



MILLIONS APPROPRIATED FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE

TRUE PATRIOTS, THE SENATORS PASS THE BILL

When Americans Are Aroused at Their Country's Danger They Pour Out Wealth to Make the Nation's Honor Safe.

Call Office, Riggs House, Washington, March 9. President McKinley's hands have been upheld by both branches of the American Congress.

Not only did every Senator present register his vote in favor of the bill, but for every absent member the authoritative announcement was made that if he were present he would vote aye.

Twelve minutes after the bill was reported to the Senate the Vice-President announced its unanimous passage. The business was accomplished so quickly that most of the people who crowded the galleries scarcely realized that the measure, so far as Congress was concerned, had become a law.

At the conclusion of the usual morning business Hale of Maine, chairman of the Appropriation Committee, quietly rose and said: "I report from the Committee on Appropriations without amendment an act to supply urgent deficiencies for the current year and for other purposes, and I ask that it be placed on its passage."

The bill, which was the measure appropriating \$50,183,000, of which \$50,000,000 was to be placed at the disposal of the President for national defense, was then, amid intense silence, read in full.

At the conclusion of the reading there being no amendment to the bill it was placed on its passage. Hale asked that the ayes and nays be called. Such unanimity as the rollcall developed was as unusual as it was significant.

Allen of Nebraska, in making the announcement for Thurston, said, "My colleague is unavoidably detained from the Senate, but if he were here he would vote aye," whereupon Vest of Missouri suggested, sotto voce, that Thurston might vote in Havana, where he is now. The sally created a laugh among those near by.

When Perkins of California made a similar announcement for Mr. White he said: "My senior partner, if he were here—" and then, catching himself,

FIFTY MILLIONS GIVEN FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—The bill putting into the hands of the President \$50,000,000 to be expended at his discretion in strengthening the defenses of the country has passed both houses of Congress, has been signed and is now the law of the land.

RESOLVED, 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.

Mr. McKinney, the enrolling clerk of the House, in anticipation of the passage of the bill by the Senate to-day, had it printed on parchment yesterday ready for formal enrollment, but it was not anticipated that the bill would be passed by the Senate without debate.

Mr. McKinney, as soon as he learned of the action of the Senate, telephoned the Government Printing Office to hurry the bill to the House by a special mounted messenger.

At 1:15 o'clock the messenger came clattering up to the Capitol with the printed bill. Mr. Hager of Iowa, chairman of the Committee on Enrolled Bills, hurriedly compared the printed copy with the bill as it passed the two houses.

At 1:40 P. M. the Speaker of the House announced that he had signed the bill. At 3 P. M. the bill was signed by the Vice-President and taken at once to the White House, where at 4 o'clock the President affixed his signature to the measure.

joined good-naturedly in the general laugh which followed.

Chandler of New Hampshire presented the following resolution, which indicates that the disaster to the battleship Maine is to have a thorough investigation by the Senate:

Resolved, That in conducting the inquiry into the cause of destruction of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor on February 15, 1898, under resolution of the Senate of February 21, the Committee on Naval Affairs is hereby authorized to send for persons and papers, to employ a stenographer and to make investigation by the full committee or by sub-committees thereof, the expenses of said investigation to be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate.

The resolution was referred to the Committee on Contingent Expenses.

At 12:40 p. m., on motion of Davis of Minnesota, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Senate went into executive session, adjourning at 1:35 p. m.

HAS AMERICA BOUGHT WARSHIPS OF BRAZIL?

It Is Stated in Rio Janeiro That One or More Cruisers Have Been Sold.

NEW YORK, March 9.—From his correspondent in Rio Janeiro to-day Charles E. Flint of this city received a cable dispatch announcing that the Government of Brazil had never authorized nor sanctioned the sale to Spain of the Amazonas or her sister warship, which are now being constructed by the Armstrongs in England.

A Buenos Ayres cable to the Herald says: The Herald's correspondent in Rio Janeiro, Brazil, sends me these advices: The Brazilian Government officials persist in denying that Brazil has sold any warships, but I am informed on high authority that she has sold one

or more of her vessels now building in Europe to the United States.

As for Spain, I am authorized to state that if there were negotiations to her part for the purchase of ships from Brazil the latter country refused to sell, for very obvious reasons.

Brazil has in the Armstrong ship yards at Newcastle three cruisers of the same type—the Amazonas, the Barrozo and a third vessel not yet named. The vessels reach 300 feet in length and 44 feet in breadth. They have twin screws. Their tonnage is 3600 and their horse-power 7500. They are expected to attain a speed of twenty knots. The cruisers cost £300,000 each.

SPANISH STATESMEN ARE KEEPING COOL.

At the Same Time the Speculators Are Inclined to Deal Largely in False Rumors.

MADRID, March 9.—Some people thought the Cabinet council held this afternoon and this evening would develop something sensational, but nothing of the kind occurred. The Ministers took a common sense view, and the result is that there is nothing new. All is peaceful and calm.

Officials and the general world have taken yesterday's events in America with a marked lack of emotion, which is more significant than much noise. There is a strong undercurrent of feeling that it merely means America must be prepared for the worst, but war is not necessary.

