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China's resistance to foreign aggression seems to be limited to wrapping her pigtail about her devoted head, burning joss sticks to her ancestors and making faces at the Powers.

The famine in India has cost the government $6,000,000, and the friends of suffering humanity have contributed to relief funds nearly $9,000,000. And yet vast numbers have died of starvation and disease. The food problem has become extremely serious.

During the debate on the Good Roads bill, in the Senate at Albany, N. Y., Senator Wray said in reply to a question about the cost: "Every cent spent will be an interest-bearing investment." That is not imagination, but fact, demonstrated by universal experience, maintains the New York Tribune.

The bicycle has certainly wrought a revolution in social customs in England if it has encouraged the smoking of pipes by women. The cigarette is not an attractive thing in the mouth of even a pretty woman, but a briarwood pipe between the lips of beauty is something which will have a tendency to reduce the number of British marriages.

The six causes of poverty, as defined in a recent lecture by Professor Franklin H. Giddings, of Columbia University, are refusal to work, lack of employment, struggle to rise, unequal distribution of accident, wrong public policy, and sentimental charity. Any reader whose income is inadequate is invited by Harper's Weekly to consider this list and determine which cause fits his own case.

The Chicago Board of Education has, by a vote of 19 to 1, adopted a resolution increasing the salary of every grammar and primary grade teacher in the public schools of Chicago $75 for the year 1898, and $50 per year thereafter until the maximum salary of $1000 shall be reached. "If there is any profession under the sun that deserves more at the hands of the general public than that of the school teacher," exclaims the Trenton (N. J.) American, "we fail to see it. We therefore congratulate the school teachers of Chicago upon their good fortune."

Fifty years London was five times larger than New York. At the present time it is barely more than two-thirds larger, and if the two cities continue to grow in the same proportion it will not be long before the metropolis of the Western hemisphere displaces London and becomes itself the metropolis of the globe. Some enterprising statistician on the New York Herald has reduced the statement contained in the foregoing paragraph to actual figures, with this result:

	New York.	London.
1840	373,000	1,950,000
1850	696,000	2,600,000
1860	1,175,000	3,200,000
1870	1,440,000	3,600,000
1880	2,200,000	4,000,000
1890	2,630,000	4,500,000
1898	3,400,000	5,600,000
1945	16,000,000	16,000,000

From 1840 to 1850 London's population increased 31 per cent. and New York's 75 per cent. Since that time the percentages of increase have been as follows: From 1850 to 1860, London's 23 per cent., and New York's 79 per cent.; from 1860 to 1870, London's 6 per cent., and New York's 21 per cent.; from 1870 to 1880, London's 12 per cent., and New York's 43 per cent.; from 1880 to 1890, London's 13 per cent., and New York's 31 per cent.; from 1890 to the present time, London's 24 per cent., and New York's 29 per cent. In the calculations which the foregoing table makes with respect to New York's future population, it is extremely conservative; for in all probability New York will eclipse London in population long before the approaching century reaches its specified end.

TIM MURPHY'S FLYING BALLOON.

Whin Tim Murphy wur out av a job
He invinted a flyin' balloon,
An' he sailed away—that's what they say—
For a trip to the land av the moon.
He sailed and sailed away—
Iver so far, to the stars,
An' he sint this word—that's what they heard—
"I'm ditchin' canals in Mars!"

They wur plinty av work to do.
But ditchin' is hard, they say;
An' terrible soon in his flyin' balloon
He sailed and sailed away—
He had worked at the jeweler's trade,
An' could wind a watch with springs,
An' he sint this word—that's what they heard—
"I'm in Saturn, rivitin' rings!"

They wur plenty of work to do,
But tejious it wur, they say;
An' terrible soon in his flyin' balloon
He sailed away—away—
He had worked at the firemen's trade,
An' a Limerick engine could run,
An' he sint this word—that's what they heard—
"I've a fireman's job in the sun!"

They wur plinty av work to do,
But firin' is hot, they say;
An' terrible soon in his flyin' balloon
Tim sailed away—away.
He sailed away to the world,
An' he sint this word, sez he,
"In their bivenly line the stars is fine,
But—home ain' the world for me!"
—Frank L. Stanton, in Judge.

Just Like a Woman.

Vi Bamford had gone home to die. Her baby sister, Ellice Stormont, sat at her bedside holding one of her white, emaciated hands.

"Guy Charter has broken your heart, Vi," she said, "and I will make it the one object of my life to be revenged upon him for your sake!"

"Hush, Ellice, dear!" replied the dying girl, in a whisper. "Vengeance is not ours. He will be surely and rapidly repaid without human aid. Don't make your life miserable by harboring such thoughts. It was my own fault for giving my heart to such a man."

But Ellice sat with a determined face, and presently, when all was over, she stood solemnly looking down upon her dead sister.

"I will go in search for Guy Charter," she cried, holding her hand upward; "and to wreak vengeance upon him! I will break his heart as he has broken hers!"

