AMERICAN UNION.

VOL. 41. DENTON, MD., THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1898. NO. 26.

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Grandma's Party.

My grandmother gave me a party,
"Twas in the old-fashioned blue room;
Each guest wore a long gingham apron,
And carried a dustpan and broom.

She taught us to march just like soldiers:
We had to stand up very straight,
And "present arms" the moment she said so
(Our bullets were cakes, which we ate).

We cooked our own supper together;
It was candy with nut-meats stirred in,
And cookies cut out with a thimble,
All pricked round the top with a pin.

Then sweet Katie Grey cracked the chestnuts
(There were lots of the meats piled up high);
We each had an apple turnover
(I like them much better than pie).

Oh, the games we all played I can't mention!
There were more than a dozen, I guess;
And none of us had any mishap,
Except Nellie Brown tore her dress.

My grandma can tell such nice stories
(They're nicer than any you read),
How one day she was lost in the coal pit,
And they found her by seeing her head.

She was naughty once, when she was little,
She cut off her hair just for spite;
And then there was comp'ny at dinner;
Oh, didn't she look like a fright!

She used to lie down by the fireplace,
And once her dress got all on fire;
Then once, when she crossed the swamp pasture,
She sank to her knees in the mire.

Yes, we had a nice time at the party—
At least I know I had, for one,
The others said nothing about it;
I s'pose they went home when 'twas done.

Yes, I s'pose—well, you see, I was sleepy,
I sat in the great corner chair,
I shut my eyes 'cause they were tired,
When I woke there was nobody there.

Jack thought he would tease me next morning,
But grandma just said, "Never mind."
She's a darling to give that party,
And she's always so pleasant and kind.
—Elmira Telegram.

Living Progeny of Fish.

A doubt that has troubled scientists for years—whether there exists a viviparous kind of fish, one that gives birth to its young in a living state—wts definitely settled in the affirmative the other day, when the city hall fountain of the capital of Arizona territory was cleaned out. In turning the water out of the big cement basin, where a gold fish variety of the carp family has long disported itself for the edification of the Phoenix nurse girl and the Maricopa County hobo, it was found that many of the fish had given birth to progeny fully formed and ready to dart in search of food at the moment of coming into their watery world. Others had given birth to tiny creatures that were globular in shape, except for the protruding eyes and a nascent tail fin that could scarcely be seen without a strong glass. From all the evidences, it was clear that the clean-up had been made during the breeding season, yet there was no sign of fish roe or eggs. Many specimens of the strange young fish were colected, and will be shipped to different experts, one lot going to the Smithsonian Institution.—Chicago Times-Herald.

No one can wonder that Pierre Lorillard, of New York, has determined that England is "the only place in the world fit for a gentleman to live in." It is somewhat trying to a gentleman who bases his claim to gentility on the sale of chewing tobacco, and whose arms are inscribed with a jaw rampant on a cud dominant, to find his precedence disputed by rivals whose blood has become blue through battle with railway stocks and the curing of pelts and hides. In England, where the habit of eating tobacco has not been sufficiently established to make it an object of polite wrath, Mr. Lorillard will be received with warmth, and he will take the short cut or fine cut to aristocratic society. And when his carriage rolls through Hyde Park or is found in the funeral processions of the nobility, no doubt it will be inscribed with the motto which the Irish wag suggested for Lundy Foote, the other ambitious to bacconist: "Quid rides."

Queen Victoria is to have a new seagoing yacht costing a million dollars. And yet the Queen never gets half seas over.

The advocates of woman suffrage are likely to find some of their strongest opponents among the women themselves, rather than among the voters of the other sex. In New York and Massachusetts there already exist strong organizations of women who are vigorously opposing the extension of suffrage to their sex and in Illinois there has recently been organized a society having the same object in view. The Illinois association has issued a pamphlet in which it sets out the reasons for taking grounds adverse to woman suffrage. The pamphlet says: "We wish to emphasize what we believe to be the truth, namely, that if men are supreme in the material and political world there is no other power which has the means of moral control so nearly at hand as woman. It is the compensation which she owes the State for the protection which she enjoys in the home, and for immunity from public labor and service, that she should rear her children with right habits and instill into their minds true principles and noble ideals of life, and she cannot do this while she is managing political machines and besieging legislatures." This is probably putting their case on the highest possible grounds, for the day has long since passed when the privilege of suffrage is made to depend upon intelligence or superior mental endowments. The point this organization insists upon is that of duty, and although it may not be at all necessary for a woman who votes to run political machines or besiege legislatures they believe there is a conflict between a woman's duty as wife and mother and her duty as a citizen at the polls with a ballot in her hand. How strong such a sentiment will be to counteract the movement in favor of suffrage, which has already acquired a good deal of momentum in some of the States, it is difficult to say, but that many women feel it to be of moment is evidenced by the formation of these anti-suffrage organizations.

