THE COUNTY RECORD.

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> -B Y-LOUIS J. BRISTOW, Editor and Proprietor.

It is predicted that 250,000 persons will flock to the Klondike region just as soon as spring navigation opens. It is also predicted, by the Chicago Times-Herald that those who can walk home again will do so a few months later.

A Government official reports that of those who have gone to Alaska within the last year only seven per cent, have been able to earn a living. That, however, will not be regarded as particularly important as long as the United States Government undertakes to provide for all needy citizens of the United States-after they have emigrated to Alaska.

Generally speaking the good little boy is scarce, laments the Philadelphia Press. There are 90,000 criminals behind the bars in this country under thirty years of age, and 10,000 in reformatories ranging from seven to seventeen years. There are more children in the House of Refuge and various reformatory institutions in this State than there are criminals in our jails.

According to the last census there are no fewer than 3,454,675 farm laborers or "hired men" on the farms of the United States, or more than one-fifth of the total voting population. The average earnings of this tremendous agricultural army are, independently of board, \$105 a year, and a grand total of \$362,740,665, paid out annually for farm labor of the most primitive kind.

According to recent information which has come to band showing the total output of the gold and silver mines west of the Mississippi Rriver for the past calendar year, it appears that the gold output of these mines aggregated \$69,830,597 and the silver output \$32,278,290. Distributed among the Western metal-producing States, the showing is as follows:

States.	Gold.	Silver.	
California	817,621,959	9	12,949
Nevada			451,45
Oregon	2,404,797		45,00
Washington	471,949	:	70,000
Alaska	3,571,000		
Idaho		4,555,600	
Montana	4,450,000	9,452,00	
Utah	1,662,254	813,749	
Colorado	18,326,554	12,869,783	
New Mexico	553,678		153,349
Arizona	3,392,991		143,69
Dakota	5,829,575		320,00
Texes	5,000		309,71
Wyoming	27,500		31,000
Brit. Col. & N. W. T.	6,175,000	1	3,150,000
5.33		-	0.000.00

In the production of the yellow metal it appears that Colorado has at last surpassed the Golden State of California, which has headed the list for nearly fifty years past.

The recent decision of Justice Harlan of the Supreme Court, involving the liability of an insurance company upon policies held by a man who in sound mind deliberately commits suicide, is now published in full and is regarded as of the greatest importance. writes William E. Curtis in the Chicago Record. A man by the name of Runk had policies to the extent of \$315,000 until a short time before his death, when he increased his insurance to \$500,000. He held an important indiciary trust, to which he had been unfaithful, and, being afraid of exposure and the same time remorseful, obtained insurance to an amount sufficient to reinburse those who would suffer by his defalcation and provide for the necessities of his family, whereupon he deliberately took his own life. Some of the insurance companies resisted payment, went into court, and the case was finally appealed to the Supreme Court, which held that if, from anger, pride, jealousy, or a desire to escape from the ills of life, a man intentionally takes his own life, there is no liability on the part of the insurance companies to pay the risks, because such an act is a violation of the condition under which the policy is issued. But when a man's reasoning faculties are so impaired that he is not able to understand his moral obligations and appreciate the consequences of the act he is about to commit, such a death is not a violation of the contract, and the insurance company is liable. In the Runk case it was perfectly clear that the suicide had a full and accurate apprehension of the character and the consequences of his act, and that it was a wilful attempt to transfer his own obligations to innocent parties. This suicide is compared with the crime of arson, in which a man intenin order to recover its value from the two Maxim guns and two torpedo tubes. 'tionally may set fire to his 'own house

The Warships s and Abrouall Secured om Brazil.

NOW FLYING THE AMERICAN FLAG.

Spain Suddenly Orders Her Torpedo Flotilla to Cross the Ocean-United States Gunboats Helena and Bancroft Leave Lisbon and Steam on a Southwesterly Course, Atter the Spaniards.