It was a rash vow, and, if not a senseless, a wicked one, but the best of people do rash and senseless—aye, and wicked things at times, and Ellice Stormont was no exception.

She had never seen Guy Charter, and knew little about him, except that he was a nephew of the wealthy Sir Kenelm Charter of diamond mine notoriety. The last that poor Vi had heard of him was that he was in Paris, and, in performance of her vow, Ellice, who was her own mistress and had a considerable fortune, started for the French capital.

She soon found that Guy Charter had left the gay city, and that he was supposed to be at Monte Carlo. So she journeyed on to the gambling principality; but there she heard rumors of his marriage with a pretty flower girl who had taken his fancy. She could, however, obtain no direct confirmation of this; but it was certain that he had returned to England.

Undismayed, she hastened home again, and, putting secret agencies to work, she was presently rewarded by hearing that Guy Charter was staying at the famed watering place, Shoreport, and that he was certainly not married.

Immediately she went with a traveling companion to Shoreport, and put up at the Hotel Metropole, where, among the names inscribed in the visitors' book she saw that of "Guy Charter."

Ellice was naturally inclined to be of rather a severe temperament, and, carrying her disposition into her dress, she generally wore plain habits. Her companion, therefore, was somewhat startled when she appeared at table d'hote clad in a superb style that was quite unusual to her. Could this beautiful, queenly girl be the heretofore rather plain-looking Miss Stormont with whom she had been traveling? It hardly seemed possible. But the reason was soon apparent.

Guy Charter proved to be a good-looking, manly, open-faced fellow of about 30—quite the last man, one would have thought, from his appearance, to trifle with a woman's affections. Having been much abroad, his conversation was much sought after by his fellow guests.

An introduction took place between him and Miss Stormont in due course, and it soon became evident that she had found favor in his eyes.

It was noticeable that whenever opportunity afforded he was next to her at dinner, and he was, by some strange coincidence, constantly running across her path out of doors.

At first Ellice was frigidly polite. Then, little by little, she allowed her manner toward him to thaw until the meeting got to be quite cordial, and, before many weeks, she had the satisfaction of seeing him hover around her like a moth round the flame of a candle.

She was acting a part, and a most consummate actress she proved. But Cupid's darts are sharp, and there is an old proverb that it is dangerous to play with edged tools. Alas! she found the truth of it to her cost, for what had at first been pretense became reality. Not only had she entangled the amiable, good-looking Guy Charter in the meshes of the net she had spread for him, but, in doing so, she had herself got as fast fixed as her prey. She had fallen hopelessly in love with the man upon whom she had sworn to wreak her vengeance!

Yet her purpose never faltered for an instant. She had started the game for revenge, and revenge she would have—even at the cost of her own life's happiness.

Then Guy declared his love.

"Wait till Monday next," she answered in a sweet way, that was intended to convey assent without expressing it. "I have to go on a short visit, and I will then give you my answer."

The next morning Miss Stormont and companion left Shoreport; but Guy felt assured of success, and for the few days that intervened he walked on velvet and saw through rose-colored spectacles. But there came a rude awakening.

When Monday arrived Ellice did not return, but a letter came:

"I know you spoke the truth when you said love was blind, I meant that you should love me; and, as you broke the heart of my sister, Vi Bamford, I hope I have broken yours. I shall never marry.

"ELLICE STORMONT."

The blow was indeed severe one for Guy Charter. Ellice's work had proved only too successful. For a day or two he was too broken down to do anything, but then he sought her. He wrote to her, but his letter was returned through the post. He traveled from place to place, but everywhere where she would be likely to have been seen or known of, but in vain. She had disappeared, no one knew where.

Guy little knew the bitter tears she shed, or the broken heart she herself carried away. Perhaps he would not have endeavored more eagerly to trace her.

After a while, when all his efforts had proved unavailing, he went abroad.

Some twelve months afterward, among a band of ladies working in the slums of the east end of London, visiting the sick poor and doing what they could to relieve the suffering around them, one, "Sister Ellice," was the most devoted and toilsome of them all. The clergy and her fellow workers warned her that her health would give way under the unremitting exertion, but she paid no heed to them. In her secret heart she wished to die.

One day she was informed of a fresh case of distress. A poor woman lay sick of low fever, brought on by hardship, want of food and the drunkenness and neglect of her husband.

Taking with her some nourishing food, Sister Ellice wended her way up the three or four flights of naked, dirty stairs to the attic in which the woman lived, and she was soon listening to the dismal tale of the poor creature's life.

Then the husband came in. He commenced to grumble before he had reached the door, but when he saw the visitor his tone altered.

The man bore traces of better things. Beneath his rags and his dissipation there was something that told of gentler birth, but it was a mere shadow, as it were, which was almost totally eclipsed by the reality of his present vice and wretchedness.

Throwing himself on a broken-backed chair, he at once started telling his woes in a maudlin way.

