0000000000

It Is Suggested in Several Quarters.

## FRANCE IS FRIENDLY

No Reply as Yet From Spain to Note Regarding Maine.

## WAS NOTIFIED THURSDAY.

The Election To-Day Supposed to be the Cause.

THE PAINTING OF THE SHIPS.

Senor Sagasta in an Interview Says He Doesn't Think Hope for Peaceful Solution Is at an End-Suggestions That Spain Will Back Down Before Hos

tilities Begin-Au Of From Fort

officer at Fort Monroe has disap seared and reports that he carried off ns of fortifications, is denied.

The warships are all receiving a new cost of paint, but it is a dull lead color

## HAD HER WAR PAINT ON.

Paritan Leaves for Key West-Massachusetts and Brooklyn.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., March 25.— Special.—The monitor Furitan weighed anchor at 6:15 o'clock this evening for Southern waters, whither she was order-of Fedday.

ed Friday.

Before she sailed the grim fighting machine was painted black to the water line in accordance with the order issued by

in accordance with the order issued by the Navy Department.

The monitor left under a full head of steam and when she passed Old Point she was ploughing the water at the rate of skiteen knots an hour.

The battleship Massachusetts arrived in port yesterday afternoon and dropped anchor off the Casino Beach.

Orders were received yesterday from the Navy Department instructing the commanders of the Brooklyn and Massachusetts to paint the ships black. This work will be done at once. To-morrow morning a number of painters will be lowered to the side of the men-of-war and will begin putting on the coat of

## FRANCE IS FOR PEACE.

#### She Sympathizes With Both Spain and This Government.

PARIS, March 26.-In the Chamber of Deputies to-day M. Groussot. Socialist, made a sweeping criticism of the foreign policy of the government.

M. Barron, speaking in support of M. Groussot, introduced the Cuban question.

France cannot remain indiffent to the

Spanish-American conflict and the mon-strous encroachment of the Anglo-Saxon strous encroachment of the Angio-Saxon race on the Latin race. It is the duty of France to approach the United States, with words of conciliation and peace."

M. HANOTAUX SPEAKS.
M. Hanotaux, Minister of Foreign Affairs, replying to M. Baron said in regard to Cuba:

"However necessary the defence of our care interests may be, it is subordinate

"However necessary the defence of our own interests may be, it is subordinate to the importance of the grave difficulties which the Cuban question has presented for so long. The whole werld is following with emotion the varying fortunes of the conflict proceeding in Cuba, and the whole world earnestly hopes for its speedy conclusion. The interests affected or threatened and the courage and perseverance displayed add daily some element to the dramatic trend of events in that island.