Washington, D. C. (Special).-The prudent and patriotic action of Congress in voting the appropriation of \$50,000,000 for the National defense bore its first notable fruit Monday, when the Administration was able to announce the addition by purchase of two new and efficient warships to the available American fleet. The new vessels which are now flying the Stars and Stripes are the twin cruisers Amazonas and Almirante Abrouall, just completed by the Armstrongs at Newcastle, England, for the Republic of Brazil. Both are practically ready for sea, and will be manned as soon as possible with American crews and brought to this country to reinforce the

Though not entirely filling the gap made in the United States Navy by the loss of the Maine, the two cruisers will add materially to this country's effective naval strength, while their acquisition absolutely blocks in one quarter Spain's eager effort are of the general type of the Cincinnati and the Raleigh, will be renamed after two

PUTTING THE VESUVIUS IN TRIM. Expected to Be the Most Effective Fighte in the Navy.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Special) .- It is stated that the Vesuvius will leave shortly for Norfolk for repairs to her loading appa-ratus, the compressed air apartments of

the big dynamite guns.

Orders were received here to at once place the vessel in fighting trim. Ten or twelve tons of ammunition are on the way, and Captain Pillsbury was directed to clear ship and make room for this.

It is known also that several six-inch rapid-fire guns will be mounted amidship, with heavy armored shields. At present her three three-pounders are the only battery she has to supplement her power-

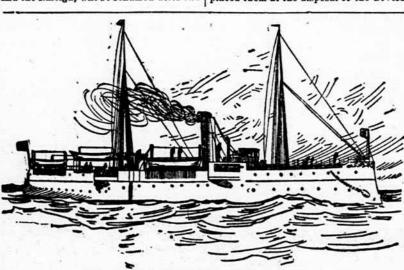
ful dynamite throwers.

The pneumatic dynamite guns are the main dependence of the Vesuvius, say her officers. At from a three to a five-mile omeers. An from a three to a live-mile range a light charge can be hurled with great accuracy, while at from one and a half to two miles the aim is certain. No man-of-war, it is declared, could float within seventy-five yards of where a dynamite shell fell.

In case of hostilities the officers say the Vesuvius will be the most effective vessel in the navy. She is so low in the water and is so narrow that she would present a very small mark for the enemy.

AUXILIARY CRUISER BOARD. Vessels Available For War Purposes Con-

NEW YORK CITY (Special) .- Sixty-three steamships, the choicest vessels of the American merchant marine, have been placed at the disposal of the United States placed at the disposal of the United States Government. Representatives of the own-ers appeared before the special Auxiliary Cruiser Board, which met in this city, and offered their ships. Little desire for pe-cuniary gain was shown. The vessels of-fered are capable of carrying nearly 1000 guns. Members of the special board exam-ted the investers lines St. Lovis and Na-



THE UNITED STATES STEAMER BANCROFT. (She carries four four-inch rifles, two six-pounders, two three-pounders and other guns. With the Helena she could make things lively for the Spanish flotilia, whose armament has been crippled to make room for st ores.)

American cities not yet represented in the naval list. Their displacement is 3450 tons, and they carry batteries of six-inch guns. inch guns can be placed, and on smaller The purchase price of each is supposed to have been between \$1,750,000 and \$2,000,-

The Almirante Abrouali will not be com-pleted at Eiswick, England, for at least two weeks, but the American flag has been hoisted on her at once, in order that no complication shall arise to cause her detention in case of an unexpected declara-tion of war. The Amazonas is at Newcastle ready to sail, and as soon as Admiral Howell can send a draft of men from Lis-bon to her she will fly her new colors.

