working in the woods one day last week, was struck a severe blow on the head by a dead limb which had lodged in a tree. Mr. Ferris was rendered unconscious for several minutes. The wound, which is about three inches long, was dressed by Dr. M. C. McDonald.

Christie Kennedy, while hewing frame stuff on Saturday, cut a bad gash in one of his feet with a broad-axe.

Theodore White and Ernest Duroc cut eight eight double horse loads of wood in three hours. White and Duroc are the champion choppers of this place.

A large moose was seen crossing the lake on Sunday by John Duroc.—J. D. Reid is hauling hay to Chipman.—Bernard Skilly has gone to Chipman to do carpenter work.—Charles W. Ferris, who is suffering from lung trouble, is being attended by Dr. McDonald.

James Leonard of Coda's station is

visiting his sister, Mrs. Francis McDermott.—Mrs. Wilson of St. John is visiting her brother, Peter Knight.

KINGS CO.

SPRINGFIELD, March 22.—On Wednesday night about twenty of the young people of this neighborhood drove to Messrs. Branscombe & Miller's camp, near Jack's Lake, where a very enjoyable evening was spent. All returned home with a good supply of spruce gum.

C. Lake is quite ill. Dr. A. Lewin is in attendance.

SIR LOUIS AND THE PLEBISCITE.

(Charlottetown Guardian.)

Rev. Mr. Kirby received yesterday and read before Charlottetown lodge, I. O. G. T., last evening, a letter from Sir L. H. Davies, replying to sundry requests concerning prohibition and the plebiscite. The letter is quite a lengthy one, its purport being that it is not the intention of the government to submit only a single question to which a yes or no answer could be returned, but to connect with it another question dealing with the revenue aspect of the case. The reasons for this course are given at some length.

It is further pointed out by Sir Louis that the plebiscite vote will not be taken upon the present voting lists, but on the new lists to be made under the franchise bill now before parliament after it becomes law. Sir Louis also states that as far as practicable the intention of the government is to apply the principle of prohibition to the Yukon district.

Our Ottawa despatch in relating the guarded answer of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to the Methodist clerical delegation yesterday implies very much the same as is more fully expressed in the letter from Sir Louis Davies. We

PUSS AND THE PELICAN.

A Bird's Odd Way of Introducing Itself to a Kitten.

(Our Animal Friends.)

Behold a big, old-fashioned house in a large city, there lives a large pelican. The bird was allowed the liberty of the yard, around which he would walk sedately. He could not fly far, and he had lived there so long that he seemed content to stay.

One day, when the pelican was taking his morning exercise, a little kitten from a neighbor's yard came strolling along the fence. When she first saw the big bird her eyes opened in wonder, her tail grew big, and her pelican did not hurt her, she became friendly to him, and jumped down into the yard to investigate.

Now, whether the pelican happened to be in a lively mood, and wanted a game of play with somebody, or whether he remembered the way his father used to catch fish by throwing them up in the air and catching them again, while he was a little nestling and lived in a tree beside the river, I don't know. But the pelican picked up the little kitten, and giving it a toss in the air, opened his huge mouth as if to catch it as it came down.

Pussy seemed to think it was a good fun. With a quick motion, she turned over, and came to the ground on her feet. Then she scampered around Mr. Pelican's legs, nearly upsetting him. He turned, made another grab at the little cat, and gave her another toss. Down came kitty again, landing safely on the grass, not at all frightened at this new rough companion. She seemed to enter into the sport of the thing, and stood still to be tossed, as if she rather liked it.

The pelican got tired first. His master came out of the house with a good dinner of fish for him. He picked up the fish, gave it a toss, and caught and swallowed it. Pussy, who was looking on with open eyes, came in for a share of the pelican's dinner, and they have been the best of friends ever since.

PROPERTY SALE.

At Chubb's corner, Saturday, T. T. Lantim sold a leasehold lot, with wooden dwelling thereon, on Adelaide road, north end, and owned by the estate of Margaret Wark, around rent \$50. E. Marys Spragg became the purchaser at \$80.

W. A. Lockhart offered the Jardine property on the old Westmorland road and withdrew it at \$7,300. The auctioneer stated the property could be bought by private sale.

SPAIN'S REPORT.

It is Directly the Opposite of the One Made by United States.

Summaries of the Conclusions Reached by Court of Enquiry of Each Nation.

The United States Warships Are Now Being Painted a Lead Color.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The Associated Press presents herewith a complete abstract of the court of inquiry which investigated the wrecking of the battleship Maine. This abstract is made from the report itself, despite official secrecy apparatus in the handling of official papers. The report is made up of eight parts, as follows:

First—The court finds that at the time of the explosion the battleship Maine was lying in five and one-half to six fathoms of water.

Second—The discipline aboard the ship was excellent, everything stowed according to orders, ammunition, guns, stores, etc. The temperature of the magazines at 8 p. m. was normal, except in the after ten-inch magazine, and that did not explode.