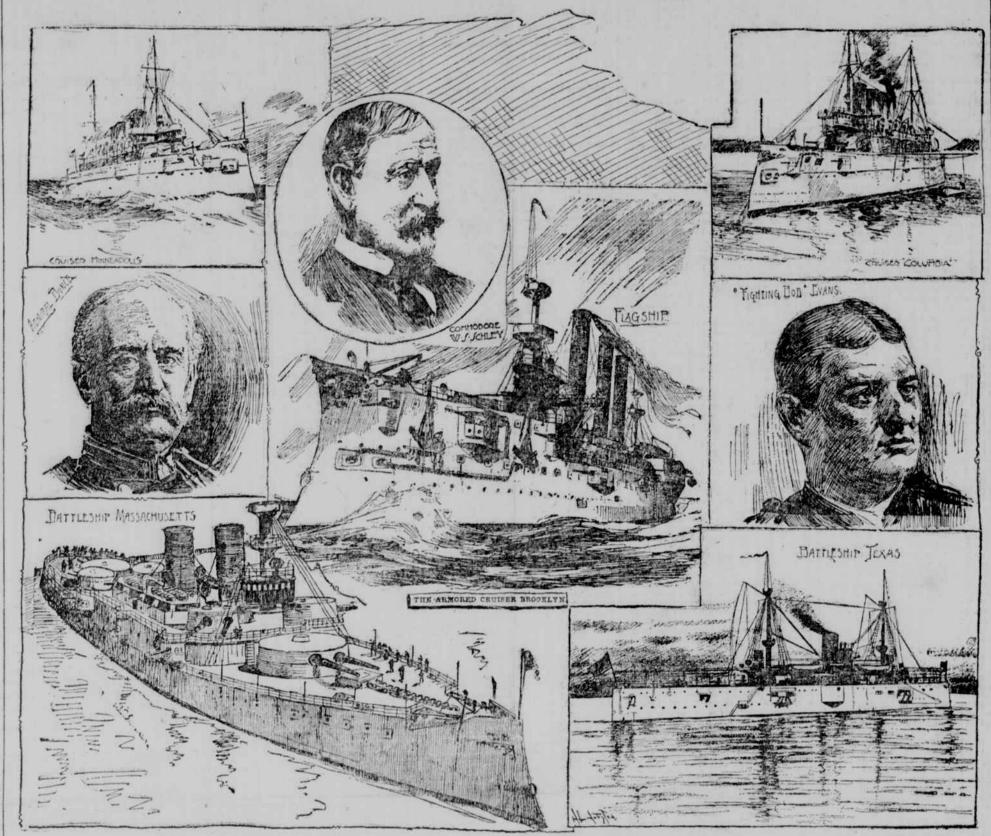
The chamber knows the sympathy and "The chamber knows the sympathy and esteem which the United States inspire. On one hand we have an ancient and faithful relation, good neighborly feelings affinities of race and interests and finally the respect with which the patriotism of a heroic nation naturally inspires us. On the other hand we have a powerful recepbile a sister of our own, full of ful republic, a sister of our own, full of arder and confident of her valor, who de-mands that an tramediate end be put to evils in which she herself has shared, and which have lasted a very long time. Such is the position of the conflict wheresuch is the position of the confine wave-in both interests and honor are involved. "Our first duty is unceasingly to ex-press to the two nations the desire of all that a sanguinary and formidable fight

be avoided.

IF LOOKING FOR FRIENDS.

"If these two parties, with common tain accord, are endeavoring to find sure and impartial friends to help them in the arci."

## THE FLYING SQUADRON.



To be Stationed at Hampton Roads, Under Command of Commodore Schley. It is Composed of Five Fleet Vessels and Will Be Ready to Defend Any Portion of the Atlantic Coast on Short Notice.

table arrangement of so grave a question, they will see that all well intentioned beople are lending themselves to the depeople are lending themselves to the de-sire and we will not be backward. But t would be going beyond the reserve imosed upon us to go further than this can here at least only renew the expres-sion of our ardent wishes for an equitable solution of the matter wherein right honor and liberty may be satisfied and which will result in maintaining between the two nations equally dear to us the great benefit of peace." (Cheers). A motion approving M. Hanotaux's statements was adopted by a vote of 300 to 111.

EUROPEAN MEDIATION? EUROPEAN MEDIATION?
RERLIN, March 25.—The Boersen Courier publishes a dispatch from Vienns to-day, saying that, according to in formation from the best source, European mediation between Spain and Ame rica is being undertaken.

## ARTILLERY FORCES MOVING.

The Terror Coals Quickly and Away Again-Texas Sailors Left Behind.

NORFOLK, VA., March 25.—Special.— A detachment of artillerymen from Fort Monroe passed through the city this af-ternoon, going South over the Seaboard The railroad officials decline to make

The railroad officials decline to make public their place of destination, but it is understood that they were ordered to some one of the South Atlantic coast forts, probably Fort Caswell, on the Cape Fear river, where the greatest activity is said to prevail and where work is being rashed night and day.

Battery F, Light Artillery, recently arrived at Fort Monroe from Fort Riley, Kansaz, will be used as a movable force, detachments being sent where needed to strengthen weak spots on the Atlantic

strengthen weak spots on the Atlantic York this morning, anchored off the SoutheSrn railway dock and proceed to coal with all possible dispatch. She snil-ed this afternoon, her bunkers filled al-most to overflowing. Another stop will

be made at Charleston. She will, it is said, be painted black while sailing down the coast. The Texas, which sailed hastily yesterday afternoon, left several of her crew behind. They were at Portsmouth on leave and followed by rail to join the ship at New York.