"Poor Bessie!" he cried hypocritically, for he cared naught for her. "She's very ill, and I've no money to get her proper nourishment. If you can help us a little, ma'am, I shall be very grateful."

But Sister Ellice had grown to know the ways of such as he. If she had given money it would have immediately been turned into drink, and she took not the slightest notice of him.

So he went on.

"Ah! I've seen better days. To think that a nephew of Sir Kenelm Charter should come to this. He's worth millions, and yet he won't help me. He's one of the city merchant princes."

"Sir Kenelm Charter?" she said inquiringly.

"Yes," he replied: "Sir Kenelm Charter. Do you know him, ma'am?"

"No; but I've heard of him," she said.

"Well, I'm his nephew. My name's Guy Charter."

Ellice looked searchingly at the man to see if it could possibly be her Guy, but there was no need. There was not the trace of a resemblance. What could it mean? Were there two Guy Charters? Two nephews of Sir Kenelm Charter, both of the same name? As the idea occured to her, the room and everything in it seemed to whirl around her, and she would have fainted but that by a mighty effort she rose from her seat and walked about the apartment to recover herself.

"Poor Bessie!" the man was saying quietly, as she resumed her seat.

"Yes," replied the man savagely. "There's a prig of a fellow, a cousin of mine, who calls himself Guy. I'm the son of Sir Kenelm's older brother, and he's only the son of a younger one. But he's the favored one now, and he'll get all the money, while I am left to starve. I've met with misfortune and the old hunks has cast me off!"

He did not say how generous and kind his old uncle had been to him, and what a base return he had made for it.

Sister Ellice finished attending to her patient; and as she left the room she beckoned to the husband to follow her.

"Tell me," she said sternly, when they had got outside the door, "did you know a Miss Bamford?"

The dirty, dirty and degraded as he was, blushed and hung his head.

"Poor Vi!" he murmured. "Yes, I knew her."

Ellice made for the stairs, but he followed her. The chance of getting a shilling for my whisky with was too good to be lost.

"Can you spare me a shilling?" he asked.

And, to be rid of him, she gave him one.

This, then was the offender. This was the Guy Charter who had mortally murdered her sister! Truly vengeance had followed upon him quickly, and without human aid, as Vi had said it would. And Ellice, in pursuing her rash vow, had wrecked an innocent man's happiness, and her own, too.

She never knew how she managed to reach the "Sisters' Home;" but when she got there she was put to bed, stricken with brain fever.

In three months' time the doctors ordered Ellice to the seaside.

She chose Shoreport. She hardly knew why; but she felt a desire to return to the place where her happiness had been shattered.

There she gradually gained strength, and as warmer days came on she was able to wander on the beach that reminded her of her great mistake.

One morning she ventured a little further than usual, and finding herself out of sight of the parade and the people, she sat down upon a bowlder to think.

Presently she bowed her head and wept.

"Oh, Guy, Guy!" she sobbed aloud. "I might have known that it could not have been you. You were too noble for such a thing; but I was blind, Oh, Guy, Guy, how are we to be?"

She had not been aware of a soft step on the sands, but she felt a hand laid gently upon her shoulder, and she heard the voice of him she loved.

"I am here, Ellice, my darling. It was a sad mistake; but I have found you at last!"

Happiness had returned to her, but she had paid dearly during those weary months for her rash vow.—Spare Moments.

Some Sources of Things.

The widow's cap dates back to old Egyptian days when people shaved their hair close to the head in time of mourning and then put on caps to avoid taking cold.

The oldest of popular cultivated roses is La Reine, which came out in 1848.

The General Jacqueminot was offered to the public in 1859, and the Marechal Niel was perfected in 1864. La France came in 1868.

The belief that a branch of palm is a protection against lightning is of Spanish origin. In Madrid good Catholics take the branches they receive in church on Palm Sunday and fasten them in front of their window balconies, there to remain for the ensuing year.

The phrase "Peace with honor," which is usually attributed to Lord Beaconsfield, was original with Edmund Burke. The sentence "First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen," applied to Washington, occurs in the resolution adopted by Congress on the death of the Father of His Country. This resolution was drafted by Gen. Henry Lee, who used the phrase in a subsequent eulogy of Washington.

The famous Bonanza Creek and the more famous El Dorado Creek, where gold was discovered in the Klondike, are very like ordinary everyday creeks in appearance. "Stick George" Cormack and his squaws relatives camped on the creek for months one day, and somehow got to digging and washed out some gold. He went to Forty Mile and made claim for discovery, and soon the news spread like wildfire.

A Novelty Gold Mine.

In one of the rivers in California, gold is collected by means of an iron swimming woman is constructed somewhat on the principle of a diving bell. The cylinder containing the workman is lowered, air is forced into it, and by a series of pipes under pressure, the workman sends the gravel from the river bottom up to the deck of the boat. There it is poured into proper receptacles, is sluiced and washed, and the gold separated from the refuse. While the men engaged in this work do not gather gold in Klondike quantities, they make a fine living, and one which they think they may depend upon for a long time.