The Bourse took a pessimistic view on endless false rumors, the principal one of which is that the Spanish Charge d'Affaires in Washington had been handed his passports. Catholic Knights Ready. SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 9.—Major General Lee H. Kadesky, commander-in-chief of the uniform rank Catholic Knights of America, said to an Associated Press reporter that of the 25,000 members of the organization, all well-drilled men, 10,000 men could be put into the field within twenty-four hours in case of war.



IN THE HORNETS' NEST. The United States Cruiser Montgomery Lying at Anchor in Havana Harbor Near the Wreck of the Maine, Surrounded by the Warships Vizcaya, Almirante Oquendo, Alphonso XII and Other Spanish Vessels.

THE MONTGOMERY UNDER THE GUNS OF GRIM MORRO.

White Cruiser Lies in the Harbor Where the Maine's Men Went Down to Death.

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HAVANA, March 9.—Spick and span in the glistening garb of white paint, the United States cruiser Montgomery lies at her moorings in Havana harbor, a pretty contrast to the black-painted hulls of her larger neighbors, the Vizcaya and the Almirante Oquendo.

So close is her prow to the stern of the Vizcaya that orders given on the deck of one ship might almost be heard in the forecastle of the other. A good second-base man could easily throw a baseball from one of the Vizcaya's frowning guns to one of the Montgomery's ten rapid-fire five-inch breech-loaders.

There lie, almost end to end, the representatives of sovereign powers. The usual naval courtesies have been exchanged with punctilious politeness. Commander Converse is quite the equal of gallant Captain Eulate in affairs of this kind, and the discipline of his ship is superb. When I ran alongside the Montgomery's gangway this afternoon a detail of seamen was busy scrubbing from her glistening sides the last black smudges remaining from yesterday's cooling at Key West.

A marine orderly at the head of the gangway informed me courteously that no visitors would be received. He took my card to Commander Converse, however, and the captain immediately requested the executive officer to receive the Herald's correspondent on the quarterdeck. Commander Converse and Captain Sigbee were busy at the moment in the captain's cabin preparing for their official calls ashore.

The Montgomery's executive officer told me all hands arrived well and ready for any duty assigned them by the department. The reason for the delay in entering the harbor this morning, he explained, was a desire to clean up the ship and make their toilet before entering port, their hasty departure from Key West not having permitted a thorough washing of the ship's sides after taking on coal.

Commander Converse received me a moment later. He said frankly he had no idea how long the Montgomery would remain in port, but that the Herald's correspondent would always be welcome aboard. As an earnest of this he introduced me to each of his officers. Ensign Powelson has already transferred his baggage from the Fern and made himself at home on the Montgomery. While I stood on the cruiser's deck a boatload of pleasure-seekers from shore passed between the Montgomery's prow and the Vizcaya's stern. Some exuberant passenger in the small boat hoisted an American flag and called for three cheers for the United States navy. Some of the bluejackets swarming on deck forward showed a disposition to respond to this patriotic call from the exuberant stranger. Just across the narrow stretch of intervening water the trim sails of Spain were watching with curious eyes, but the vigilant officer of the deck instantly suppressed any demonstration by the Montgomery's men.

"No demonstrations forward there!" he sang out, and the bluejackets who might have felt like cheering resumed their posts and their stolid faces simultaneously, like martyrs to duty and discipline.

The Court of inquiry is still busy directing the work of divers and hearing their reports, Olsen and Smith being the divers most in evidence to-day. Naval Constructor Hoover and Mr. Hims, the ship-carpenter of the Maine, spent some time among the divers and floats obtaining and verifying data bearing on structural evidence as to the cause of the disaster. Think of work will probably

SPAIN'S NAVAL PREPARATIONS.

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PARIS, March 9.—The Temps publishes a dispatch from Havre stating that the fitting out of the Spanish armored cruiser Carlos Quinto is being pushed forward rapidly. A high powered 11-inch Hontrosa gun has just been mounted in the forward armor clad turret. A similar gun will be placed in the after turret.

Much of the evidence of the Merritt & Chapman Wrecking Company's divers remains to be taken, and there is no certainty that this will bring the court's work to an end. One of the most prominent members of the Court of Inquiry told me to-day, seemingly with the utmost frankness, that they themselves could not yet determine, even approximately, the probable time of their departure.

In reference to General Weyler's denial in the Herald that mines were ever placed in Havana harbor, it has been said that Captain Sigbee indirectly confirmed General Weyler's denial, because the Maine's officers, immediately after her arrival here, had made a careful examination with a view to determining whether the harbor was mined in their vicinity. This statement, in so far as it applies to the action of Captain Sigbee and his men, I am in a position to deny unequivocally, on the highest authority. No such examination was made, nor would it have been practicable, even if deemed expedient. The ship was in a friendly harbor on a visit of courtesy. For her officers to have gone about dredging for hidden mines or other menaces to life would have been as discourteous as the action of a guest who took pains to inspect the closets or cock his pistol and look under the bed before retiring for the night in the house of his friends.

INSTRUCTED TO BUY ALL THE POWDER IN SIGHT.