Connecticut Oaks.

About oak trees an important chapter in Connecticut history might be written. The famous Charter Oak tree in Hartford was an old tree when the colonists first came into those parts, and the Glastonbury oaks, of about the same age, are now held to be over three hundred years old. The Poetry Oak of Pachaug stands in front of Pachaug meeting-house. The tree was alluded to in the agricultural papers of the country half a century ago because of its enormous size. C. Edwards Lester, author of the "Glory and Shame of England," mused under its shade; George D. Prentice wrote his first poems beneath its shadows, and Galusha Grow passed many of the study hours of his youth under it. Mr. Reade says of this oak: "It has heard fifty-two sermons a year for 177 years, and political speeches from the settlement of this country down to the present day. One foot from the ground its trunk is 19 feet and 10 inches in circumference and its longest limbs extend each way 119 feet." On the farm of James B. Palmer, of Lisbon, is an immense black oak that measures around the trunk one foot from the ground 22 1-3 feet. This, Mr. Reade calculates, must be at least 500 years old.—New York Sun

A golden age lies behind each critic of the present, but it is pertinent to remember that the dross has been eaten out by time and oblivion. Thirty years after the second Continental Congress of the United States, Gouverneur Morris and John Jay were talking over old times, when Morris said, "Jay, what a set of scoundrels we had in that second Congress." "Yes," replied Jay, as he knocked the ashes from his pipe, "that we had!"

Paris Cabs.

A citizen just returned from Paris describes a very ingenious device that has been adopted there for use in cabs. It is a register that indicates the exact distance automatically the cab travels on a trip, and at the end displays the amount of the legal fare for that distance, for the information of the passenger.

While other nations are sending warships to China, this country sends one of her young men to be professor of mining engineering and geology at the University of Tientsin. Our interposition in Chinese affairs is not dramatic, like the interference of Germany and the rest, but who will say that the hammer of the geologist is not better, if not mightier, than the mailed fist.

PEACE OR WAR.

President McKinley, It is Said, is Ready For the Report.

"COURT HAS DECIDED."

This Statement is Quoted As Coming From a Prominent Naval Officer—Firm Action is Expected—Intervention in Cuba Is Not Believed to Be Far in the Distance—2,000 Men For the Navy.

The crisis in the Spanish situation is evidently near.

President McKinley is reported by a close friend to have declared that the chances of peace are remote. He further stated that he has been aware for some time of the probable findings of the Court of Inquiry. They are of such a nature that the honor of the nation is seriously involved.

The Inquiry Board's report will be sent to Congress, and it is feared that Spain will refuse to make the amends necessary to avoid a conflict.

Three new battleships to surpass any now in existence is the programme of naval additions decided on by the House Committee. Several new dry docks will also be provided for.

The army and navy officials are working in concert to have the full power of the Government ready to cope with any emergency. Batteries of artillery have been ordered from interior and Western posts to man all the Atlantic and Gulf forts, and orders for the general movement of the army eastward are in preparation.

The concentration of the fleet at Dry Tortugas has also been ordered, and plans have been drawn up for the occupation of Cuba.

General Flagler, Chief of the Ordnance Department, has instructions to buy rapid fire guns without regard to Congressional appropriations, and the Government guns and ammunition plants are working to their full capacity.

A plan for the intervention of the United States in Cuba is under consideration by the Administration, by which Cuba will have all the rights and privileges under Spain that are enjoyed by Canada under England.

A despatch from Washington, D. C., says: President McKinley, according to a distinguished naval officer, who is quoted in a special cablegram from Havana, has informed Captain Sampson, chairman of the United States naval court of inquiry, that he is ready to receive the court's report on the wreck of the battleship Maine. The court is said to have come to a final decision in the case.

It is believed in executive and official circles in Washington that the government will not much longer delay its programme of intervention in Cuba, and that events are rapidly shaping action in that direction.