Third—The explosion occurred at 8:40 o'clock on the evening of February 15. There were two explosions, with a very short interval between them; the ship lifted on the first explosion.

Fourth—The court can form no definite opinion of the condition of the wreck from the divers' evidence.

Fifth—Technical details of wreckage from which the court deduces that a mine was exploded under the ship on the port side.

Sixth—The explosion was due to "no fault of those on board."

Seventh—Opinion of the court states "that the explosion of the mine caused the explosion of two magazines."

Eighth—The court declares that "it cannot find evidence to fix responsibility."

The report is unanimous, and is signed by all the members of the court. It does not refer to the existence or non-existence of a mine in the harbor of Havana except in the appendix finding that a mine was exploded under the ship, and the opinion that the explosion of the two magazines was caused by the explosion of a mine.

The report as a whole is a formal, dispassionate recital of facts, and bears the stamp of that strict officialism which marks naval procedure. It is brief, not exceeding one thousand words, and among the eight parts is the greatest length under the second heading, which deals with the discipline and order of the ship. This the court specifies with extreme minuteness, the least detail of the satisfactory condition of everything on board being given. The normal temperature of the large forward magazine at 8 o'clock, only an hour and forty minutes before the explosion, disposes of the question of accidental combustion within these magazines. While the court holds that these magazines were not exploded, the opinion that they nevertheless are of the opinion that the explosion of the mine under the port side of the ship caused the explosion of the two magazines. This will explain the remarkable destruction of the ship.

The feature of the report of the court holds that the force of the explosion shown to have combined the force of a mine without and two magazines within. The two explosions, which the court finds to have occurred, with a very short interval between them, is an additional detail showing that two forces operated in causing the destruction. The finding that the force lifted on the first explosion indicated an external source and one of tremendous power to be able to lift a battleship of thousands of tons. The character of the wreckage, technically described in the part of the report from which the court deduces that a mine was exploded under the ship on the port side, sustains the view taken by some experts shortly after the disaster that the force of the explosion was exerted from port to starboard.

The feature of the report of the court referred to the navy is the complete exoneration of Captain Sigbee and all on board contained in the second finding, setting forth the perfect order and discipline prevailing on the ship and that directly stated in the sixth finding, which declares that the disaster to be due to no fault of those on board. The inability of the court to find evidence to fix responsibility, as stated in the eighth part, makes the report so guarded in expression of blame that neither Spain nor the Spanish are mentioned throughout.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—The immense mass of testimony taken by the Maine court of inquiry was sent to the senate today, and with the president's message and the findings of the court referred to the committee on foreign relations. The testimony was taken on eighteen different days, the fourteenth day, however, being devoted to viewing the wreck. Every witness who was known to have any information that could throw light upon the great disaster was called to give his testimony. The story of the

destruction of the vessel is told, not graphically, but in a manner that gives all the obtainable facts. No technical detail is omitted. Every moment and incident connected with the Maine from the time she left Key West until the last diver examined the wreck slowly sinking in the mud of Havana harbor is given.

It is a story intensely interesting. Those who read it can have little doubt as to whether there was an internal or external explosion. Perhaps the most significant testimony is that showing the bottom plates on the port side of the ill-fated Maine were bent inward and upward, a result that hardly could have followed anything save an explosion from the outside. A mass of testimony is submitted showing the care exercised on board the ship by Captain Sigbee and his officers and the apparent impossibility of the accident occurring from any internal cause, such as the heating of the boilers, spontaneous combustion or from other causes upon which so many theories were based.

developments in the negotiations now proceeding with Spain. These had assumed a wide field, embracing not only the Maine question but also the entire Cuban problem. The answer of Spain was in hand to the firm note sent through Minister Woodford last week stating that the conditions of Cuban affairs had become so intolerable that the United States could not much longer remain inactive toward it.

The general tone of the Spanish answer impressed the president and cabinet officers most favorably, so much so that after the meeting it was stated by members that the outlook was far more assuring, and that Spain had shown such a conciliatory attitude that it was believed she would make concessions sufficient to permit an amicable settlement of the present strained relations. This was qualified, however, by the statement that the danger point has not yet passed, and that war, while no longer a probability, was yet a possibility. The president had distinctly intimated to his cabinet associates his purpose to avert war if it was possible with a just solution of the Cuban problem, and he had felt from the disposition manifested by Spain that this just solution could not be reached. This, however, is without considering congress, which may, now that the subject is formally before it, take some radical action.

