-----UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

At one moment it seems as if war was United States; at another the clouds seem to have cleared somewhat and a peaceful solution of the problem seems dent McKinley was dignified in every is invoked. way and was worthy the production of a genuine statesman. It was in striking contrast with some of the uncouth correspondence which has recently crossed the Atlantic and which made the work of American diplomatists the laughing stock of their more polishes and more experienced European brethren, The scream of the Eagle has had more effect on European diplomacy than have the speeches of the jingoes, and the Spaniards are not even mentionwho clamor for war. It is in just ed, and the closing clause of the report this particular of keeping a steady hand on the helm, notwithstanding the political pressure brought to bear on him, Following is the report of the Court of which stamps President McKinley as a Enquiry, read in both branches of Congreater man than he has hitherto been gress on Monday: regarded. The question of the disaster to the Maine is really of only secondary importance. The pivotal point is the Cuban agitation and the desire to either see an independent state made of the Queen of the Antilles or have her annexed to the great republic.

the report of the Court of Enquiry, the President was exceedingly moderate and conciliatory. In December last, when he sent another message to Congress and referred to the Cuban question. he was much more surefooted and emphatic. It could have been taken in the light of an intimation to Spain, if not of an ultimatum. He said :-

"The near future will demonstrate whether the indispensable condition of a righteous peace, just alike to the Cubars and to Spain, as well as equitable to all our interests so intimately involved in the welfare of Cuba, is like ly to be attained. If not, the exigency of further and other action by the United States will remain to be taken. When that time comes, that action will be uetermined in the line of indisputable right and duty. It will be faced without misgiving or hesitancy." In referring to the action likely to be taken, be discards the idea of annexation by force. I speak not of fercible annexation, for that cannot be thought of. That by our code of morality would be criminal aggression."

It is strong language to use—"It will be faced without misgiving or hesitancy." It seems evident from those words that the President at the time had full confidence that the whole trouble could be settled diplomatically and that the presumably good offices of the United States would be willingly accepted by Spain. The haughty Castilian pride. however, saw things in a different light; and even with the added complication of the Maine incident, there at present | in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, she at seems no immediate reason to believe that Spain will deviate from the course upon her arrival. There were two exmarked out for her. It is this stubborn-plosions, of a distinctly different charess on Spain's part which makes Presikent McKinley thoroughly realize how terval between them, and the forward close his nation is to the horrors of war. part of the ship was listed to a marked degree at the time of the first explosion He was a brave soldier himself, and being a soldier he is loth to plunge his people into a whirlpool of blood and ruin.

No one doubts that in the long run the United States would thoroughly de court, caused by the partial explosion feat Spain. There might be what is of two or more forward magazines of the the United States would thoroughly decalled "glory" and a large war indemnity attached, but would that balance the orphaned homes, the battered cities, not to speak of the tremendous financial and commercial losses ?"

President McKinley does not want | that the after part of the ship was prac war, and he is holding out for peace. This can easily be seen by contrasting the extract from his December in ssage in regard to the forward part of the ship with the one read on Monday last. In are, however, established by the testi this message, the negotiations between mony: That portion of the port side the United States and Spain for a re- of the protective deck which extends sumption of the friendly visits of warships are first dealt with. Then follows port. The main deck about frame in detail an account of the vait of the thirty to frame forty-one was blown up aft and slightly over to starboard, folding the forward part of the middle. by the Spanish officials, and her subser superstructure over and on top of the quent destruction on the night of after part. This was, in the opinion of February 15. The President then refers | the court, caused by the partial explosion to at length and favorably comments of two or more of the forward magazines upon the assistance rendered by the neighboring vessels in the harbor, espeof the ship from a point eleven and a
cially by the boats of the Spanish half feet from the middle line of the cially by the boats of the Spanish ship and six feet above the keel when in the cruisers, to the wounded, and the its normal position, has been forced up tributes of grief and sympathy offered so as to be now about four feet above the from all officials quartered on the surface of the water, therefore about island. The effect of the disaster upon thirty four feet above where it would the people of the United States is touched upon and the President extols the self-control of the nation and the determination expressed on all sides to await material proof before forming a judgment as to the cause, the responsibility, the facts warranted and the remedy due. 'This course, the President says, 'necessarily recommended itself from the outset to the executive, for only in the light of a dispassionately ascertained certainty could it determine the nature and measure of its full duty in the matter.' The appointment of the Naval Court, its man ner of procedure and its findings are somewhat on the port side of the ship. then referred to at considerable length, no comments being made.