Orders have been issued for the immediate enlistment of 2,000 men for the navy, a large proportion of them to be machinists. A special board has been detailed by Secretary Long to go to cities in the South and West to enlist men.

Military orders which go into effect immediately will lead to the manning of hitherto unprotected fortifications from Boston down the Atlantic coast and along the gulf to Galveston.

At a conference held at the Navy Department between Assistant Secretary Roosevelt and the chiefs of the naval bureaus the advisability of arming and equipping fast merchant vessels as auxiliary cruisers was discussed.

Work upon new ships and repairs to older ones are being hurried all over the country. The Columbian Iron Works, at Baltimore, received instructions from Washington and will work night and day upon the torpedo boats McKee, Rodgers and Plunger.

Many members of the British House of Commons take the view that any trouble threatening the United States should be shared by Great Britain. Hon. Hubert Valentine Duncombe intended to question the government on the subject, but postponed it for the present.

Spain is courting the assistance of France and Russia, as there is a strong belief at Madrid that Great Britain will side with the United States in the event of war.

The Spanish government has made five conditional purchases of coasting steamers in Austria through her military agent.

Senor Sagasta, the Spanish premier, says that all the members of the Madrid cabinet regard it as a question of honor to remain at their posts in the present crisis.

Senator Proctor and Col. M. M. Parker, who have returned from Cuba, left Key West for Washington. They give an amusing description of a "battle" between a few combatants on each side, which, they say, was gotten up at Matanzas for their benefit.

Loyalists in Havana have started a movement to build or purchase for Spain a warship to be called the Isla de Cuba.

TO BUY MEN-OF-WAR.

President McKinley Prepared, it is Said, to Take All Ships Offered for Sale.

A Washington special to the N. Y. Herald says: Congress being willing, President McKinley will purchase the men-of-war which have been offered to this government. There is no intention on the part of the administration to let any more ships slip into Spanish hands.

There is reason to believe that the authorities have practically decided to buy the two battleships, one protected cruiser, one torpedo gunboat and four torpedo boat destroyers, which have been placed at their disposal and a formal agreement will in all probability be made when the President receives assurances that Congress will ratify his decision. He has been conferring, it is said, with several Senators and they advised him to take this action.

He had a further conference with Assistant Secretary of State Day and Secretary of Navy Long Saturday afternoon. He proposes to continue his discussion with members of the naval committees of Congress and with leaders of the Senate and House, and once assured of their support, will announce to the builders that he will direct Secretary Long to take ships on behalf of this government.

FIFTY MILLIONS FOR DEFENSE.

The Bill to Place This Sum at the President's Disposal For Immediate Use.

Chairman Cannon, of the Appropriation Committee Monday introduced a bill entitled "Making Appropriations for the National Defense." It is as follows:

"That there is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the national defense, and for each and every purpose connected therewith to be expended at the discretion of the President, and to remain available until June 30, 1899, $50,000,000."

It was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Cannon, after an interview with the President went to the Capitol and called a special meeting of the Appropriations Committee. After this meeting Mr. Cannon introduced the national defense bill in the House.

Guns For the South.

Six ten-inch guns and several mortars went southward from Alexandria, Va., for Galveston over the Southern Railway. A special train of fifteen sealed cars of ammunition passed for Tampa, and six more followed. The ammunition was scheduled

THE NEWS.

Susan Weaver, wife of the fugitive murderer, Adam Weaver, of Doylestown, Pa., was committed on the charge of murder.

Eleven persons were burned to death in the Bowery Mission House in New York.

Alexander H. Spencer, vice-president of the Theosophical Society, sued Katherine Tingley, head of the society for the property of the concern.

The Mississippi River excursion steamer Grand Republic was burned to the water's edge at St. Louis.

Andrew Schuller, a broker, shot his wife and killed himself in San Francisco.

Senator V. Yontes dropped dead at his home in Charlestown, W. Va.

In a case before Judge Burke, at Chicago, on Friday the surprising fact was revealed that for twelve years Eugene O'Reilley, living in the same house with his wife, preserved complete silence toward her. Mrs. O'Reilley charges that her husband, whose wealth is over $1,000,000, has treated her with cruelty and deserted her. They are each over 70 years old and were married 40 years ago.

The London War Office, the Daily Mail announces, has issued a hundred rounds of ball cartridges to every volunteer in the kingdom, in addition to the ordinary provision.