AN AZIUM ALPHABET.

A is for Alice, who wrote to her love
B is the Bandersnatch, frumious and fleet.
C is the Cheshire Cat, who slowly vanished away.
D is the Duchess who boxed the Queen's ears.
E is the Eaglet, who barred out long words.
F, the Flamingo, the queerest of birds.
G is the Gryphon, loquacious and gay.
H, Humpty-Dumpty, in gorgeous array.
I for the Insects, with curious names.
J is the Jabberwock, breathing forth flames.
K is the King who was whizzed through the air.
L is the Lobster who sugared his hair.
M, the Mock Turtle, whose tears freely flowed.
N is for Nobody, seen on the road.
O is for Oysters, with shoes on their legs.
P is for Pigeon who guarded its eggs.
Q is for Queen who breathlessly ran.
R is the Rabbit who hunted his fan.
S is the Sheep, on her knitting intent.
T, Tweeddledum, with his noisy lament.
U is the Unicorn, valiant in feud.
V is the Violet, saucy and rude.
W is the Walrus with appetite keen.
X the Executioner employed by the Queen.
Y is the Youth Father William surveyed.
Z is the Zigzag the Mouse's tale made.
—Carolyn Wells.

A PARADISE OF TOY-SHOPS.

The toy-shops are exceedingly numerous in all parts of Japan. Even the smallest hamlets contain them, and the boys and girls are plentifully supplied with playthings from early infancy. Large numbers of people make a living in the business of amusing children, and among these are street jugglers, acrobats, singers, dancers, and story-tellers, and traveling puppet-showmen.

On festival days the streets leading to the temples are filled with stands showing the gay toys, and with showmen ready to amuse both young and old.

TEDDY'S LESSON.

"Come, Teddy," said Mrs. West. "It's time for the cows to come home."

But Teddy was reading a story about a shipwreck, and did not want to be disturbed just then.

"O mother! wait a little while," he said.

A little later Hester came to the door.

"Teddy, you ought to get the cows," she said.

"Other the cows!" replied Teddy, crossly. And his sister went away.

Soon a man's face appeared at the window.

"Edward, the cows!" said Mr. West. And, when his father spoke like that, Teddy knew no time in obeying.

Sulkily, he laid down his book, and walked through the kitchen, where his mother and sister were cooking the supper and his father was piling up the kindling wood for the morning's fire.

"I hate cows!" Teddy grumbled, as he walked slowly across the pine floor. "They're a bother, and I wish we didn't have any. I wish nobody had any. Cows are no good any way, —just in the way. I hate cows!"

An hour later the cows were safe in the barn for the night, and Teddy was in a better humor. He was hungry, too, after the walk to the meadow and back in the fresh, bracing air.

A fine round of meat was smoking on the table, but there was none on Teddy's plate.

"This is beef," said Mr. West "I did not give you any, because you hate cows, Teddy." Teddy opened his mouth, and then closed it again without a word.

"I won't give you any butter, Teddy," said Mrs. West, "because we get our butter from the cows; and you hate them so."

Hester poured out the milk for the other children, but to Teddy she gave a glass of water.

"Cows are such a bother," she said soberly. "I know you don't want any milk."

Teddy looked wistfully at the plate of creamy cheese, but it was passed to every one but him. But, worst of all, when the custards were brought in, sweet and brown, in their little white cups, Teddy was passed by.

"Of course you wouldn't eat custards, for they are made mostly of milk; and cows are no good," said Aunt Hetty.

Teddy looked as if he would cry.

"I—I haven't had anything to eat," he thought, "but bread, without any butter, and potatoes and water. I wish I hadn't said those things about the cows."

Everybody smiled then, and no one objected when Hester passed to him a cup of custard.

"GROWING UP" IN JAPAN.

In St. Nicholas there is a paper on "The Little Japanese at Home," by Ida Tigner Hodnett. Miss Hodnett says, in describing the "growing up" of a boy:

When he is three years old, he begins to wear a kimono, and, if it happens to be a cold day, he may have a little jacket, both of the prettiest of silks and crepes. At four years he may have a little sash, and at five he may have a little sword, for it corresponds to the American boy's first knife. He may also have a little front part of the kimono, which is used as a pocket, long, wide sleeves, save lower end, make two very handy pockets. When fifteen years old he dons the long robe of a man, and a third festival occurs. Another name is given him, and his hair is allowed to grow all over the head, like a novice, instead of being shaved in two places so as to allow the hair to grow in spots or tufts, the place of the varying up to the age of fifteen, when only a crown only is shaved. At this celebrating his majority the boy of friends and relatives call upon him, and while the guests are being served he was still addressed as a child, but he is addressed in the certain forms required by Japanese etiquette. The title of respect, san, is used for men and women, those nearest and dearest, titles, san, sama, always follow the name, and are never prefixed by the word "Mr." For example, the name is Kiyoshi will be called Kiyo-san. In his responses to speeches made to him, the boy shows that he understands the meaning of words that have come upon him, and is now ready to apply himself to the serious business of life.