In addition to strengthening the navy the Administration decided to push at once the work of fortifying the Dry Tortugas as a possible base of naval supplies in case of a rupture with Spain. By order of the President \$500,000 of the emergency fund of \$50,000,000 was set aside for use in put-ting both the Dry Tortugas and Key West in readiness for depot uses. Of this sum \$400,000 will be spent immediately in en-larging the storage facilities at Dry Tortuga and \$100,000 will be devoted to the port of Key West. It is expected by the naval authorities that an expenditure of \$500,000 will be sufficient to put both sta-tions in a proper state of defense, and so tions in a proper state of defense, and so increase their capacity for naval rendez-vous purposes that they can serve as a base for a campaign of any duration against the spanish prospectors in the World Tables. Spanish possessions in the West Indies.

The detachment of the Helena and the

Bancroft from the European station, one to reinforce the Key West fleet, and the other to join the "flying squadron" at Hampton Roads, is taken here as a signifiant development in the naval programme now being worked out under the guid-

ance of the Administration. Neither the Bancroft nor the Helena could be considered powerful enough to be left alone on a dis-tant station, and the recall of both to this side of the Atlantic must be considered a precautionary measure dictated alike by prudence and forethought. The San Franisco, which remains alone at Lisbon, will also be summoned to reinforce one of the

home squadrons at an early date.

President McKinley, it is said, is planning to end the crisis with Spain by diplomacy or force, leaving Spain to choose the alternative—peace or war. The President hopes Congress will speedily adjourn after the Maine Court of Inquiry report is re-ceived. The settlement of the entire question would then be left to the Executive. The explanation given is the revival of the proposition to purchase Cuba in a new form. The suggestion now is to have a great syndicate of American and European capitalists organized for this purpose. Men who control the finances of the world believe they can end the war in Cuba and prevent a war between Spain and the United States by guaranteeing Cuba's war debt. Former Governor Levi P. Morton, of New York State, is said to be deeply interested in this movement to preserve international peace He has been in Washington in frequent conference with the President and Sir Julian Pauncefote and has met the Spanish

SPAIN'S TORPEDO FLEET SAILS. Boats Leave Cadiz, and the Helena and

Bancroft Sail From Lisbon. Cadiz, Spain (By Cable).—The Spanish torpedo squadron has sailed from this port. It is understood the Spanish warships are going to Puerto Rico, where they will await the orders of Captain-General Blanco. Enthusiastic crowds of people gathered at Cadiz to bid farewell to the

vessels.

The United States gunboats Helena and Bancroft sailed on the same day from Lis-bon, Portugal, going in a southwesterly direction. This departure of the United States warships may be connected with the simultaneous departure of the Spanish squadron from Cadiz, which is on the southwestern coast of Spain. Rumors have had it that the Bancroft and Helena might follow the Spanish ships across the Atlantic. The Bancroft was launched at Elizabeth,

N. J., in 1892. Like the Helena, she has a cruiser, but her displacement is only 838 tons. She is 180 feet in length, 32 feet beam and her maximum draught is 11 feet 6 inches. She is of 1213 indicated horseor coaling. ower, which will drive her at the rate of 14.37 knots an hour. Her armament consists of four 4-inch quick-firing guns, two Her normal coal supply is 200 tons.

ones four-inch guns. Some of the artillery necessary for arming them is already at the Navy Yard.

RUSH ORDER FOR POWDER. The Schaghtleoke Company Begins Work-

ing Full Forces to Supply 100 Tons. TROY, N. Y. (Special).-The Schaghtlooke Powder Company has received a rush order for 100 tons of powder from the Govern-ment at Washington. Work on the order will be commenced at once, and the men will go to work at the powder mills at sun

rise and work until sunset. This schedule is necessary, owing to the rule of the com-pany to allow no lights in the mills. The works are the largest for the manufacture of powder in the country, and their full capacity will be tested in filling this order. The Government has asked that the powder be shipped in small lots of a ion each, so that it can be at the dispo-sal of the War and Navy departments im-

"Are Both Kalsers Against Us? LONDON, England (By Cable).—The Paris correspondent of the London Times says: "According to information obtained from good sources, the Austrian Emperor is making great efforts to induce the European powers to present to the United States the danger to Europe of their carrying any further their interference in Cuban

"Emperor William is warmly seconding the efforts of Emperor Francis Joseph. The American Government is aware of this situation.'