A Portland (Me.) syndicate has obtained a franchise for lighting by electricity one of the creeks in the Klondike region. It is expected that the plant will be completed in season for turning on the lights in September.

Mrs. Robert Mantell, the actress, died in Port Huron, Mich.

The firm of Bottman, Watson & Bernheimer, dealers in oils, who operated in many States, has failed. The estimated capital of the concern was six million dollars.

It is said that a railroad will be built from Fredericksburg, Va., to the Chesapeake Bay through the Northern Neck.

Major Jacob Bretz died at Carlisle, Pa., aged 92 years.

The Old Dominion steamer Jamestown brought down from New York to Norfolk a hundred cases of 10-inch armor-piercing projectiles for Fort Monroe, and also some smaller projectiles. They were taken to Old Point. It is understood that there were seven or eight mines in the lot, to be planted in the channel.

A Philadelphia syndicate formed by Geo. H. Earle, Jr., and Richard Y. Cook took up the loans of $500,000, secured by bonds and stock of the Record Publishing Company and held by P. A. B. Widener, Wm. L. Elkins, James McManes and the Kemble estate. These securities, it is claimed, represent a control of the Record property.

A fire, which originated in the large novelty store of Wolf & Company, Franklin and Vine streets, Philadelphia, did damage amounting to $25,000 before it was gotten under control.

Ex-Chief Justice Wyckliffe, of the Cherokee nation, has been placed in jail at Vinita, charged with cattle stealing. He could not give bond for $1,000.

Six persons have been taken to Colorado Springs from Cripple Creek and placed in the county jail, charged with stealing a vast amount of the richest ores.

The vote on the proposition to establish a defense fund for the United Mine-Workers has been officially counted and the result announced. It is decidedly against the plan.

The San Domingo mine, in the S Eulalia district, fifteen miles southeast Chihuahua, Col., has been burned. watchman were roasted alive. The amounts to half a million dollars.

Edwin S. Thying, town treasurer of Exeter, N. H., has been arrested in Boston on a writ issued by the selectmen, charging him with the embezzlement of about $11,000 of the funds of the town. He has been given ten days in which to make good.

The thirteenth Cincinnati May musical festivities, under the auspicies of the Musical Festival Association, will begin May 24. Theodore Thomas will direct, as he has done for a quarter of a century.

An effort has been made by the Bessemer blast furnace operators of Cleveland, Pittsburg and the Shenango and Mahoning Valleys to enter into a combination. Fourteen interests, owning nineteen furnaces, are included.

Governor Otero has made an order removing A. B. Fall as solicitor-general of New Mexico, charging neglect of duty. Fall has said that he will not only make a contest in the courts, but will go to Congress and the President.

Sherwood Cunning, receiving teller of the First National Bank, Cincinnati, has been arrested on account of an alleged discrepancy of $23,000 in his accounts. He turned over to the bank his real estate, nominally valued at $30,000, and was released on $10,000 bond, and it is believed he will not be prosecuted.

A four-handed encounter occourred between farmers residing in Fulton county, Ky., over a lawsuit. Joe Lynch, his son, Hurt Lynch, Wade Harding and James Norris were seriously injured.

ABOUT NOTED PEOPLE.

The centenary of Methodism in Ohio will be celebrated in Delaware in June, and President McKinley will attend.

Queen Victoria has refused to lend to Canada and the Australian colonies, for exhibition, her Jubilee jewel gifts.

Dr. Bredon, who has been appointed Deputy Inspector-General of Chinese Maritime Customs, was for some time in the medical service of the English army.

Bishop Ellicott is now the senior member of the British Episcopal Bench, having been promoted from the Deanery of Exeter to the See of Gloucester and Bristol early in 1863.

Vice-Admiral Makarow, of the Russian navy, is on his way to this country to look into American ice-breaking ferryboats. The Russians want to keep some of their harbors open in the winter.

Lord Ashburnham's Stow manuscripts have been bought at private sale by the British Government for $225,000. When the collection was bought at auction for $40,000 by the late Earl, some years ago, the Government refused to bid.

William F. Norton, the eccentric millionaire, who owns the Auditorium Theatre in Louisville, Ky., and who manages it under the name of Daniel Quilp, cleared 7 cents a bushel on 1,000,000 bushels of wheat during the last jump in prices.

Senator White, of California, is said to contemplate retiring from the Senate at the end of his present term, which expires next year.