Commander Brownson to Contract for Every Available Pound of the Explosive.

BOSTON, March 9.—It is learned that the most important task which has been assigned to Commodore Brownson in his trip abroad is to buy powder for the use of the navy. The most important point is that he is not simply to buy powder, but to contract for all the powder he can get. The supply of powder in the United States suitable for naval use is limited, and ammunition manufacturers are not in a position to fill emergency orders. It is said that the navy has hardly enough smokeless powder to begin operations. An important factor in the manufacture of powder is camphor. Practically the entire camphor product is now used for this purpose, and even if ammunition manufacturers possessed all other facilities they would still be unable to procure this necessary ingredient. No substitute for camphor in powder manufacturing has ever been discovered.

Mortars for Pensacola.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 9.—Five carloads of war material for Galveston and three big 10-inch guns bound for Pensacola passed through Atlanta to-night. In the Galveston consignment were four steel mortars, weighing 117,000 pounds, and two carloads of gunpowder. The big guns for Pensacola weigh 67,000 pounds each. All of the way bills for these instruments of war are marked "rush."

TO BUY SHIPS OF WAR IN OLD WORLD MARKETS

The Officers of the Government Will Give Their Attention Also to Rifles for the Army.

Call Office, Riggs House, Washington, March 9.

The Secretary of the Navy is making every effort to secure from our naval attaches and by diplomatic officers abroad, all information obtainable respecting the number of ships building, their price and other data. This will not necessarily interfere with the execution of the plans confided to Captain Brownson, who sailed for Southampton to-day, but rather promises to assist him materially in making speed with his inquiries. Up to this moment not only has the Government bought no warship, but it has not even secured an option on one. There are many applications coming to the department from persons and firms which desire to sell ships to the Government, but in most of these cases one of two fatal obstacles are encountered to the consummation of the sales. Either the craft offered is not suitable for naval needs, or the date of possible completion is so far distant, from three months upward, that it cannot be regarded as worthy of purchase to meet an emergency.

There is less difficulty experienced in securing tenders of war material, such as shot and shell and powder, and the Navy Department has almost assured itself of an abundant supply of certain kinds of smokeless powder abroad at short notice. The officials of the department are in daily correspondence by mail and telegraph with the agents of ammunition houses and besides are now fully acquainted with the plans of domestic powder makers for enlarging their plants to meet an emergency. The representatives of the armor making firms are in consultation with the department steadily, generally relative to the supply of gun forgings and such material for use in the gun shops here and at Waterville, but the armor is receiving little attention, as the armor makers report that they cannot undertake any known agency to turn out such armor as would be required for a modern battleship in less than seven months for the reason that tempering and face-hardening cannot be hastened without destroying the value of the armor. Thus, it has been demonstrated to the Navy Department, it will not be possible to make the armor for the superb battleships, three in number, now building at Newport News and at Cramps and at the Union Iron Works in San Francisco, in time to render ships far better, it is claimed, than any offered from abroad for sale, available for any emergency that may arise this year.

The statement was made at the Navy Department to-day that the report of the Maine Court of Inquiry

SPAIN BUYING GUNS.

NEW YORK, March 9.—A Washington special to the Herald says: Spain is attempting to keep pace with the United States in making preparations for war. Besides negotiating for ships, she is making plans to purchase large supplies of ordnance material from English manufacturers. Information to this effect was received to-day at the Navy Department. One representative of an English gun, projectile and powder firm informed the officials that he had received a cablegram from his employers that Spain had practically completed arrangements for securing a large number of rapid fire guns, with necessary projectiles and powder. The officials believe that this information was given in order that the department might be induced to hurry up and place orders ahead of the Madrid Government. Captain Charles O'Neil, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, has refused to buy small lots of rapid fire guns which English merchants have offered. He and other officials are willing that the Spanish Government should get hold of these odds and ends. According to information received from Lieutenant Dyer, naval attaché of the United States at Madrid, Spain is pushing work with the greatest vigor on the torpedo vessels Don Marla de Molina, Marquis de la Victoria and Don Alvaro de Bazan, which will be ready probably in May, and on the battleships Pelayo, Vittoria and Numancia and the cruiser Alfonso XIII, which are about ready. These vessels Spain intends to send to Cuba as soon as they are placed in commission. It is possible that they will accompany the squadron now at Cadiz to protect it from attack by the United States ships.

probably would come to the department some time next week. It did not appear that this was founded on any direct report from the court, but was rather an estimate based upon the progress so far made as revealed by the change of methods on the part of the court.

It is not expected that Lieutenant Commander Marix, the Judge Advocate of the court, will leave the court until it has completed its labors, and it is the custom for the Judge Advocate to assist in the preparation of the final report. Many congratulations are coming to the White House and the State Department from all parts of the country upon the patriotic spirit in dealing with the latest phase of the Cuban question. Most of them are official, in character, but many are personally directed to the President. Admiral Sigsbee has been authorized to enlist suitable men for the navy at Key West if he can find the material. He reported that he had received some applications from machinists and seamen and was immediately given the power to take the men. The department is still striving vigorously to secure machinists especially men who know how to run stationary engines. These men can