The Oregon Taking War Stores. San Francisco, Cal. (Special).—The battleship Oregon is lying in the stream with scows all about her. From two of the scows coal is being discharged, from another powder is being hoisted on board the warship, and from a fourth shells for the big The ultimate destination of the Oregon is presumably the Atlantic Coast. She is taking in 100 tons of coal, which, it is figured, will carry her to Caliao. She will await orders at Valparaiso.

Killed by Fellow Insurgents.

HAVANA, Cuba (By Cable).—Colonel Alvarez, Major Nunez and Major Espinoza, of the insurgent army, according to the re-port of the military commander of Santa Clara, have been killed by other insurgents, who had learned of their intention of surrendering to the Spaniards. This ne produced a sensation in Madrid, where as looked on as evidence that many of the insurgents were ready to lay down their

Senator Proctor Reports.

Washington, D. C. (Special).—Senator Proctor, who has just returned from Cuba, spent considerable time with Secretary liger and General Miles, and then for two hours was in close conference with the President, telling them what he had learned of the situation in Cuba. It is understood that he gave General Miles some sugges-tions about military warfare in Cuba if that should become necessary.

No British Ships For Sale.

LONDON, England (By Cable) .- Under-Foreign Secretary Curzon announced in Parliament that Great Britain has not offered her warships to us for use if we go to war with Spain, but he declined to answer Mr. Davitt's further questions asking whether Great Britain desired an Anglo-American alliance.

Spain's Merchant Navy.

Madrid, Spain (By Cable) .- The Spanish navai reserve or merchant navy, according to the Marine Minister's figures just given out, consists of 552 steamers and 1125 sailing vessels above fifty tons burden; 373 steamers and 69,697 craft of less than fifty tons, with crews aggregating more than

Torpedo Boat Winslow at Key West. [] KEY WEST, Fla. (Special).—The torpedo boat Winslow has arrived from Charleston, having made the longest run ever made by a torpedo boat without touching at a port

For Governor of Rhode Island. The Democrats of Rhode Island nominated Daniel L. Church, of Tiverton, for Governor on a local-issue platform.

HAWAIIAN ANNEXATION

The Treaty Dropped and a Joint Resolution Introduced.

REPORTED FAVORABLY TO SENATE

Annexation by Legislation the Programme Now-Action of Chairman Davis at the Direction of the Foreign Relations Committee-A Virtual Abandonment of the Treaty-Sent to the Calendar.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special) .- In the Senate Wednesday, Chairman Davis (Rep. Minn.) of the Committee on Foreign Relations reported a joint resolution providing for the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands to the United States. The resolution was introduced following action by the committee, which agreed to recommend that the Hawaiian Islands be annexed by legis. lation in open session.

The following is the text of the resolu-

"Section 1-The Government of the Republic of Hawaii having in due form signified its consent in the manner provided by its constitution to cede absolutely and without reserve to the United States of America all rights of sovereignty of whatsoever kind in and to the Hawalian Islands and to their dependencies, also to cede and transfer to ership of all public, government or crown lands, public buildings or edifices, forts, harbors, military equipment, and all other public property of whatever kind and description belonging to the Government of the Hawaiian Islands, and every right and appurtenance thereunto appertaining;

and appurtenance thereunto appertaining; therefore be it
"Resolved, That said cession is accepted, ratified and confirmed, and that the said Hawatian Islands and their dependencies be and they are hereby annexed as a part of the territory of the United States and are subject to the sovereign dominion thereof, and that all and singular the property and rights hereiphelory mentioned are erty and rights hereinbefore mentioned are vested in the United States of America."