The message concludes as follows:-'I have directed that the findings of the Court of Enquiry and the views of this

Government thereon be communicated to the Government of Her Majesty, the Queen Regent, and I do not permit myself to doubt that the sense of justice of the Spanish nation will dictate a course unavoidable between Spain and the of action suggested by honor and friendly relations of the two governments. It will be the duty of the executive to advise the Congress of the result, and in possible. The recent message of Presi the meantime deliberate consideration

Nothing could be calmer, more dignified or peace-making than the above, It only remains now to see whether Congress will force the President's hands.

The report of the Court of Enquiry was another specimen example of calm, deliberation, in which every precaution was taken not to give offence to Spain. In fact during the whole report Spain would make it very difficult for even the most blase jingo to find a casus belli-

After full and mature consideration of the testimony before it, the Court finds as follows:

(1.) That the United States battle ship Maine arrived in the harbor of Havans, Cuba, on Jan. 25, 1898, and was taken to buoy No. 4, in from five and a half to aix fathoms of water, by the regular government pilot. The United States Concul at Havana had notified the In his message to Congress, regarding suthorities at that place the previous evening of the intended arrival of the Maine.

(2) The state of discipline on board the Maine was excellent; and all orders and regulations in regard to the care and safety of the ship were strictly carried out. All ammunition was stowed in accordance with the prescribed instructions, and proper care was taken whenever ammunition was handled. Nothing was stowed in any one of the magazines or shell rooms which was not permitted to be stowed there. The magazines and shell rooms were always locked after having been opened, and after the destruction of the Maine the keys were found in their proper place in the captain's cabin; everything had been reported secure at eight p.m. The temperature of the magazines and shell rooms was taken daily and reported. The only magazine which had an undue amount of heat was the after ten-inch magazine, and that did not explode at the time the Maine was destroyed. The two after boilers of the ship were in use at the time of the disaster to the ship, but for auxiliary purposes only, with a comparatively low pressure of steam, and being tended by a reliable watch. The boilers could not cause the explosion of the ship. The four forward boilers have since been found by the divers, and are in a fair condition. On the night of the destruction of the Maine everything had been reported secure for the night at eight p.m., by reliable persons, through the proper authorities, to the commanding officer. At the time the Maine was destroyed the ship was quiet, and therefore least liable to accident baused by movements

from those on board. (3) The destruction of the Maine cocurred at 9.40 p.m. on February 15, 1898, acter, with a very short but distinct indegree at the time of the first explosion. The first explosion was in the nature of a report like that of a gun; while the second explosion was more open, pro-longed and of great volume. This second explosion was, in the opinion of the Maine.

CONDITION OF THE WRECK.

(4). The condition bearing upon this, being principally obtained from divers, di not enable the court to form a defitically intact and sank in that condition a very few minutes after the destruction of the forward part. The following facts from about frame thirty to about frame forty one was blown up aft and over to

(5) At frame seventeen the outer shell be had the ship sunk uninjured. The outside bottom plating is bent into a reversed V shape, the alter wing of which, about filteen feet broad and thirtyfeet in length (from frameseventeen to frame twenty-five) is doubled back upon itself against the continuation of the same plating extending forward. At frame eighteen the vertical keel is broken into two, and the flat keel bent into an angle similar to the angle formed by the outside bottom plating. This break is now about six feet below the surface of the water, and about thirty feet above its normal position. In the opinion of the court this effect could have been produced only by the explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame eighteen and

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(6) The court finds that the loss of the

To clear out my odd sizes in Men's and Ladies' Slippers, I have reduced them to \$1,25, worth from \$1.75 to \$2.50 Just received, a large assortment of Ladies, and Men's Spring Styles. Our \$3.00 Tan, Black or Chocolate, Laced or Congress, is well worth \$400.