## WILL SPAIN BACK DOWN?

An English Official Thinks She Will

See the Futility of War. LONDON, March 25.—Although public opinion on this side of the Atlantic as it. America had already discounted the nod-America had already discounted the moding of the United States Court of Inquiry into the loss of the Maine and actual confirmation was expected, the verdict only served to whet people's appetites. So intense is the interest in the turn of the kaleidoseope that it has greatly increased to tension. There is little hope here that hostilities can be averted thought it is still regarded as possible that Spain at the last moment, will see the hopelessness of maintaining her position and yield to the inevitable. It is at last realized here that the movement to end the Cuban scandal is no longer in the hands of the Jingoes; but that the solid sentiment of the United States hids the executive to act when the States hids the executive to act when the proper moment arives; that the risks have been estimated and that the great body of Americans are ready to face them. So far as it is possible to ascertain the general diplomatic situation, it

# CAN BE OFFICERS.

ate Against Them.

David B. Hill Had the Last Congress to Wipe Out the Only Prohibitory Provision-North and South on Equal Footing.

Any person who fought in the Confederate army, whether or not he held : commission from the United States gov ernment prior to 1861, is eligible to comnand troops in case of war with Spain. men who are well posted on most sub-jects have contended that under the United States statutes a person who hold a commission in the army or navy prior to the civil war and resigned it to enter

the Confederate service could not hold a commission in the army now.

The truth is, Confederates, whether or not they held commissions in the army or navy prior to the civil war, are as eligible for service as the most radical Federal officer.

PROVISION OF THE STATUTES. The Times Washington correspondent last night sent the following: "I spent some time in the office of the

Judge-Advocate General, U. S. A., this afternoon. The Judge-Advocate and Ma-jor Morrison, assistant to the Judge-Advocate General, told me that the War De-partment is receiving many inquiries from various sections of the country con-cerning the clause of eligibility for commissions in the army.
"Quite a number of inquiries have come from ex-Confederates.

come from ex-Confederates.

"If ex-Confederates who had held commissions in the regular army before the Civil War, like Gen. Fitz Lee, for instance, are to be aspirants for positions in the army agin, they must thank the last Congress for repealing the act which prohibited men who had graduated from the academy at West Point or the academy at Annapolis, or who had held commissions in the old army or navy, and who had afterwards served the Confederate Government, either in its army, navy or civil service, from ever being commissioned in the army or navy of the United States.

missioned in the army or navy of the United States.

THE ORIGINAL ACT.

"The original act of July 28, 1866, excluded all ex-Confedrates from the army and navy of the United States. This act was amended March 13, 1884, so as to exclude only those who had been commissioned before the war, or who had been cadets and who were afterwards in the service of the Confederate Government.

During the Venezuelan trouble David been estimated and that the great of Americans are ready to face. So far as it is possible to ascer. the general diplomatic situation, it (Continued on Sixth Page).

Continued on Sixth Page).

## FORTY-EIGHT MEN ARE FROZEN

No Prohibiting Statute Now to Oper- | Caught in Blinding Snow Storm on | He Will Probably be at the Head of

THEY MAY SERVE IN THE ARMY, FIFTY BADLY FROST-BITTEN. DELEGATION TO VISIT GOVERNOR

Amputation of One or More of Their Limbs Will Have to Be Undergone

by All of Them-All Were Mem-

bers of Crew of the Greenland.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., March 26-The steamer Greenland, returning from the seal fishery, put into Bay De Verde tonight and reported that on Wednesday last, when among the ice floes, while her search of seals, a terrible storm arose, accompanied by a blinding snow, which

drifted rapidly, and a severe frost. FORTY-EIGHT MEN FROZEN. The members of the crew who were on the ice could not regain the vessel and were exposed to the weather throughout the night and all of the next day. Forty-eight men perished and between fifty and sixty were so badly frost-bitten that the amputation of one or more of their table will be a sixty to be undergone. limbs will have to be undergone by all of

Yesterday the Greenland succeeded in recovering the hodies of twenty-five of the victims, but the remaining twenty-three were buried beneath the snow

OTHER CASES FEARED. OTHER CASES FEARED.