The resolution then adopts the language of the treaty beginning with the second paragraph of the second section, and taking all the remainder of it, but does not cite it as a part of the treaty. This part provides for the disposal of the Hawaiian public lands, for the temporary government of the island until Congress decides upon a permanent form of government, the abrogation of Hawaiian treaties and the preservation of Hawaiian customs regulations until those of the United States shall be put into operation, the assumption of the public debt of Hawaii by the United States to the extent of \$4,000,000, the regulation of Chinese immigration, and the appointment by the President of five commissioners to prepare a code of laws for the government of the islands.

Section two provides that the Commis-sioners proposed shall be appointed by the President by and with the advice and con-

resident by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The sum of \$100,000 is appropriated by the third and last section for the purpose of carrying the resolution into effect, and this sum is made immediately available.

The resolution went to the calendar. Senator Davis did not give any notice as to when it would be called up.

FIRE HAD THEM IN A TRAP. Nearly 400 Persons in a Mad Rush For Their Lives.

Fire was discovered in Chicago at 11 o'clock a. m., in the seven-story structure at 215 Wabash avenue known as the Emerson building. Nearly 400 persons were within its walls. There was a rush for life, and it proved a rush to death for many. Although only four bodies have been identified, fourteen persons are miss-

been identified, four-teen persons are miss-ing, probably dead.

The building is just within the elevated railway loop in the busiest spot on Wabash avenue. An explosion quickly followed the first burst of flames, and this drew thousands into the streets to witness vic-tima impring from the unper floor. The tims jumping from the upper floors. The persons in the building rushed to the windows and doors on every one of the seven stories. They crawled out on the cornices and ran down the fire escapes! They poured out of the exits over another. Men and women leaned from the windows. Some were caught in the arms of spectators and in blankets, escaping with their lives. Four others fell to their

FRENCH NAVY ACTIVE.

The Fleet Reported as Prepared to Mo-

The French fleet is being prepared for mobilization, the feverish activity prevailing at all the arsenals and shipyards, which are working until 10 o'clock at night. The French northern squadron at Cherbourg is ready for immediate departure. The ships, it appears, are being swung dur-ing the night, at Cherbourg, for the adjust-

ment of their compasses.

Finally, it is asserted that, in order to complete the necessary number of officers. cond-year students are to be appointed midshipmen, and all the admirals have been instructed to arrange to reach Parls within twenty-four hours after being sum-

The mobilization is connected with prepparations to support Russia by a naval demonstration in the far East.

MAINE VICTIMS WITHOUT HEIRS. Only 127 Claimants Found-Sixty-three

Foreigners on Board. Frank H. Morris. Fourth Auditor of the Treasury, is at present in Cleveland. Mr. Mr. Morris's department has charge of the work of settling the claims of the heirs of

those lost by the Maine disaster.
"We have found on investigation that out of 378 men who were on the boat sixty-three were foreigners," said Mr. Morris. "Of the 253 who were killed we have succeeded in getting into correspondence with 127 claimants. It will surprise you to know that less than ten per cent, of this number had families depending on them, and many had no direct heirs."

The Maine Inquiry. The Maine Court of Inquiry arrived at

Key West, Fla., from Havana, and its members consulted with Admiral Sicard; leaves of absence of the surviving officers of the were released, and they left Key West for their respective homes. The Montgomery was withdrawn from Havana

Powderly Nomination Confirmed.

The nomination of T. V. Powderly to be Commissioner of Immigration was confirmed by the United States Senate in executive session by a vote of 43 to 20. Sena-tor Chandler was the only Republican who cast his vote against confirmation, while a large number of Democrats voted for Mr. Powderly.

A Friendly Remonstrance.

The Spanish Cabinet has addressed a friendly remonstrance to the State Department against the presence of a great ileet at Key West and other emergency measures taken by the & iministre

THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

Washington Items.

The order by Secretary Long that all proceedings of the court martial that recently tried and convicted Pay Director Billings be stricken from the record of the department, gives great satisfaction to the many friends of Pay Director Billings. The accused officer has been honorably retired

Major-General Miles, after a searching investigation of the defenses on Long Island Sound, returned to Washington convinced that New York is absolutely secure from attack by foreign war ships.

