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VOLUME I. NO. 197.

WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 26, 1898.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

CAUSED BY SPANIARDS.

Shown by the Official Report of the Naval Court of Inquiry

THE SITUATION LOOKS GRAVE.

Spanish Government Holds the Disaster of Internal Origin—War Preparations on an Unprecedented Scale Hurried to Completion.

Washington, March, 25.—The Court of Inquiry appointed to investigate the cause of the Maine disaster has reported that the loss of the battleship was due to an outside explosion.

The State Department by direction of the President has cabled United States Minister Woodford at Madrid to notify the Spanish Government of this conclusion.

A GRAVE SITUATION.

The President and cabinet advisers held two extended sessions today one at 10:30 a. m., and another at 3:30 p. m., at which the report was considered in detail. Members of the cabinet stated after the meeting that the discussion was of a grave character and that never since the wrecking of the Maine in the situation seemed so critical.

The Spanish Government has officially declared that the Spanish naval commission holds the disaster to the Maine to be of internal origin.

The Government of Spain, it can be stated positively, is not disposed to turn back the torpedo flotilla now proceeding from the Canaries, and would be disinclined to consider a suggestion from this Government tending to interfere with the disposition by Spain of her own naval forces.

War preparations on an unprecedented scale are being hurried to completion by the War and Navy Departments, and the country, practically, is on a war footing.

The foregoing gives a record of one of the most eventful days the national capital has seen since the close of the civil war. It was a day of profoundly important action, of deepest anxiety, coupled with naval and military activity, one step following another in rapid succession. Representative men of the administration, public men in all branches of Congressional life, no less than the public in general, shared in the situation to which the situation has been wrought. There was no effort among the highest officials, nor indeed was possible, from what was clearly apparent in the developments of the day, to minimize the situations.

Finding of the Court of Inquiry.

Viewed in detail the finding of the Court of Inquiry was the most vital feature. Commander Marix, Judge Advocate of the Court of Inquiry, delivered the report to Secretary Long early this morning and shortly after it was carried to the White House and placed in the hands of the President.

At 10:30 the cabinet assembled, half an hour earlier than usual and

began the consideration of the momentous document. Even the rigid rules of secrecy which prevail at cabinet meetings were made doubly strict in this case, and no intimation of the results reached by the court were known until 4 o'clock, when an Associated Press bulletin gave the information to the country as well as the eagerly waiting officials throughout Washington. These results, briefly stated, are that the loss of the Maine was due to an explosion from the outside, the court being unable to fix the responsibility for the explosion. The court does not express an opinion as to the character of the explosion, but the testimony goes to show that it was a powerful submarine mine, the exact character of which is not determined by the testimony, though the belief was expressed that it was a floating submarine mine. There were two explosions, the court finds the first from the outside, and that set off one of the smaller magazines.

It was the result, expressed in detail and with the precision of a court deeply conscious of its responsibility, together with the evidence on which it was based, that occupied the attention of the cabinet throughout its extended session this morning and afternoon. The other and lesser subjects gave way to this foremost question. There was no change in the plan of making the report public and transmitting it to

the Spanish Government, accompanied by a brief message from the President.

While interest was thus centered at the White House, the Navy and War Department were hurrying forward their work of preparations.

The Cape Fear Squadron.

For the benefit of those citizens who are fearful that the "wily Spaniards" may slip into Wilmington and do mischief, we will say that the "Cape Fear Squadron" is in splendid trim and can withstand some pretty good shocks (from barrels). The flag-ship, Driver, has had her bottom scraped and a few extra planks put in her gun deck. The torpedo boat destroyer, Cressey was coaling (with wood) yesterday preparatory to going out to sea, (up the river) to plant mines (or rice, we failed to learn which). The armored battleship, Imperial, with several barges of ammunition (wood) in tow, passed Fort Point Peter, this morning enroute to Horse Shoe bend where the government (State) has fortified a rice field and placed there in a garrison of convicts. The other war ships in the harbor are making preparations for active service, and an old sea dog told us yesterday that the fleet now in port, under Commodore, David Sasser, is the most formidable on the Atlantic seaboard. No Spaniards can enter this port.

Those Letters.