Sir Arthur Sullivan has taken a villa at Beaulieu, within easy distance of Nice and Monte Carlo, and there he proposes to reside during the March winds. Meanwhile, he hopes to work hard upon his new opera.

The Kansas Legislature has just appropriated $1,000 for a marble bust of Charles Robinson, the first Governor of Kansas, to be placed in the State University.

Mr. Fivecoats lives in Anderson county and Mr. Fewclose in Cowley county, Kansas.

Bishop Vincent, of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, has begun a crusade against Sunday golf. He has expressed himself very forcibly on the turning of Sunday into a day of "wholesale recreation."

Prof. Hamilton King, who will soon succeed Mr. Barrett as Minister to Corea, has just taken out his citizenship papers in Detroit. His father was naturalized years ago, but as Mr. King was unable to produce the papers he was forced to take out new ones.

Governor Renfrew, of Oklahoma, got his start in the world by exhibiting a petrified child in Arkansas. That was 20 years ago. A few days since Guthrie

MILLIONS ARE VOTED.

Defense Bill Passes the House of Representatives.

NOT A VOTE AGAINST IT.

Party Lines Were Swept Away and With a Unanimous Voice Congress Voted Its Confidence in the Administration—A Scene of Enthusiasm Greeted the Announcement of the Vote.

A despatch from Washington, D. C., says: In a spirit of patriotism, with eloquent words ringing in their ears, every member of the House of Representatives, responded to the President's first call to meet the Spanish situation by casting his vote for a bill placing in President McKinley's hands fifty millions of dollars to be expended at his discretion for the national defense.

Party lines were swept away, and with a unanimous voice Congress voted its confidence in the Administration. Many members who were paired with absent colleagues took the responsibility of breaking their pairs, an unprecedented thing in legislative annals, in order that they might go on record in support of this vast appropriation to maintain the dignity and honor of their country.

Speaker Reed, who, as the presiding officer, seldom votes only in case of a tie, had his name called and voted in his capacity as a representative.

The scene of enthusiasm which greeted the announcement of the vote—ayes 311, nays 0—has seldom been paralleled in the House. All day long the galleries were jammed with enthusiastic spectators applauding to the echo the sterling patriotism of the words of eloquence which were uttered by the members on the floor. All the speeches were brief.

Many Speeches.

Although four hours were allowed for debate so great was the pressure for time that no one member was given more than five minutes, and most of them had to content themselves with a beggardly fraction of a minute. In all 59 speeches were made. With one acclaim members from the North and South, East and West, the States and the Territories, battle-scarred veterans of the Union and the Confederate armies, all joined in proclaiming their support of the country's Chief Magistrate in the face of a possible foreign war.

General Grosvenor, of Ohio, said that if war did come the $50,000,000 appropriated by this bill would be wisely expended if only to serve to show the world that when threatened from without the hearts of the American people beat as one. In the whole debate there was only a slight discordant note caused by the speech of General Bingham, of Pennsylvania, a gallant soldier who served with distinction under Hancock.

He spoke too conservatively for the aroused temper of the House, and when he insisted that our relations with Spain were as friendly as they had been for years many of the members hissed him. While almost every member who spoke deprecated the possibility of war, a wide divergence of opinion as to how close were hostilities manifested itself in the debate.

The general contention of the minority, among them the leaders on both sides, was that this appropriation by preparing for war would prove the surest guarantee of peace. Others insisted that war's alarms would soon be heard, and Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, declared that war actually existed in all save name. The speeches which attracted most attention were those of Messrs. Cannon, Henderson and Dolliver on the Republican side, and Messrs. Bailey and Sayers on the Democratic side.

Sent to the Senate.

The bill appropriating $50,000,000 for the national defense was carried immediately to the Senate, and has been presented to that body and referred, on motion of Mr. Allison, to the Committee on Appropriations.

The galleries of the House were packed to the doors, and long lines of people unable to gain admission, surged about the corridors. On the floor almost every member was in his seat. On the faces of the leaders on both sides set an air of stern resolution indicating their deep appreciation of the grim business upon which Congress and the country were entering in making this vast appropriation for possible war.

As soon as the journal had been read the Speaker rapped for order, and, amid a deep silence, Chairman Cannon arose and presented as a deficiency bill the measure appropriating $50,000,000. It included also several other items, among which is $100,000 for coal for naval vessels.

Passage of the Bill.