The House Committee on Naval Affairs voted to build five new drydocks and will probably authorize the construction of sev-eral torpedo boats and torpedo boat de-

Pay Director Luther G. Billings has been placed on the retired list of the navy. His entence of dismissal from the service will be allowed to drop.

Bishop Satterlee deposed from the ministry the Rev. Gilbert F. Williams, pastor of Christ Episcopal Church, on charges of immorality.

New York and New Jersey pilots who are familiar with all parts of the Atlantic coast volunteered their services to the

Domestic.

Joseph Wilkins, of Wilkins & Co., oleo-margarine dealers, of Washington, D. C., and Howard Butler, an employe of the firm, who were recently convicted of violating the oleomargarine laws, were sentenced in Philadelphia, Penn. Wilkins to six months and to pay a \$1500 fine and cost of prosecution, and Butler was fined \$500 and sentenced to four months' impris-

Eugene J. Lindsay, formerly a clerk in the prothonotary's office in Philadelphia, and recently convicted of conspiracy with several others in issuing fraudulent naturalization certificates, was sentenced to serve two years' imprisonment and pay a fine of \$2000 and the costs of prosecution. Richard W. Merrick, who pleaded guilty of conscience with Lindsay was sentenced to sicnard W. Merrick, who pleaded guitty or, conspiracy with Lindsay, was sentenced to one year and six months and to pay a fine of \$1000. Henry Casper, who also pleaded guilty of conspiracy in the same case, received a sentence of one year and one month and a fine of \$500.

Alexander Anderson, colored, attempted to assault a school girl, in Granada, Miss., and three hours later was captured by a mob, confessed and was hanged.

The yacht Mayflower, purchased by the Government from the estate of Ogden Goelet, was delivered at the Brooklyn Navy

The Court of Appeals gives Newbold T. Lawrence title to 1500 acres of land which have been in possession of the town of Hempstead, Long Island, one hundred Years.

Great damage was reported to California fruit by recent frosts.

City Auditor John's Fear, of Burlington

Iowa, has fled, leaving a shortage of \$2950, representing money he lost in speculation. A mail carrier who has arrived at Skagusy from Dawson, in the Klondike, esti mates the winter's output of gold at \$8. 000,000. Food is plenty and many good claims have been located.

Two big columns forming the main sup port to the ectrance of the Coliseum Building, in Chicago, Ill., destroyed re-cently, collapsed without warning, killing E. R. Baker and fatally injuring John Rice. Several others were slightly injured.

Captain William Lee, an army veteran, mortified because he failed to get the appointment of Postmaster in Merchantville, N. J., committed suicide.

Dr. Trumbull W. Cleaveland was indicted in New York City for manslaughter in the second degree, charged with causing the death of the infant daughter of John L. Carbart by giving her harmful medicines.

Frank Scarringe, who suddenly disappeared recently from Mechanicsville, N. Y., was found dead in a millpond at Saratoga. Upon his body were found three gold watches and a roll of money amounting to

John Wanamaker opened his campaign as candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania at Lancaster, Penn. He made a fierce attack upon boss rule, and, alluding inci-dentally to the Cuban crisis, said the peo-ple of Pennsylvania were not afraid of war with Spain, and approved the measures taken by the Government.

A Bessemer pig iron pool has been formed in Cleveland, Ohio, to control the in the United States. William H. Maxwell was elected City Su-

perintendent of Schools of Greater New York by the Board of Education. His salary was fixed at \$8000 a year.

In New York City Recorder Goff sentenced William J. Koerner, the newspaper artist, recently convicted of second degree murder, to life imprisonment in Sing Sing

Harry Pole and Mrs. Leonora Faulkner were fatally shot by "Captain" Peterson, who has charge of a Brooklyn dredge boat, because of jealousy. Peterson had a short time before locked Mrs. Faulkner out of the house where they both lived. She asked Pole, whom she had never seen before, to assist her in opening the basement door. He consented, and both were shot.