Below is the full text of the letter which caused the alleged rumpus and upon which Mr. Chadbourne decided not to appoint Mr. Howe in the postoffice to any place whatever. The facts as contained in this letter are apparent to every voter in New Hanover county who believes in honest dealing.

LETTER NO. 2.
Wilmington, N. C.,
Feby 14, 1898.

PERSONAL.

Hon. J. C. Pritchard, U. S. S.,
Dear Senator:—Enclosed find clippings from the "Messenger" and "Star," our morning dailies, from an interview with Mr. W. H. Chadbourne, P. M. at this place on Thursday last.

Now, Senator, in order to effect a compromise agreeable to you and Col. Boyd, my friends, on the promise that you would see that Mr. Chadbourne carried out his part of the agreement, consented to withdraw the claims of Mr. Albright for P. M. and then they asked that I be appointed Asst. P. M. which request I sent to you, and which has been presented to Mr. Chadbourne, but directly Mr. C. took possession of the office he declined to make the appointment, alleging that it would be impolitic, as there is a white lady in there protected by Mr. Cleveland's civil service who would resign her position as money order clerk, although that lady has not, nor ever has had a single vote under her control that can aid the Republican party. Mr. Albright suggested to Mr. Chadbourne by the way of harmony that I be designated as Asst. P. M. with the salary thereof ad placed in the charge of the mailing department where I would not come in contact with this lady.

clerk's place which is a sor... man with some mailing duties attached. Is this fair? Is it just? Does it favor of harmony?

In 1890 with a promise from our leaders that the colored men should have the bulk of the federal patronage, the colored men of New Hanover county with 45 delegates out of a possible 51 yielded up everything,

and are now told that it wont do to appoint us to the only position not covered by civil service.

If this state of affairs prevails, then we are forced to the alternative of this year placing Negroes in nomination

for every office in this County and electing them with our black majority of 1,000. You can readily see what effect this would have on the State, but we will be literally forced into it, since at the hands of the government we receive nothing of a fiduciary character.

We would fain see some other way out of this for the party's good, but these are the conditions that confront us.

Mr. Dancy comes here as collector which is a recognition of the Negroes from the other parts of the State. Mr. Rice goes in as his deputy, into the only place not covered by the classified service. Mr. Chadbourne refuses to give me the only place under him not in the classified service; what then are the 3,800 Negroes of New Hanover to get?

You promised to go Mr. Chadbourne's bond for his keeping faith with your friends, will you leave them now to his tender(?) mercies?

This letter is written after mature deliberation with my friends, who are your friends.

Very truly and sincerely,

JNO. THOS. HOWE.

INTENSE EXCITEMENT

The Lighthouse Tender Mangrove Dispatched to Havana.

FOR THE AMERICAN OFFICIALS.

All, With the Exception of Consul General Lee—Rear Admiral Curtis's Views of the Naval Court of Inquiry.

By West March 25.—The Associated Press bulletin that the Court of Inquiry had found the Maine was blown up by submarine mine created intense excitement here.

The most significant development followed the announcement of the report—a development which few—was the sudden arrival of the lighthouse tender, Mangrove, at Havana. The Mangrove was lying quietly at the dock, loading bags, when orders came about 5 o'clock this afternoon for her to proceed with all haste to Havana and to board all the American officials at that city with the exception of General Lee.

It is felt there that the knowledge of the General Lee's report has ex-
isted in Havana for a long time.

It is felt that the Mangrove is

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At Our
Preach at
Church to-morrow at
"Christ Anointed for His Bur-
Mark, 14:8; at 7:45, "The Friendship
of Christ," John 15:14. Rev. F. G.
Ragland, Pastor.

Services at St. Mark's Episcopal
Church Passion Sunday service, 11
a.m. Morning prayer, 11:45 a.m.; Ser-
mon, 3:15 p.m. Sunday School, 7:
p.m. Evensong and sermon. Con-
firmation class meets 4:30 p.m. Be-
ginning of the first of April the Sun-
day night services will be at 8 p.m.
Instead of 7:30 o'clock. E. R. Ben-
nett Rector.

Grand rally at St. Luke's A. M.
E. Zion Church tomorrow. Rev. A.
Stroud A. M. E. Church will preach
at 10:30 a.m.; Rev. F. G. Ragland
will preach at 3 p.m.; Rev. G. A.
Corpeee of Brooklyn N. Y. will
preach at 8 p.m. The publice is cordially
invited to assist us in this effort.