When the question was put on the passage of the bill the whole house rose enmasse in its favor, but Mr. Cannon asked for the ayes and nays. He did so, he said, at the request of many members, who desired that every member should go on record.

Every member present voted for the bill many of them assuming the responsibility of breaking their pairs in order to place themselves on record. At the conclusion of the roll call the Speaker had his name called, an unusual proceeding, and amid great applause voted for the bill. When he announced the vote, "311 ayes, no nays," an enthusiastic demonstration occurred.

UNDAUNTED BY MAINE'S FATE.

Another United States Warship in Havana's Harbor.

A cable despatch from Havana, says:—The United States cruiser Montgomery arrived here at 9.30 Wednesday morning.

The arrival here of the Montgomery was very quiet, it being generally understood that she comes to replace the coast survey steamer Fern as quarters for Captain Sigsbee and others.

Commander Converse, of the Montgomery, is a high authority on explosives, and his advice will be useful to the court of inquiry into the loss of the Maine.

After firing the usual salute and being saluted in return, the Montgomery was moored in the principal harbor near the wreck of the Maine, and in the center of a circle of Spanish ships.

Later in the day Commander Converse received the correspondent on board the cruiser, and treated him graciously, though he had nothing to tell him beyond the facts already sent. He seemed satisfied to have a rest in Havana harbor for a while, as the cruiser has been very busy touching at many West Indian ports lately.

Captain Sigsbee, Lieutenant Commander Wainwright and Ensign Powelson will occupy quarters on the Montgomery. The Montgomery is as trim and neat as possible. Nobody is allowed on board without permission, but nobody is excluded if business or courtesy demands the admission of the visitor. There is no indication of the length of the cruisers stay in this harbor, any more than there is any news of the duration of the sessions of the court of inquiry here. The court held its usual sessions, examining the divers. Only the Spanish divers were at work, and they were only occupied part of the day. The wreckers are steadily removing the upper debris of the wreck, some of which will be dumped into the sea. Other portions of the wreck are worth saving.

Death of Hugh Jewett.

Hugh J. Jewett, one of the best-known railroad men in the country, died at the

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Felice Carlo Cavallotti, Italian poet, and Radical member of the Chamber of Deputies, was killed in a duel with swords by Signor Macola, an editor and member of the Deputies.

It was reported in London that the British government has secured an option purchase on warships building in British yards, because of the strained relations with France over territory in Africa.

Japan demanded of China an official assurance of the payment of indemnity next May. Russia opposes the Anglo-German loan, and refuses to evacuate Port Arthur.

Ion Trent Hamilton, Baron Holm Patrick, a noted Irishman, is dead.

The Austrian cabinet has resigned and Count von Thun Hohenstein has been intrusted with the task of forming a new one.

The six remaining Irish political prisoners in English jails will be released next June.

Nicaraguan and Costo Rican troops are reported to have met in battle on the borders of those two countries, but the result is unknown.

The Nicaraguan Congress adjourned until August, 1899.

The Nicaraguan canal commission began an inspection of the Panama canal.

The jubilee anniversary of the Italian constitution was celebrated in Rome and other cities of Italy.

An epidemic of "black blister" is causing fifty deaths a day in India.

The passage of the German naval bill is regarded as assured.

The Duchess of Doudanville died in Paris.

A small revolution has broken out in Venezuela.

The election for members of the London council resulted in favor of the progressives.

It is said England will occupy Wei-Hai-Wei if Japan withdraws from that port.

In the London County Council elections the sentiment seems to be turning against John Burns, the labor leader.

The Queen Regent of Spain signed the decree reducing the duties on wheat and flour.

Colonel Picquart says he will not fight a duel with Count Esterhazy.

Senor Campossales was elected President of Brazil.

The British cruiser Australia narrowly escaped being blown up in Southampton water.

ONE SUFFOCATED, FIVE BURNED.

Three Families Unable to Escape From a Burning Building in Pittsburg.

One of the most exciting fires the Pittsburg department has ever been called upon to fight occurred at 614 Webster avenue Sunday, when one woman was suffocated and five other people so badly burned that three may die. Three families were penned in a ramshackle building, and the stairs eaten away by flames as they slept. Here is the result of the 15 minutes' captivity:

Dead.—Mrs. Dominic Eriello, aged 30, wife of Dominic Eriello, fruit huckster, was separated from her husband in the smoke, was suffocated while trying to raise a window and died in the patrol wagon.