It used to be a great thing to be a samurai (ki-mo-ri) in Japan. The samurai were soldiers and scholars, and were entirely free from and above the ordinary trades. They could not engage in any business nor could they marry into any other class. This has all been changed since the Japanese revolution of 68. The people are now divided into two large classes,—the heimen), or commoners, the (shee-zo-koo), or gentry,—and have equal rights under the law. The samurai class is now the lowest in the social scale, and the makes of the teaching he may.

The first thing the samurai needed after he was put in his place was a sword. Rather a strange thing for a baby to have, but this baby was a samurai! No, if the tiny hand could not grasp a handle, his nurse carried it for him, and when the obi became a part of his dress, the sword was fastened and hung by his side. To be without it would be a great misfortune. It was the badge of his rank. It was the badge of his rank, and must go wherever he did all his business, and when he went to bed it was close by. "The sword is the soul of the samurai" is an old Japanese saying, and it was thus early fastened to his side that he might become accustomed to it from infancy.

When our young samurai reached the age of seven, it was a day of great rejoicing. At the family festival real metal swords were fastened to his obi, one on each side. The swords, however, were blunt, and were further guarded against hurting the swords so fastened in their sheaths that the young swordsman could not draw them out. They were now his constant companions until, at the age of fifteen, they were handed down in his family to their place.

An Unfortunate Nobleman.

The story of Count Alberta, a noble and beautiful woman who gave up her freedom to share his lot, death in the quicksilver mines of Idria, is one of romance and sacrifice. The Count was sent as an Austrian general against the emperor's command, he was obliged to fly to the forests of Istria where he was seized by the banditti who infested the quarter. He lived among them for months when they were discovered by the government and many of them killed. Count Alberta, supposed to have participated in their crimes, was taken to Vienna, tried and condemned to perpetual confinement and hard labor in the mines of Idria, a punishment a thousand times worse than death. He was indeed the hardest of fates, incarcerated in those frightful subterranean abodes, shut out from all hope of ever seeing the sun again and compelled to toil out a miserable existence under the whip of a merciless taskmaster. It is not usual for one confined in the "regions of sorrow" to live more than two years. The count and his wife, however, whom he married in prison, were not destined to pass long in that terrible prison. The wounds received in the duel, procured for the count a pardon, and they returned to Vienna where his title and rank were restored together with the emperor's favor.

German police authorities are trying to discover the identity of a dead body recently found in the Rhine. Of the description is: "Age, about 30 years; height, five foot eight; shape, the Goldern dialect."

[illegible] introduction of the U[illegible] was the largest [illegible]

[illegible]ment Between Ge[illegible] and Senate Pro[illegible]s the Suspense.

[illegible]FERENCE LIKELY.

[illegible]ress Seem to Control the Lower Branch.

[illegible]STRATION TAKES A REST.

[illegible]ntered on Congress, and When [illegible] the Word the Dogs of War [illegible] Be Unchained—Spaniards [illegible] Attend a Bull Fight.

[illegible]SHINGTON, April 18.—The difficulty of adjusting the differences [illegible] the two houses of congress on [illegible] question begun today. The [illegible] between the two houses split [illegible] the interpretation of the [illegible] clause of the senate resolution [illegible] the house resolution, nothing could have [illegible] immediate concurrence in [illegible] as the great majority of the [illegible] in the lower branch of congress [illegible] eager for a conclusion. But [illegible] of the senate declaring for [illegible] of Cuban independence [illegible] of the direct and specific recognition [illegible] of the president has given [illegible] servatives a rallying cry from [illegible] of party loyalty, which [illegible] very effective. One of the [illegible] prominent Republican leaders on [illegible] of the senate denominated the [illegible] of the senate resolution as a [illegible] "insult" upon the president, [illegible] as loyal Republican could [illegible] And upon this theory Speaker [illegible] and his lieutenants have been [illegible] in their campaign against [illegible] ance in the senate resolution. [illegible] yesterday the speaker's room [illegible] Boreham were the head[illegible] of the commander in chief of [illegible] He consulted with his lieu[illegible] Messrs. Dingley of Maine, Dal[illegible] Pennsylvania, Cannon of Illinois, [illegible] Lorimer of Ohio and Payne of New [illegible] He has seen Messrs. Joy of Mis[illegible] Lorimer of Illinois, Heatwole of [illegible] and other leaders of the Re[illegible] opposition and through other [illegible] he had a thorough canvass made [illegible] Republican side of the house [illegible] Eight he was confident the Repub[illegible] of the house can be marshaled [illegible] yielding to the senate on the [illegible] tense. Some of the arguments [illegible] with those who, like Mr. Cooper [illegible] Scottish, Mann of Illinois and [illegible] are disposed to take [illegible] retest cut of the woods and [illegible] ing end the matter have been [illegible] to shake the convictions of [illegible] politicians.