Meantime, at the state department, cablegrams were being received from Minister Woodford and the Spanish minister, Senor Polo Y. Bernabe, was in a lengthy conference with Judge Day as to the prospective adjustment. The meeting between the Spanish minister and Judge Day came after the cabinet conference, so that such representation as Spain submitted through him did not get before the cabinet. At least two of these new phases submitted by the minister were of exceeding importance. The Spanish government made it known that no explanation would be made to humanitarian objects of the United States in extending relief to the sufferers in Cuba on a far greater scale than hitherto had been contemplated. On the contrary Spain has made known that she recognizes the humane and animating this country, and she does not doubt that these purposes will be executed in such a way as to avoid all opportunities for friction. It is not expected that the relief will be carried in warships, as this would introduce a political aspect into a project which is purely humane. This acquiescence by Spain in the way for the president's message of the next few days authorizing a large appropriation for the relief of the destitute in Cuba. It had been feared that this relief, given directly by the United States government, would be resented by Spain as indirect intervention. In that event there is little reason to doubt the relief would have been forwarded at any cost, even the cost of war, as the present administration has felt that a warlike administration of the object would command the universal approbation of the world.

Another important Spanish document which reached the government during the day was the abstract of the report of the Spanish naval commission which investigated the destruction of the Maine. It is the only answer Spain has thus far made to the action of this government in submitting to Spain through Minister Woodford the findings of the American court. The conclusions reached by the Spanish commission are directly the opposite of those of the American court. No demands have been made in connection with the Maine, and therefore there is no response beyond the submission of the report.

Following the call of the Spanish minister at the state department, the French ambassador, M. Cambon, had a conference with Judge Day. This renewed the talk of European mediation, which is assuming tangible form. The speech of Premier Hanotaux in the Paris chamber last Saturday is looked upon as forecasting at least sympathy, if not direct steps toward mediation by France and other continental powers. There is good reason to believe that Spain is ready and anxious for this move and has been encouraging it at the European capitals. It would not be an offensive intrusion, but more of a friendly offer to settle the differences.

KEY WEST, Fla., March 28.—By nightfall all the ships in the harbor except the Cincinnati had been painted a lead color from waterline to smokestack top. The Cincinnati will be finished tomorrow.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—A full synopsis of the report of the Spanish naval commission which investigated the destruction of the battleship Maine is here given by the Associated Press. It is taken from a copy of the original report, which is now on its way here from Havana, the synopsis being cabled in the meantime, and placed in the hands of this government. The conclusions reached are directly opposed to those in the report of the American court of inquiry.

The Spanish report is as follows: The report contains declarations made by otular witnesses and experts. From these statements it clearly appears and proves the absence of all those attendant circumstances which are invariably present on the occasion of the explosion of a torpedo.

The evidence of witnesses comparatively close to the Maine at the moment is to the effect that only one explosion occurred, and that no column of water was thrown into the nearest vessel was felt, nor on land was any vibration noticed, and no dead fish were found.

The evidence of the senior pilot of the harbor states that there is abundance of fish in the harbor, and this is corroborated by other witnesses. The assistant engineer of works stated that after explosions made during the execution of works in the harbor he has always found dead fish. The divers were unable to examine the bottom of the Maine, which was

buried in the mud, but a careful examination of the sides of the vessel, the rents and breaks in which all point outward, shows without doubt that the explosion was from the inside.

A minute examination of the bottom of the harbor around the vessel shows absolutely no sign of the action of a torpedo, and the judge advocate of the commission can find no precedent for the explosion of the storage magazine of a vessel by a torpedo.

The report makes clear that owing to the special nature of the proceeding following and the absolute respect shown by the commission has been prevented from making such an examination of the side of the vessel as would determine even the hypothesis of the internal origin of the accident. This is to be attributed to the regrettable refusal to permit the necessary co-operation of the Spanish commission both with the commission crew of the Maine and the different American officers, commissioned to investigate the cause of the accident, and later on with those employed in salvage work.

The report finishes by stating that an examination of the inside and outside of the Maine as soon as such an examination may be possible, as also of the bottom where the vessel rests, will prove that, supposing the remains of the wreck are not totally or partially altered in the process of extraction, the explosion was undoubtedly due to some internal cause.

HAVANA, March 28.—La Lucha in an editorial says: "The United States note to Spain demanding that a date be fixed to end the hostilities is simply a declaration of war." President McKinley has been worried by Jingo opinion and the sensational newspaper press to close the debate on the question and to shield Captain Sigbee, who is one of the most popular officers in the United States navy.

"It was needless to send the Maine to Havana, as American interests were amply protected by General Lee," and continuing, "La Lucha says: 'It is well for Spain to know at least the real purpose of the money loving Americans. Spain now knows what to expect and how to act.'"

La Lucha then warns the United States that if she continues to do her own way in Cuba she can do so with cannon. In conclusion, La Lucha says: "The United States is rich and Spain is poor, but the end of the war may find Spain with a good portion of American money."

WASHINGTON, March 28.—The following is a summary of the report of the court of enquiry into the destruction of the battleship Maine, read in both branches of congress today. After full and mature consideration of the testimony before it, the court was as follows:

1. That the United States battleship Maine arrived in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, on the 25th day of January, 1898, and was taken to buoy No. 4, in from five and a half to six fathoms of water by the regular government pilot. The United States consul general at that place notified the authorities of the arrival of the Maine.