Dr. Edward B. Coombs, a former Coroner of Kings County, Brooklyn, was found guilty of grand larceny for fraudulently obtaining fees.

Governor Bradley, of Kentucky, received a message from Middlesboro stating there are seventy new cases of smallpox and four are seventy new cases of smallpox and four hundred suspects there; that the city is quarantined, has no money, the county can appropriate none and that the city's stricken people are liable to starve.

Edward Garrity, an engineer on the New York Central, was killed near Montrose, N. Y., by his head striking a bridge. The Bank of Abbeville, Ga., made an as-

Batteries of artillerymen were sent to Fort Hancock, at Sandy Hook, N. J., to man the big guns there. Twenty twelveinch mortars arrived.

Miss Lena Bemis, of Mount Holly, N. J., threw acid in the face of Miss Katherine Weitzell, who had won her lover away.

Foreign.

The Australesian Colonial Convention has adopted the Federation bill. The bill now goes to the various Legislatures of

A large party of Dervishes crossed the Nile to Shebaliya Island, and were repulsed by the Egyptian troops with the loss of thirty-eight men killed. The only Egyptian casualty was the wounding of Major Sit-

The American Medical Mission in the suburbs of Chung-King-Fu, Province of Sze-Chwan, or the Yang-Tse-Kiang, China, medical assistants have been maltreated and one has been murdered.

The tug Underwriter, with the derrick Chief in tow, arrived at Havana to work on the Maine wreck.

War feeling was expressed in the speeches at the banquet of the Chambers of Commerce in London, and sympathy was manifested for Lord Salisbury in his The French Minister for the Colonies. M. Lebon, has refused the petition of Mme. Dreyfus, wife of the former Captain Drey-

fus, to share the latter's imprisonment on Devil's Island. An outbreak of yellow fever of a mild type is reported from Rio de Janeiro,

Brazil. At a meeting of the Jamaica Legislature it was estimated that the deficit in the

island's revenue for the year ending March 31, 1899, will be \$925.000.

RELATIONS WITH SPAIN.

No Cessation of the Efforts to Get Ready For an Emergency.

FORMING A NEW SQUADRON.

Atlantic Seaboard Thought Sufficiently Protected-The Massachusetts Ordered Roads-To Be Joined apolis, the Columbia at

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special) .- The Presdent and the Cabinet spent two hours discussing the latest turns in the complicated tangle of Spanish relations, but few or no onclusions were reached, and the ancouncement was made at the close of the neeting that nothing had developed to change the policy or attitude of the Administration in any way.

Secretary Long denies that the battleship Massachusetts and Texas were ordered from Key West because of Spanish protests. Their removal, it is insisted, is part of an improved system of coast defense.

The division of the available fleet in the The division of the available neet in the Atlantic into two squadrons, ordered by the Secretary of the Navy, will be completed in the near future by the assemblage of a third squadron, composed chiefly of monitors, at Port Royal, S.C. It is held that the establishment of a squadron base at Hampton Roads will furnish effective protection for the harbors of the Northern coast, and will liberate for active tea service the monitors which had been Northern coast, and will liberate for active sea service the monitors which had been assigned to the defense of the ports of Philadelphia, New York and Norfolk. It is thought that the monitors Puritan, Terror and Miantonomoh and the ram Katabdin will form the additional squadron off Port. Royal

Boyal.
The Spanish Minister of Marine has directed that the fleet of torpedo boats now at the Canary Islands remain there instead of proceeding to Havana. The United States had objected to Spain's action in lespatching a fleet of torpedo boats to

class and objected to Spaids section in lespatching a fleet of torpedo boats to Cuban waters.

Senator Redfield Proctor dispassionately but forcibly arraigned Spain for her misrule of Cuba in a speech before the Senate setting forth the result of his investigations. President McKinley approved of the matter of the Senator speech, and to this extent the utterance represented his views. The speech was a terrible portrayal of the starvation and misery on the island.