[illegible] chief complaint of those who [illegible] to concur is that nonconcurrence [illegible] delay, complications would [illegible] of diplomatic negotiations [illegible] other concessions by Spain which [illegible] embarrass the United States when [illegible] for action arrives.

[illegible] suggestion that the president [illegible] sign the resolution and send a [illegible] to congress saying that the [illegible] recognizing the independence of [illegible] extra cores, beyond the juris[illegible] of congress, was frowned upon [illegible] president's friends. Those who [illegible] in favor of concurrence in the [illegible] amendment were not particularly [illegible] yesterday, but some of them are [illegible] determination. At one time [illegible] Republicans in the house of [illegible] agreed to vote for concurrence, [illegible] could not be confirmed, and the [illegible] ratives are confident that not [illegible] would break ranks on the [illegible] They realize, however, that the [illegible] ties in a possible stampede. [illegible] Republicans join the Democrats [illegible] Republicans in support of the [illegible] solution will go to the president [illegible] by the senate. Should the lit[illegible] of Republicans who will vote [illegible] make the result doubtful, [illegible] and that many others who are held [illegible] considerations of party loyalty [illegible] over in a body.

[illegible] of them have made their acquiesce in the programme mapped out [illegible] upon the ability of the House [illegible] to carry it out. If the resolution is to be concurred in, they say, [illegible] cannot afford to be left out at the [illegible] They say they could not justify [illegible] course with their constituents. [illegible] of them have received letters [illegible] have been besieged by their [illegible] constituents to vote for the senate resolution.

[illegible] has been considerable criticism [illegible] verbiage of the senate amend[illegible] General Grosvenor said sarcas[illegible] that a resolution which is to [illegible] the inspection of the senate, should [illegible] be "grammatical and diplo[illegible]

[illegible] speaker's lieutenants have held [illegible] to their colleagues the assurance [illegible] action will be had at every sub[illegible] stage of the proceedings with [illegible] such as will make the resolution will [illegible] to the president as finally agreed [illegible] before Wednesday morning. But [illegible] they view the situation dispas[illegible] ly enough to know that such expe[illegible] is possible. There is a strong, [illegible] that delay is what is desired [illegible] opposed to war in the hope of [illegible] action by the Spanish cortes. [illegible] resolution should result in war, [illegible] house measure agreed upon by [illegible] Republicans of the ways and means [illegible] committee will be presented, and [illegible] money reorganization bill as modi[illegible] will be passed as soon as [illegible] of others. The opposition to the [illegible] measure for the present is [illegible] to withdraw.

[illegible] Saturday [illegible] of yesterday, the ministers preserving a waiting attitude. They believe that by Wednesday or Thursday the two houses of congress will have definitely agreed as to their line of action and that the course of events will then depend upon President McKinley.

"In the meantime the draft of the speech from the throne, which is to be delivered before the cortes on Wednesday, has been substantially drawn up. It is short and strongly worded, but probably undergo modifications in accordance with events that may take place in America during the next few days."

"In official circles it is said that the Cuban rebels are waiting for the outcome of affairs in the United States before determining on a line of conduct. If America decides to recognize the independence of Cuba, they will carry on the campaign with greater vigor than before; if, on the other hand, armed intervention is only to be recommended, with the prospect of possible annexation to follow, there will be such a feeling of disgust among them that they will prefer a pacific solution of the trouble by means of the promise of a fuller measure of autonomy.

"All international questions are rapidly becoming merged in the external crisis. Many senators and deputies are arriving here. It is believed in political circles that the debates in the two chambers will be very brief and that no party or any shade of opinion will refuse to grant the government the fullest diplomatic assistance in case of an international conflict."

HOW MADRID TAKES IT.

More Interest in Sunday But Fight Than in Senate Action.

MADRID, April 18.—The usual Sunday bull fight absorbed the popular yesterday, overshadowing the action of the United States senate as a topic of discussion. The general tone of the press is firmly warlike. El Liberal, a moderate Republican, welcomes the senate's decision, although it is more hostile, since it tends to entertainge the situation, which is becoming insupportable to the Spaniards, as shown by the outburst at Malaga and elsewhere. El Liberal expresses the hope that the mixed commission will come to a decision quickly, enabling Spain to know definitely her fate.

The journals which comment on the senate's resolution consider it a further proof of the Quixotic scheme of annexation and point out that it comes on the very day on which the Havana delegates proposed to start to confer with the insurgents.

Government circles feel that the resolution is a fresh obstacle raised to the union of the insurgents and the Autonomists in Cuba.

The Official Gazette will shortly publish the report of the Spanish commission of inquiry into the Maine disaster, demonstrating that the explosion was of internal origin.