Injured.—Harry Levin, aged 16, burned about face, arms and shoulders, injuries possibly fatal; Lillian Levin, aged 6, burned about hands, feet and face; condition serious; Max Verlinski, aged 22, burned about legs and head, and fatally injured internally; Jessie Verlinski, aged 22, his wife, burned about the neck, feet and face, injuries serious; Ethel Verlinski, 8 months, burned about hands and body; will probably die; Elizabeth Levin, aged 18, ankle broken by jumping from second-story window, also hurt internally; Rita Levin, aged 3 years, thrown from second-story window; badly bruised.

The building at 615 Webster avenue is a three-story brick tenement, old and shaky. On the first floor and the rear of the second floor lived Sam Levin, with his wife and seven children. On the second floor front lived Dominic Eriello, with his wife. On the third floor lived Max Verlinski, with his wife and 8-months-old baby.

The fire started in Levin's dining-room, in the rear of the first floor. It burned through the door and up the stairway, and in a very short time the entire building was in flames. Only the most efficient work of the rescuing firemen prevented a tenement-house horror.

NO SHORE LEAVE FOR TARS.

Members of the Cruiser Montgomery's Crew Are Denied This Privilege.

Captain Converse, of the United States cruiser Montgomery, at Havana, in company with Consul General Lee, called on Captain General Blanco and was received cordially and courteously.

In a letter to the United States consul general, Dr. Congosto, the secretary general of Cuba, assures General Lee that there will be no more delay in the passage of relief supplies through the custom house. On account of the discovery of jewelry in such supplies the authorities held up many consignments, and some perishable provisions were spoiled.

The officers and men of the Montgomery are still refused shore leave. They devote much time to drill, which excites much interest, especially among the sailors on the Spanish ships, where the tactics are different.

FIELD OF LABOR.

Trenton is to have dollar gas.
China raises dogs for their furs.
One glass factory in California.
London has many electric cabs.
Alabama sends coke to Mexico.
Sheffield has an 1,880-blade knife.
Butte has a co-operative laundry.
Chicago clothing clerks organized.
Europe has textile Sunday-schools.
Londoners spend $6,000 000 a day.
Hartford has a union label league.
Rochester shoemakers won a strike.
Philadelphia has a Chinese bricklayer.
Detroit moulders struck for $2.50 a day.
Detroit Clerks' Union now admits women.
There are 26,000 union locomotive firemen.
Detroit elevator conductors will organize.
Germany sent $25,000 to the English engineers.
Indian photographers held a State convention.
Detroit has a theatrical advertising agents' union.
There are 7,500 union broommakers in the United States.
New York painters want the eight-hour day on April 4.
Philadelphia Union Labor League is opposed to war with Spain.
A big Boston grocery has promised to handle union cigars exclusively.
Chicago Gasfitters' Union's initiation fee has been $50 since March 1.
A Milwaukee hardware company shares its profits with employes.
Trades unions are the bulwarks of modern democracies.—Gladestone.
The editor and manager of the Los Angeles Herald advocates government control of all public utilities.
Several 'Frisco druggists were fined $200 for selling bogus liver pills.
Chicago architectural iron workers won a strike for the discharge of a non-unionist.
New York machine stone workers, ruboers, and helpers want the eight-hour day on June 1.
The three wire drawers' and diemakers' unions of Cleveland held a joint open meeting.
Montreal lasters who struck for an increase have been told that machines will be introduced.
A bill before the Maryland Legislature increases

MADRID'S PLAN

The Spanish Court of Nearly Read

INTERNAL EXPLOSIO

Arguments of the Spanish Court Apparently Disproved by Statements From Havana—Bottom of the Harbor Torn Up Under the Battle Ship as if From the Force of a Torpedo.

The Imparcial, of Madrid, states that the Spanish government is momentarily expecting the report of the Spanish naval court of inquiry, which, it is understood, will maintain that the explosion which wrecked the battle ship Maine was internal. It is also understood that the Spanish government will energetically uphold this report.

The water under the Maine's former anchorage in Havana harbor, it is stated, is much deeper than at other places in the vicinity. This tends to disprove statements of Captain Feral, of the Spanish court inquiry, who says a torpedo was not used because it would have torn up the bottom of the harbor, which, he alleges, was not the case.

It is stated that the battle ship Iowa may be sent to Havana to carry away the naval court of inquiry, in order to give the Havana populace an object-lesson by having such a crack ship within sight for a few hours.