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Maine on the occasion named was not in any respect due to the fault or negligence on the part of any of the officers and members of the crew of said vessel. (7) In the opinion of the court the Maine was destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, which caused the partial explosion of two or more of her

regular magazines. (8) The court has been unable to ob-(8) The court has been unable to obtain evidence fixing the responsibility for the destruction of the Maine upon any person or persons.

Judge Advocate.

W. T. SAMPSON. Captain U.S.N., President. A. Marix, Lieut. Commander U. S. N.,

Then the final stage came, when con gressmen and senators, ramping in exuberant outbursts and declarations of war, forced the President to show his hand. The ultimatum, which plainly states that the independence of Cuba was necessary to the preservation of peace, was equivalent to a declaration SERGES. of war, or an ignominious backdown of: | NEW BLACK ALL-WOOL FAST DYE one side or the other. A week ago it nite conclusion as to the condition of would have been impossible to imagine the wreck, although it was established that Spain would enter ain for a moment such a proposition. At the present writing the Spanish Cabinet are busy helding meetings, and Gen. Woodford has been informed that the propositions made by President McKinley are under consideration. The very fact of considering such a demand as com plete independence indicates that Spain sees the danger of her situation. Sae appreciates the absolute certainty of ultimate defeat after a more or less prolonged struggle, in the beginning of which she would undoubtedly be able to harrass some of the American sea ports and considerably hamper com merce. But in the end she would be defeated, would lose Cuba and would likely have a big war indemnity to pay, not to speak of what might happen in the far East. Under these circumstances per hars it is better that the Spanish Govern ment should step down from its pedestal and accept as large a purchase price as



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THE COME SHOW IN THE STORE SHOULD

de. de.

[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE] THE LONDON BUDGET

hathand of a street gamin. At St

James Palace, at the guard ount, the band played Irish airs, and a brilliant crowd attended the Iriah industrial sale at Lansdowne House The list of patronesses included almost all the royal f mily. Ladies Lansdowne, Waterford, Dofferin, Blandford and Fingall were among the indefatigable saleswemen. Many of the stall holders wore green.

Negotiations in the Far East.

What the ontcome of the negotiations in the Far East will be mebody dare prophesy just yet. The Government, in its utterances by responsible ministers. has boldly declared that British rights will be defended even in the case of war.

prove that the whip hand in the another disturbing question; but again, be offered to Japan as will make her take side with Russia, and thus leave England completely isolated. That there will be a show of strength made by a mobilization of naval vessels seems at the present writing a foregone conclusion, but what form the demonstration trol. will take cannot now he even guessed at. Whether the partition of China will be

diplomatic dealings is held by Russia, in this the Muscovite seems to have the and that gradually such advantages will better of the argument. Should China hand over Port Arthur to the Russians, the Gibraltar of the East will be gone, not withstanding that the harbor is supposed to be open to the warships of all

The longest fence in the world is a locked on quietly, or whether Great wire netting in Australia, 1,236 miles Britain will take a hand in it herself, is long, to keep out rabbits from the fi lds.

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at the price quoted, \$1.00 a yard. THE S. CARSLEY CO., Limited.

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It's impossible to give a word picture of the many beautiful things it's intend ed to offer on Monday. Look at these two.
At 11c a yard. New Washing Prints,
30 inches wide. White, Navy, Brown,
Gold, Grey, Black, Pink, Garnet and Green grounds, brocaded figures, hair

lines, checks, etc., 11c a yard.

At 121c a yard. 'New Bicy cle Cloth,' for Cycling Costumes. Strictly wash fabric. 30 inches wide, in Oxford Grey, Drab, Beige, etc. For a light and durable costume there's none better and the price is 12½c a yard.

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On Monday there will be a magnificent showing of New Spring Millinery. A glimpse of coming styles, a gathering of the latest concuts direct from Paris. (Augmented by hundreds from our own workrooms.) Executed by the skilled fingers of the French artiste.

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