The Imparcial, referring to the attack upon the American consulate at Malaga on Saturday, describes the outrage as necessarily calling for apologies and warns the Malagueños against provoking a war which Spain would avoid if possible. The Imparcial adds:

"Rioting is no proof of courage. The Greeks made demonstrations a few days in Athens, but this did not prevent them from quickly forsaking the heights of Thessaly. The Spaniards should enter the conflict like gentlemen and not like ruffians."

FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND.

Congress Will Pass a Bill Calling For Half a Million Volunteers.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—It is the confident expectation of the president and the secretary of war that before the end of the present week the government will have the material promise of land forces aggregating at least 100,000 men for the occupation of the island of Cuba and the defense of the eastern and southern seaboard. Within a short time thereafter an army of that size will probably be already in the field. The preparations to accomplish that end have been perfected in almost every detail. Tomorrow at the latest a bill will be introduced in congress authorizing the president to call for volunteers, and if the same promptness is shown in passing this measure that has characterized the other war preparations, Mr. McKinley will be empowered to issue the call to arms before the middle of the week.

The government has received assurance from a multitude of sources all over the country that the response to such a proclamation would be, if necessary, not less than 1,000,000 men. The bill will authorize the enlistment of troops to the maximum number of 400,000 if the measure is introduced in its present form. It was roughly drafted by the war department Saturday and in the war department it was perfected yesterday. Under the advice of the judge advocate general's office. It will be introduced in the house as a substitute for the Handy bill, introduced last week, and is strictly an official measure of the war department. It designates the troops authorized by the bill as the "provisional army."

The Powers Are Quiet.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—At the embassies and legations representing the great powers of Europe the unusual activity of the last three weeks has [illegible] ...diation or intervention between Spain and the United States. Inside the recent attitude of notes was in progress some of the embassy offices here were open nightly until 8 a. m. receiving and sending cipher dispatches in connection with the effort of the powers to get together. This proved unavailing, however, and as one of the best posted members of the diplomatic corps stated tonight, "the powers have too many troubles of their own to permit them to reach a concert in this affair."

The Austrian minister, Mr. Hengelmuller, gave a diplomatic dinner last night, the British and French embassadors, the Russian chargé and the Spanish minister being among the guests. Although the powers were well represented, the gathering was purely of a social character.

Coal to Be Contraband.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—In directing her colonies to regard coal as contraband of war in the event of hostilities between the United States and Spain, Great Britain has taken action, administration officials say, in line with the wishes of the president and naval authorities.

Pressure will be exerted upon France, Haiti and San Domingo to adopt the same rule, and some attention is being given by the state department to South American countries with a view to securing their sympathetic action of the contraband character of coal, as well as an announced determination on their part not to sell either to Spanish or American men-of-war a supply of fuel greater than that necessary to enable the belligerent vessel to steam to the next home port.

With coal declared contraband of war, administration officials and naval experts say, it will be impossible for Spanish vessels to operate in the West Indies or in the Pacific, and, as a result, the chances of success for American arms will be immeasurably enhanced.

Roosevelt to Volunteer.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Hon. Theodore Roosevelt probably will resign his office as assistant secretary of the navy, in case of hostilities with Spain, to accept a commission for service with the army. Nothing definite has yet been decided upon as to what assignment he will accept, but it is believed that he would prefer to serve with the New York state troops. From the beginning of the present difficulties with Spain Mr. Roosevelt has been prominent among those who believe that war is the only solution of the problem, and since the disaster to the Maine his advice to the president and the members of the cabinet has uniformly been for immediate action against the Spaniards with the full power of the army and navy. He has never doubted that the Spaniards were responsible for the wreck of the Maine and believes that that act fully justifies an immediate declaration of war.

Relics of the Maine.

NEW YORK, April 18.—The barge Lone Star of the Boston Towboat company arrived in quarantine last night from Havana in tow of the tug Underwriter, bringing from the wreck of the United States battleship Maine two anchors, carriages, two gun shields, two anchor chains, three davits, anchor shackles, donkey engine smokestack and umbrella covers of the funnels, in all about 40 tons of material. After the Maine was destroyed and the wreckers ceased operations upon her, that was all the material that was saved and placed on the Lone Star. Captain Swain reports having passed a sunken barge off Abseconn on the route from Newport News to New York. He will dock at the Brooklyn navy yard, where the material brought from the Maine will be disinterred. Captain Swain reports everything quiet in Havana up to the day he left.

British Steamer to Be Bought.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—It was officially admitted tonight that this government had determined not to permit American coal to be taken to the Cape Verde islands on board the British transatlantic steamer Hampstead, and that negotiations were under way for the sale of that vessel and her cargo to the United States. The Hampstead, although she was to have sailed yesterday, has not gone, and her purchase will probably be announced tomorrow.

It is admitted by officials that they are trying to meet trick with trick. There is but a small amount of coal at St. Vincent, and it would be necessary for the Spanish fleet to go to some other point for fuel within a short time, as the supply at Cape Verde cannot last any length of time. It was to help the fleet now gathered at that point that the Hampstead was ordered to proceed to Cape Verde after purchasing a supply at Lambert's Point.