From the circumstances of the disaster it is feared that other steamers have suffered in a similar manner. The city is in a terrible state of excitement. The disaster is the worst recorded in the history of the seal industry. Most of the victims were married. victims were married.

The Texas Arrives. NEW YORK, March 25.—The United States battleship Texas dropped anchor off Tompkinsville to-night. erstood that she is going to the Brooklyn Navy-yard.

IT can be stated on posi-I tive information that § this government will, if & indeed it has not already o done so, inform Spain that & the conditions now exist- 5 ing in Cuba have become & intolerable to the people of &

## BROCKENBROUGH FOR CHAIRMAN.

Board of Fisheries.

Friends of Drs. Fletcher and Bowdoin are Active and It is Believed a Dark Horse Will Be Chosen-The Aspirants for Secretary.

Governor Tyler will probably name the members of the State Board of Fisheries

Dr. Austin Brockenbrough, of Northampton, will probably be made chairman of the board. He is one of the bestknown citizens of the Eastern Shore, and is highly esteemed by all who know him. His acquaintance with the oyster industry is extensive.

The contest over this office is interesting. Two of the leading candidates are Dr. Frank Fietcher, a former senator from Accomac, and Dr. John W. Bowdoin, of the same county, who was formerly Commissioner of Pisheries for Virginia. When the Governor visited the Eastern Shore early hast week, it sees that the Fletcher supporters did not know of his coming by a mistake made by some one.
The result was the Bowdoin people had
the Governor in hand and got in good
words for their candidate.

words for their candidate.

THEY CAME TO RICHMOND.

Senator LeCato and Delegate S. Wilkins Matthews, of Accomac were in Richmond yesterday, and conferred with the Governor. They are supporters of Dr. Fletcher, and urged his appointment with the ability they possible.

Dr. Fletcher, and urged his appointment with all the ability they possiss.

In view of the war between the Fletcher and Lowdoin people it is believed a "dark horse" will be chosen, and that person will probably be Dr. Brockenbrough. This gentleman is one of the most popular citizens of the Eastern Shore. He comes of an old Virginia Shore. He comes of an old Virginia family, and is a splendid man in every respect. Delegations in the interest of both Dr.

Delegations in the interest of both Dr. Fletcher and Dr. Bowdoin will be here carly this week.

The other candidates for the presidency of the board are Colonel B. L. Farinholt, of Lancaster, and Mr. George Hunley, of Mathews.

THE OTHER MEMBERS.

THE OTHER MEMBERS.

The aspirants for the secretaryship are Messrs. S. W. Niemeyer, of Portsmouth; George Lindsay, of Norfolk county; Nash, of Portsmouth; W. McD. Lee, of Lancaster; Seth Miller, of Matthews; Woodward, of Middlessx; Dr. Garland Moore, of Northampton; George Preston Coleman, of Wilfiamsburg, and Matthews, of Bellfield.

The Board is to be composed of five

yesterday for the first time since last Saturday. He intended to go to Washing-ton yesterday to attend a banquet to be given last night by the Gridiron Club-but Mrs. Tyler was too much indisposed for him to leave the city. Mrs. Tyler is not seriously ill but her condition is such the Governor wishes to be near her all the time.

## WATER RISING AGAIN.

Cincinnati Merchants Compelled to Move Up Higher.

CINCINNATI, O., March 26.-To-night he outlook for a great flood in the Ohio iver is disheartening. The river at noon o-day passed the fifty-five-foot mark here, ten feet above the danger line, and rising rapidly. The appearance of light rain this evening is transformed to-night into a heavy rain, and has filled people with apprehension of a flood worse than he disastrous one of 1884. In Cincinnati he merchants are moving from inun-

the merchants are moving from inun-bated cellars as rapidly as possible, with the prospect of having to remove them to the second stories.