P. L. Cayler pastor.

Special services at Trinity M. E.
church tomorrow. Preaching at 11
a.m. by Rev. J. W. Telair; at 3 p.m.
by Dr. J. Allen Kirk; at 7:30 p.m.
by pastor. The publice is cordially
invited to attend. Rev. S. A. J.
Miller Pastor.

Naval Militia Called On.

For the first time the militia is
called into service, and the Coven-
tants of Massachusetts and New
York are requested to direct their
naval militia to assume charge of
the monitors assigned for
the protection of the Boston and
New York, in conjunction with the
land fortifications. The orders sent
to Gov. Wolcott, of Massachusetts,
and Gov. Black, of New York, for
transmission to the commanding of-
ficers of the State naval militia in-
form them that they will be directed
to assume charge of the monitors
assigned to each of those States
to assist in the second line of de-
fense.

The Boston men will be sent on
board when the monitors Catfish
and Lehigh arrive, and the New
Yorkers may proceed to Philadel-
phia and take their ships around.
A naval officer will be in command
of each monitor, and under him will
be naval militia officers and suffi-
cient seamen from each organization
to give the ships their complements.
Instructions have also been sent
to the Western organizations to
hold the Western organizations to
transport themselves in readiness for
they will be sent to the East, wh-
ever, with what crews.
Illinois and Ohio have well drilled militia organizations
and these will be first drawn on.

A CARD.

The Colored People of Wilming-
ton buy as good goods as the white
people my experience with them
for twenty-five years has taught me.
My experience has also taught me
how to treat them and to care for
their wants. I am making prepa-
rations to fill your orders for the
holiday trade.

Hairpins, Currants, Citron, Prunes,
Extracts, Butter, Nuts, Can Nuts,
Preserves, Jellies, Liqueurs, Gums,
Chickens and a choice stock of sta-
ple Groceries!

No use blabbing about prices. We are

selling goods as low as anyone, and

don't have to blow so much to make

a racket. A trial will convince you.

RESPECTFULLY,

A. W. Rivenbank

New Store,

New Goods,

Low Prices.

Nos. 10 & 12 Mulberry St.

J. L. Croom & Bro.

The above Firm have opened in

the Splendid New Stores which

have just been completed on the lo-

up on which the old store of A. New-

bury stood.

This Firm has put in a choice stock

of STAPLES and FANCY GROCERIES,

WINE, LIQUORS, CIGARS and TOBAC-

CO, which they are selling at the

lowest Cash Prices.

J. L. Croom & Bro

Nos. 10 & 12 Mulberry St.

What I Owe You.
It is not my policy to write for
you to come, I can't do it. I have
to come, I must be up and
about. I mean to do business at all
the time if I have no loose money to
help it along. Spring trade will be
in shorty but that is by and bye. I
want to do what is by and bye.

I will coax trade while I can, when
I can't will drive it. That is the
reason of those driving prices.

UNSEASIDE THE HEAD THAT WEAR

A CROWN.

BUT NOT SO WHEN CHOSEN WITH ONE

HAWES HAT.



IT'S THE NEW STYLE

AT THE OLD PRICE \$3.95

FOOTWEAR DEPARTMENT.

A man's value clothes is less
or equal. Hand sewn is really worth
while I will do for 2.50 a pair.

A man's shoe in leather cost
really worth from 2.50 to 3.50 a pair

A man's leather shoes cost
less or equal. Hand sewn is
worth double the money.

A regular 2.50 man's shoe or longer
for 3.50 a pair.

A couple tan like with silk vesting
top something new and why. Hand
sewed for 3.50 worth actually 5.00 a
pair.

A man's leather shoes cost
less or equal. Hand sewn is
worth double the money.

We are expecting to receive fine
line of Dress Goods in a few days

at right prices

Our Goods.
Just The Thing Put on Over Your Slippers
When You I Feel Like Changing For
Shoes. We have a New Lot Just Received
20 And 50 Cents

Solomon New Shoe Store

Great Excitement at The Bee Hive.

Yes everybody is excited. Some
are glad, some are mad, some are
roused. What the outcome will be,
we know not.

We keep up a considerable exite-
ment ourselves.