The Army and Navy Register, of New York, says it has positive information that the Maine was destroyed by a Spanish submarine mine, deliberately exploded, and that the warship was purposely moored in the vicinity of the mine.

The Berlin foreign office has instructed the inspired press to deny emphatically that Germany will aid Spain in case of war with the United States.

Marquis Ito, the Japanese premier, in an interview cabled from Tokio, by a special correspondent intimates that Japan will not sell the cruisers Kasagi and Chitose to the United States.

A special naval board has opened offices in New York and invite proposals from owners and agents of merchant ships, who may be willing to turn them over to the government for conversion

The Navy Depart
vessels which c

The gunboats Ho ucroft, now
have been on the European station, rece
orders to return to the United States
started immediately. It is probable th
battle ship Oregon, now on the Pacific
will join the fleet under Admi
Key West.

THREE NEW BATTLE

**House Naval Committee
Construction of Warshi**

A despatch from Washing
Says:—Three new battleships of t
est type afloat were authorized by
committe
for their
naval ap
the comm on a maximum
of $400 per ton for armor plate for our vessels, increased the force of naval marines by 473 men, and put matters in fair shape for a decision on the location of dry docks, probably four in number, capable of accommodating the largest war vessels.

The new warships provided for will be of the finest pattern, but it will be two years, doubtless, before they can be placed in commission. One of them, the committee decided, should bear the name of the ill-fated Maine. The appropriation for their construction was not fixed, being referred to the sub-committee on appropriations, which will report to the full committee. The cost, it is expected, will be about $5,000,000 each, though for the fiscal year covered in the bill the amount of expenditure may not exceed $2,000,000 each.

The committee also agreed on a provision authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to purchase armor plate, by contract or otherwise, at a cost of not exceeding $400 per ton. This was agreed to, however, only on the express proviso that this item should include the nickel used in the armor, for which a large outside percentage heretofore has been paid by the government. This limit of armor contract price has been generally expected and, with the exception of the insertion of the proviso as to nickel, met with little opposition in the discussion.

With the amounts to be paid for dry docks and for armor plate, in the aggregate not yet determined, the bill, as it stands, carries in all something like $36,000,000.

"BLOWN UP BY A MINE."

"That is What Both Divers Say," Writes a Sailor Lad From the Montgomery.

The parents of Johnson L. Hayes, of Montoursville, Pa., have received a letter from him, dated on board the cruiser Montgomery at Key West. Young Hayes is one of the crew and has been in the navy twenty-two months.

In his letter he says: "The fleet is nearly all here awaiting the end of the investigation on the New York, which is lying about six miles from here.

"More dead and wounded were brought from Havana on the Miche.

"We have become a regular prison ship now.

"We have two divers, who were down in the Maine and are waiting to give their testimony at the court of inquiry. They will not be allowed to communicate with the shore till the court is over. One reporter, who knew too much, has also been brought aboard.

"The Maine was blown up by a mine—that is what both divers say."

KILLED HIS WIFE IN PRISON.

Fatal End of a Woman's Visit to Her Husband in Sing Sing.

Adrian Braun, a convict in Sing Sing Prison, New York, murdered his wife who was paying him a visit at the prison. Braun is a German, thirty-five years of age and a cigarmaker. He was sentenced on August 31, 1897, for two years for having beaten his wife.

Mrs. Braun, who had since forgiven him, arrived at the prison at 3.20. When the two met they kissed each other and were very friendly. They sat for half an hour conversing. Suddenly Braun raised his arm, and Detective Jackson, who was present, saw the glitter of a long, thin knife. Braun brought it down against the left side of his wife's neck. One cut severed the blood vessels and almost instantly the woman was dead.

Detective Jackson sprang upon Braun, and two other convicts came to the detective's assistance. Another knife similar to the one with which he had stabbed his wife was found concealed in his pocket.

GOMEZ OFFERS $150,000,000.

This Sum, it is Reported, Would be Given in Exchange for Independence.

There is a good deal of comment in Havana about propositions to the insurgents by the radical wing of the autonomist party.

The Spaniards say the autonomist programme promises nothing but sorrow and war, while General Gomez has offered $150,000,000 and a favorable commercial treaty with Spain if independence is granted. They also say that the autonomist proposition to disarm the volunteers would not be in evidence if carried out, since they would be disarmed

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