At 6 o clock to-night the Ohlo river was rising at all points from Gallipolis, to Cuiro. At 10 o'clock to-night it was sta-tionary at Gallipolis, but rising rapidly at all points from Catlettsburg to Cuiro. At Cincinnail at 10 o'clock it was fifty-six and six-tenths feet and still rising one-tenth of a foot hourly. This looks very much like sixty feet will be reached by Monday.

## MR. GLADSTONE'S CONDITION.

Elaborate Precautions to Keep Information From the Press.

LONDON, March 31-Elaborate precau tions have been taken to keep information dition to-day is most critical

## AN OFFICER DISAPPEARS.

A Rumor That He Carried Off Plans of Fortress Monroe Denied.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., March 28 .-The disappearance of a German sergeant named Tscherning from Fortress Monroe caused the report to be circulated to-day that plans of the fortifications had been stolen. The commandant at the fort attributes Tscherning's absence to a spree, and says no plans are missing. Other officers say that Tscherning could have drawn plans of his own if he had been so disposed, as he is a skilled engineer.

#### WEATHER FORECAST. WASHINGTON, March 26.-Forecast

Virginia-Threatening weather

Virginia-Threatening weather and probably rain, warmer; easterly shifting to southerly winds.

North Carolina-Threatening weather Sunday probably with showers in the interior, warmer; northeasterly shifting to southeasterly winds,

# MUST STOP

McKinley Will So Notify Spain.

## **CONDITIONS IN CUBA**

Have Become Intolerable to This Country.

## SOME PROVISION BY SPAIN

For the Helpless Cubans Will Be Demanded.

## WAR IF NECESSARY TO ENFORCE

McKinley Will Submit the

day Without dation.

WASHINGTON, March 26.-President

intervene on humanitarian

MAY STILL PRESERVE PEACE.

The President indicated to his callers an abiding faith that peace still may be preserved, and a determination on his part to accomplish that end if it may be done with honor to our own country and without disregarding the demands of hu-manity. He frankly and repeatedly averred to-day his desire to prevent conflict while, at the same time indicating a firm purpose to secure relief for the stary-

ing reconcentradoes.

Indeed the latter purpose appeared to be the topic uppermost in the President's mind. He dwelled upon the fact that the ted that such action might be of assist-ance to the men at arms, the insurgent army, but they, he said, have shown a capacity to take care of themselves and do not stand in pressing need of our kind

The President believes Spain will inter-The President believes Spain will interpose no obstacles to our sending succort to her indigent people and he will ask Congress to act promptly that the ald to be given may not arrive too late to relieve the present pressing necessities.

This done, the President is hopeful that Congress will remain quiet while the executive branch of the government continues its efforts to secure a peaceful set-tlement of the difficulty. He thinks it not too late to do this, and he made the as-sertion to-day that Spain was willing to meet the United States half way in ad-justing the entanglement without coming to blows.

THE TORPEDO FLEET.

He referred only casually to the sailing of the Spanish torpedo feet, leaving the impression on the minds of his visitors that he considered that so far in this matter Spein is acting within the bounds of her own right and that no just complaint can yet be made by this country. He did not enter into details regarding the proposition he may make or may have

He did not enter into details regarding the proposition he may make or may have made to Spain, for undoubtedly some are now pending, but he left the impression that he would be satisfied with no settlement that would not give the Cubans a very liberal form of government.

He admitted frankly that autonomy had proved a failure, and expressed the opinion that it would be as difficult to satisfy the Americans with any settlement that might be made as it would be to satisfy the Cubans themselves.

He reasserted the possibility of secur-

isfy the Cubans themselves.

He reasserted the possibility of securing an agreement on the part of Spain to allow Cuba to conduct her own affair, with absolute freedom except that the island should be required to pay the mother country a specified sum in the way of a tribute every year out of her revenues, seeming to think that this would form a basis upon which both Spain and the Cubans could agree without the sacrifice of too much pride on either side.

President McKinley reverted often in his conversations to his desire to maintain peace and dwelt upon the fact that war meant not only the loss of life and property but that it also would injure out commerce, disturb business conditions generally, increase our public debt, add to our pension roll and result in many ways to our disadvantage and distress. He also made it clear that whatever course he might pursue in the future he would not at present demand any indems.