

CONGRESS TO ACT TO-DAY, AND IT WILL MEAN WAR

THREE TUGS SOLD TO THE UNITED STATES YESTERDAY

The Fearless, Active and Vigilant of the Spreckels Line Added to the Auxiliary Fleet.

This Step, in the Line of Protecting the Coast From Spanish Privateers, Brings the Menace of War to San Francisco's Very Door.

The tugs Fearless, Vigilant and Active, of J. D. Spreckels & Bros. Co.'s fleet of tugs, doing duty on the bay of San Francisco, were purchased by the United States yesterday, and last night they were turned over to the Navy Department, with orders that they be taken to the navy-yard at Mare Island immediately.

Negotiations for the purchase of the tugs have been in progress between representatives of the navy and J. D. Spreckels & Bros. Co. for several days, but it was not until late yesterday that orders were received from the Navy Department at Washington to close the deal and order the vessels to the navy-yard without delay. Each of the three vessels has been inspected by naval constructors and plans made for placing armament on them. Several six-pound guns will be mounted on each tug, and possibly torpedo tubes will be fitted to the Fearless. The guns for the tugs are now on the way from the arsenals in the East, and before they can arrive mounts will be arranged for them on the newly acquired auxiliary naval vessels, so they can be put in place at once.

There will be as little delay as possible in preparing the tugs for service with the naval fleet, and when they are ready for sea they will be attached to Rear-Admiral Miller's command on the North Pacific.

The tugs, when fitted with guns, will be used as patrol boats along the coast in case of hostilities. They will practically be the skirmish boats of the fleet of war ships and act as dispatch boats and torpedo-boat destroyers as well.

The Fearless was built in 1892 at the Union Iron Works and is the largest tugboat that flies the American flag. She is 400 gross tons register, 153 feet long, 26 feet beam and 16 feet depth of

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RESOLUTIONS IN CONGRESS WHICH WILL MEAN WAR.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—It is believed that the resolution now agreed upon will be reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations to-morrow. The preamble of the resolution says in effect:

"That the horrible condition of affairs existing for more than three years in the island of Cuba, so near to our borders, is shocking and a disgrace to Christian civilization; that it has culminated in the destruction of a United States battle-ship and 206 of her officers and crew while on a friendly visit in the harbor of Havana, and that such things as this cannot longer be tolerated, and therefore, carrying out the suggestion in the President's message that Congress should act, be it resolved:

"First—That the people of the island of Cuba are, and of right ought to be, independent.

"Second—That the war Spain is waging against Cuba is so destructive of the commercial and property interests of the United States and so cruel, barbarous and inhuman in its character as to make it the duty of the United States to demand, and the Government holding out for the recognition of the independence of the present so-called Government of Cuba. The Republican members of the committee have agreed upon a resolution substantially in language:

"Resolved, That the President be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed at once to intervene to bring the war in Cuba between the Government of Spain and the people of that island to an end for the purpose of enabling the Cuban people of their own free action to form a stable and independent Government of their own, and the land and naval forces of the United States are placed at the disposition of the President to be used to carry out the purpose of this resolution."

The preamble to this resolution recites the grounds of offense against Spain, which culminated in the destruction of the Maine, for which disaster the preamble declares that Spain is responsible.

There will be no delay in the House, and the resolution to be reported will be passed by the House to-morrow afternoon unless it is delayed for the purpose of enabling the Senate and House to come to an agreement.

Late to-night the Republican members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs succeeded in reconciling all their differences and adopted the resolution, which will receive the unanimous support of the Republicans in the House.

The House committee has not been able to get together with the same unanimity as the Senate committee has done, the Democrats holding out for the recognition of the independence of the present so-called Government of Cuba. The Republican members of the committee have agreed upon a resolution substantially in language:

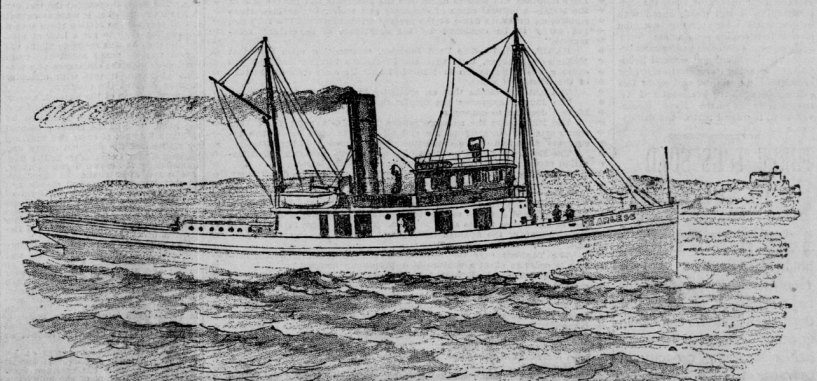
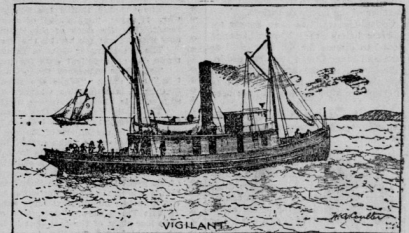
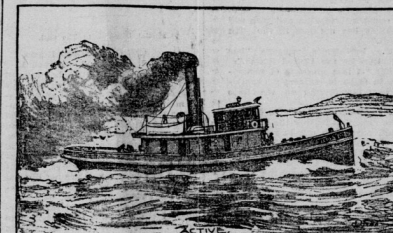
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THE THREE TUGS SOLD TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