Increase In Regular Army.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The war department, through the president, will in a few days ask congress for authority to increase the regular service. The present force of the army is 26,610. It is proposed to increase the enlisted force of the regulars by 17,070 men. This will bring the total enlisted force of the army up to 43,760 men and enable the regiments to carry their maximum, giving at present theoretical strength, giving the cavalry arm 3,836 men and a total strength of 30,000; the artillery 1,365 additional men, or a strength of 7,000, and the infantry 11,875, or a total strength of 25,000. These will be regular troops, distinct from those of the provisional army.

At It Again.

PINEVILLE, Ky., April 18.—It is reported by a man who has just arrived here from Clay county that the Howards and Bakers engaged in a pitched battle on Friday, and two men were killed and three wounded.

[illegible] Grain Elevator Destroyed.

WHEAT KING LEITER A HEAVY LOSER

Caused by an Explosion of Grain Dust—Loss Over Half a Million—Largest Fire That Boston Has Experienced Since 1893.

BOSTON, April 19.—The wheat grain elevator at Hoosac tunnel docks in Charlestown, was completely off by a dust explosion at 4 o'clock yesterday morning, and the fire that followed it not only destroyed the remaining portion of the immense structure, but consumed nearly the entire contents, over 400,000 bushels of grain, mostly wheat. The steamer Cambroman, which had just finished loading at the dock, was towed out without injury, but some of the small tenants adjoining and a building used as a distillery by Chapin & Trull were damaged more or less by the debris from the roof.

The loss is estimated by the fire underwriters at nearly $500,000, making a fire loss that has not been equaled in the city since 1893.

Four alarms were sent in with multiply additional ones sent for, until three-quarters of the fire department, including the two horseless engines and firebeats, were manged in the immediate vicinity, but not before the entire structure was ablaze with smoke and flame.

When the first firemen arrived, they found some of the streets impassable, for portions of the elevator were in every direction. Great timbers had been blown 100 feet in the air by the force of the explosion, and many of the adjoining stories of neighboring buildings were crushed and pierced by the great beams.

Fortunately no person was near the exterior of the building when the explosion came except Archibald Golden, the night watchman, who was on the ground floor. He was hurled against the side of the building and was badly fearfully battered and torn, managed to crawl to a place of safety before the fire enveloped the structure.

The entire loss is covered by insurance, which falls on fire and marine companies, as much of the grain was in process of shipment from the Baltimore and Ohio railroad lines to the west to Europe. The individual losses cannot yet be estimated, but the grain itself was valued at about $400,000. The loss on the structure is $150,000, and the damage to the pier and adjoining property is about $50,000.

Chapin & Trull, the distillers, suffered great damage by water and flying timbers, and their loss will be about $15,000.

Of the 400,000 bushels of grain in the elevator, the elevator officials stated last night that over half of it belonged to Europe. Leiter of Chicago, the balance consisted of oats, corn and other cereals, the property of various parties in the west.

Big Furniture Combine.

GRAND RAPIDS, April 18.—Negotiations that were begun during the January furniture season in this city with a view of forming a trust or combination by the manufacturers of chamber suites and case goods promises success in the near future. Meetings attended by representatives of Cincinnati, Chicago and other cities have been held here during the past week and arrangements for incorporating the American Furniture company under the laws of New Jersey are nearly completed. It is stated that over 80 per cent of the chamber suit manufacturers of the country, controlling nine-tenths of the output of case goods, have agreed to put their plants into the combination on a plan similar to that of the late nail trust.

Wire Drawers Will Strike.

ANDERSON, Ind., April 18.—A general strike is probable among the wire drawers of the recently organized American Steel and Wire trust. Word has been received here that the heads of the trust have decided to cut the wages of the wire drawers and possibly other workmen employed by the trust factories from 15 to 35 per cent. There are 14 wire mills in the trust. A meeting of wire drawers was held here yesterday afternoon to consider what action to take in view of the threatened cut in wages. The feeling among the men is one of intense bitterness. The Wire Drawers' association is thoroughly organized.

Memorial to Jefferson Davis.

RICHMOND, April 18.—The Jefferson Davis memorial window was unveiled yesterday in St. Paul's cathedral, the church Mr. Davis attended while president of the Confederacy. There was an immense crowd present. The service was very simple, the sermon being preached by Rev. Dr. William Dame of Baltimore. Mrs. Davis, her granddaughter, Miss Hays, and Consul General Lee and family, accompanied by Miss Cisneros, attended the ceremonies.

Died to Escape Suffering.

ATLANTIC CITY, April 18.—Mrs. J. N. Burton, wife of a prominent citizen of Canton, O., committed suicide yesterday afternoon by shooting herself through the heart. She was a guest at a prominent hotel, coming here for the benefit of her health. Her ailment was cancer of the stomach. In a note she left to her husband she says she could bear her sufferings no longer and asked forgiveness for her act.

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