Sanator Gallinger, who has returned to Washington from Cuba, confirms the statements made by Senator Proctor of the awful suffering of the reconcentrados and the brutal misrule of the Spanish Government. He says the Spanish merchants even of Havana are ready for revolution. All classes are eager for any change which will iree them from the domination which means itarvation.

Relief supplies are being delivered in such great abundance for the Cuban suf-ferers that the Department of State has about decided to charter a vessel for nonths for the express purpose of earrying them to Cuba, as the naval vessels are
not suitable for the transportation of
reight, and the little tender Fern, which
is now engaged on that mission, is needed

isewhere. T. Estrada Palms, the Cuban Republic's lelegate to the United States, has issued a proclamation to the American people, saying that nothing but superior force will compel his people to accept anything short of complete independence from the hands of

complete independence from the hands of Spain.

Reports to the Acting Secretary of War from the various States of the Union show that there are 112,352 militiamen practically at the immediate disposal of the general Government in case of hostilities.

Representative Hull, Chairman of the flouse Committee on Military Affairs, introduced a bill, at the request of the Administration, reorganizing the line of the army and authorizing the President, in time of war, to increase it to 104,000 men.

Congress will pledge more than \$17,000.00 for eighteen new vessels of war if the recommendations of the House Naval Committee are carried out. It is proposed to build six sea going battle ships, six torpedo

build six sea goi

boat destroyers and six torpedo boats.

Nearly \$5,000,000 in addition to previous allotments was pledged for increasing the sfficiency of the coast defenses. Senator Allison, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, gave a pledge to General Miles that not less than \$2,000,000 should be appropriated in the Sundry Civil bill for military purposes.

A semi-official statement from Madrid

says that, in view of Spanish explanations of the Maine disaster, no indemuity will be paid. Close watch is being kept on Spain's paid. Close watch is being attempt be torpedo flotilla. Should an attempt be made to move it to Porto Rico, prompt demanding its immediate return to the Canaries are to be made. If Spain should refuse to comply with these representations the plan of the authorities

contemplates the despatch of cruisers to intercept the fleet and destroy it.

The military and naval authorities have exhausted their resourceful energies for the time being in making preparations for an emergency, and no new policies of im-portance have been put into effect. Nevertheless there has been no cessation of the efforts to buy ships, guns, ammunition, coal and every other needed war commodity. Enlistments of men are being made in the army, the navy and marine corps, Ships are being distributed at places where they are likely the test war of effective and engineering. to be the most effective, and engineering officers are pushing the coast defense fortifications. These and many others of a preparatory character are occupying both services to the almost entire exclusion of everything else.

HOLLAND BOAT DIVES WELL

Will Be Taken to Washington and Ex. hibited to Authorities. The torpedo boat Holland made a trial

trip under water off Perth Amboy, N. J. The inventor, John P. Holland, was in charge. The tug Sallie P. Linderman attended the Holland.

tended the Holland.

When the conning tower, ordinarily about four feet above the water, was nearly three feet below, the course of the Holland was parallel with the surface. Three times the boat went under, once going 150 yards at a speed of about nine knots.

The trial was witnessed by about 400 per-

sons, who were on the tug. Mr. Holiand was happy as he received the congratulations of his associates in the Holland Torpedo Boat Company and of the many spec-After a few more trips the Holland will

be taken to Washington, to be exhibited to the authorities. It is said that boats of the same type would cost about \$65,000 apiece.

Brazil, was formally transferred at Graves-

Transfer of the Amazonas. The cruiser Amazonas, purchased from

end. England, to Lieutenant Colwell, naval attache in England. Shortly afterward the cruiser San Francisco arrived and Commodore Howell detailed Lieutenant Commander Nazro to bring the new cruiser to this country.

Eight Killed by Dynamite.

A dynamite explosion took place in the Government storehouse, on Montego Bay, Jamaica. Eight men were killed.