CONGRESS WILL DECLARE WAR TO FREE CUBA

Lee Arouses Statesmen by the Assertion That the Maine Was Destroyed by Spaniards.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—It was stated last night on high authority that an arrangement had been practically effected by which the resolutions may pass both houses to-day. It is understood that the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House and the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate will confer before the assembling of Congress for the purpose of perfecting an agreement. Last night the members of the Senate committee believed that the resolution would pass both houses by a practically unanimous vote. It was said if necessary a continuous sitting would be had in the Senate in order to secure final action during the legislative day of Wednesday.

NEW YORK, April 12.—The Herald's Washington correspondent telegraphed: "The martial spirit is rampant in Washington to-night. The arrival of Consul-General Lee and other Consuls from Cuba has greatly increased the war feeling in and out of Congress. These gentlemen, and particularly Consul-General Lee, heartily endorse the President's intervention plans, and they went then into effect at once.

From their standpoint the Maine disaster is cause belli, and they are as anxious to see the death of our American sailors avenged through the medium of war as they are to have Spanish misrule in Cuba speedily brought to an end.

To Lee, and to the progress made by the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate and the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House in the formulation of resolutions on practically the same lines in favor of immediate forcible intervention, are attributable the war feeling which exists in Washington to-night. It will pass off when some of the peace men in Congress, and especially in the Senate, take their stand against the speedy action contemplated by the committee, which will be required to precipitate war. There will be

PACIFIC COAST HARBORS WILL BE PROTECTED

The Government Takes Steps to Save the Ports of the West From Spanish Privateers.

NEW YORK, April 12.—The Herald's Washington correspondent sends the following: Preparations are being made by the Navy Department to give Spain's privateers a warm reception should they attempt to attack one of the coast cities of the United States. By establishing a second line of defense along the Atlantic coast the authorities consider they have taken measures for the protection of the seaports thereon from the depredations of detached cruisers or of privateers.

Attention is now being turned to the Gulf and West coasts, and as a result of the arrangements inaugurated to-day it is believed the cities along these seaboard will be reasonably secure from attack.

As it is the plan of the Navy Department to first find and destroy the Spanish fleet, it is not believed there will be much danger of an attempt by Castilian men-of-war to destroy cities. The ships for which a sharp watch will have to be maintained are privateers, and through Minister Woodford the authorities have learned that it is proposed by the Spanish Government to commission any number of privateers for operations against the commerce and cities of the United States. It is considered possible that these vessels may proceed to the Pacific and fire on the cities of the slope.

To prevent such an attempt being successful, the President to-day directed that the revenue cutters Perry, Grant, Corwin and Rush be turned over to the Navy Department. These will be sent to Mare Island, where they will receive heavier batteries than those which they now carry, and they will be detailed to accompany the whaling fleet. The Fish Commission vessel Albatross has also been turned over to the navy for duty on the West Coast.

It has been finally determined to retain the cruisers Charleston and Philadelphia in the Pacific to destroy any privateers or any detached cruisers that may come to that section. The monitor Monterey will be stationed at San Francisco to assist the land forces, and the monitor Monadnock will protect the cities of Puget Sound.

It is understood by the officials that when Lieutenant-Commander Joseph G. Sobral, formerly naval attaché of the Spanish legation, was on duty in the United States he visited the harbors of the Pacific Coast and carefully inspected them, sending reports of their fortifications and their appearance to his Government. It is considered probable that these reports may be used by the Spanish Government for naval operations, and it is for this reason such a careful distribution of naval forces in the Pacific has been made for the defense of that coast.

The cruiser Charleston will shortly be ready for service and will be placed in commission the latter part of this month. The cruiser Philadelphia will be ready for service within thirty days, and when reported as ready will at once be put in commission. The condition of the gunboat Yorktown is such that it is stated at the department that she cannot be commissioned under three months. So far as the Bennington is concerned, it is stated at the department that nothing has been done looking to her withdrawal from Honolulu. No instructions have been sent to Rear-Admiral Miller, commander-in-chief of the Pacific station, to hoist his flag over the islands in case of war, but it is generally conceded at the department that this will be done in order that the islands may be provided with protection. Otherwise an attempt might be made by Spain to injure Hawaiian cities, knowing that a proposition is pending in the Congress of this country for the annexation of the islands by the United States.

triously circulated since the court of inquiry's report was made public, that he would make revelations which could not be made public in the report for fear that his life might be endangered or that he would produce new and positive evidence to show that the destruction of the Maine had been the result of a Spanish plot. He also excluded the rumor that he had information of a mine having been discovered under the Montgomery. He gave it as his opinion that the mine had been destroyed by a mine in the control of the Spanish officials. "Do you mean by the Spanish author-