Our buying the Prettiest Silks in
Millinery and Best Qua-
ties, Dress Goods, and then 3.50 a pair at
Prices so Much below all else is

enough to arouse the enthusiasm
of all the Mothers, Wives, Aunties,
Daughters and Sweethearts down town.

We are coming on with a
"Smashing" Millinery business this
Season. Just Received considerably
over a half a thousand dollars
worth of Hats, Ribbons, Flows Etc.

We have just had our Millinery De-
partment enlarged and we are now
better prepared to wait on you for
anything in that line than we have
been heretofore.

We are expecting to receive fine
line of Dress Goods in a few days

at right prices

A line embracing all the latest styles
and shades in woolen and cotton
novelties for Spring and early Sum-
mer wear. Also a nice line of Silks
and Satins.

OUR NOTION DEPARTMENT
is up-to-date. Good Writing Paper
and Envelopes 5c per box. Better
quality 10 and 15c.

Alarm Clocks, best at 95c.
Hair Brushes 10 and 25c. Combs
from 1 to 15c each.

Lead Pencils 3c per dozen. with rub-
ber 15c.

Good Writing Tablets 5c each.

We have a full line of Lace, em-
broderies, whalebones, hooks and
eyes corset steels, valentines binding
buttons, spool silk, needles, thread,
thimbles, handkerchiefs, collars,
cuffs, hose, corsets, neckware,
jewelry, whisk brooms, shoe soles,
garters, elastic, finishing braid, mirror,
Photo frames, Etc. Etc.

Anything you need you find here

at right prices

W. H. Gay rd, Proprietor
BEE HIVE, 117 SOUTH FRONT STREET.

WE ARE SATISFIED.

That taking the general line right through, we can supply you

Groceries lower than any in the City.

Two Jumbo Cakes 5c up to 5 cents.

Regular 5c Can Baking Powder 1c

Regular 10c Can Milk 9c

Regular 5c Package Tea 3c

Regular 10c Package Tea 4c

Regular 50c per pound Tea 35c

Compound 1ard, per pound 5c

Pure Hog Lard, per pound 7c

Sweet Chocolate, Two Cakes for 5c

Three pound Can Pork 9c

Three pound Can Grat 10c

Other things in Pro- 9c

De

the Pennies, They make

Fourth St., Phone 237.

B. F. King, Magistrate

Fourth St., Phone 237.

Cost I Object.

We Must Clean out our Stocks, so we will Give our

Customers the Benefit of a few of the MANY BARGAINS

OFFERED

5c Unbleached Muslin at 5c per yard.

5c Bleached Muslin at 5c per yard.

9c Sheeting, Bleached and Unbleached 12c

12c Lonsdale Cambric 19c

CORSETS.

25c Corset for 10c, 50c Corset for 30c, 75c Corset for 50c. Other grades in proportion.

MERRINO UNDERWEAR

Ladies' Heavy Ribbed Vests 19c.

Ladies' and Gents' Ribbed Merrino

Vests 19c. Better Qualities at Equal

low Prices.

MILLINERY AND TRIMMINGS.

Our Entire Stock of Trimmed and

Untrimmed Hats at less than

cost. Also Feathers, Bird, Wig

seeing is believing.

GEORGE O. GAYLORD

THE BUYER THE FOR WILMINGTON'S BIG

RACKET STORE

Has just returned from the northern

markets. He visited Baltimore, Phila-

delphia, and New York and I must

say I have bought the most complete

line of goods I have been able to

find. I can tell you new Dress

Goods in Plaid Checks and Stripes,

figured, flannel, organdy, 31 inches

wide, blue ground colored flowers,

worn lace, a big job at 3c per yard

Covered Head Piece 5c 12½ inches

12½ inches, 10c 15c 18c 21c

24c 27c 30c 33c 36c 40c 43c 46c

50c 53c 56c 59c 62c 65c 68c 71c

6c 9c 12c 15c 18c 21c 24c 27c

24c 27c 30c 33c 36c 40c 43c 46c

50c 53c 56c 59c 62c 65c 68c 71c

74c 77c 80c 83c 86c 89c 92c 95c

98c 101c 104c 107c 110c 113c 116c

120c 123c 126c 129c 132c 135c 138c

141c 144c 147c 150c 153c 156c 159c

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