Court Goes to Key West to Get Testle mony of Wounded Survivors -Difficulties Experienced by the Divers.

Key West, Fla., March 1.-The United States court of inquiry into the loss of the battle ship Maine in the harbor of Havana on February 15 began its sessions here Monday morning. Those officers and civilians here who believed the reports from Havana saying that the court had already decided that the loss of the Maine was due to treachery have apparently changed their minds, for Monday the universal question was: "What has the court found out?" while Sunday one heard all around: "When will war be declared?"

Brought face to face with the court,

TEN VICTIMS OF EXPLOSION. Awful Disaster at Kalamazoo, Mich. -Fire in a Laboratory.

Kalamazoo, Mich., Feb. 28.-While firemen were trying to extinguish a fire in the second story of Hall Bros." laboratory Saturday night a terrific explosion took place, blowing the roof and the walls of the building into the street. Ten men were killed and fourteen injured as follows:

DEAD-George Halliday, engine driver; Pat McHugh, pipeman; John Hastings, Jr., hoseman; Charles Whiting, spectator; James Quigley, spectator; William Wager, fireman; L. L. Holloway, druggist; Frank Auwers, fireman; Eugene Dole, fireman; Joseph Clifford, telephone lineman. INJURED-Will Hastings, scalp badly

cut and right foot blown off, necessitating amputation; James Utter, driver, both legs broken; John McDermott, fireman, leg broken, face badly burned; Ordway Knight, fireman, head badly cut; George Chatterton, back broken, leg injured: Victor Vocelle, scalp badly cut, skull injured; Fred Stohrer, hip injured; John McAllister, fireman, leg broken; six others received lesser

Firemen were perched upon ladders

Appearance it Brown up by a mine EHECK IF STRUCK BOW VIEW BOW VIEW Water line. SIDE VIEWS

HOW A WARSHIP CAN BE BLOWN UP.

men realize for the first time how un- on several sides of the building and known out of due season.

Divers Work Slowly.

bridge, cranes and gratings. Then, if dashing into the crowd. not before, all the dead can be removed.

May Not Get Report for Weeks. Washington, March 1.-At the close of office hours a telegram came to the navy department from Admiral Sicard at Key West saying it would be necessary for the court of inquiry to resume sessions at Havana to obtain evidence of divers after further work upon the Washington, Friday night made the foldrawn from the message was that the report of the court of inquiry can scarce- an official denial: ly be expected for several weeks to come. Upon the return to Havana it is expected that a good deal of time must elapse before the divers can get through

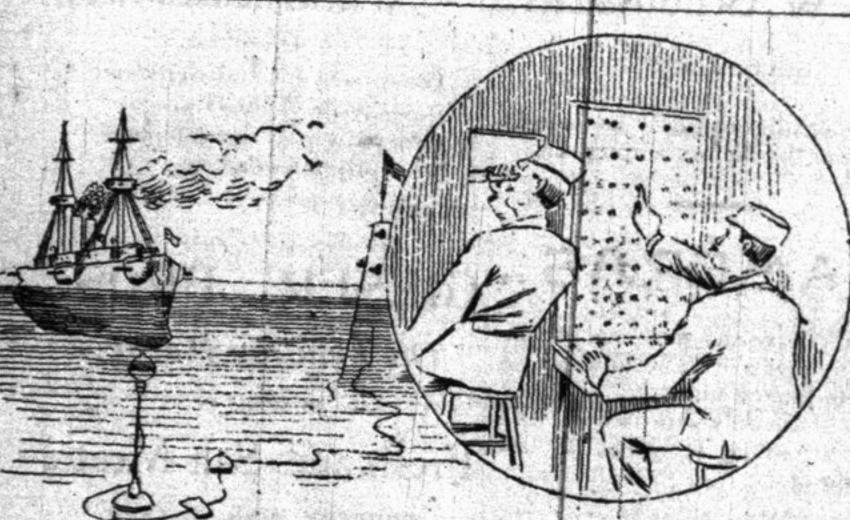
An Official Denial.

terest in connection with the disaster to the battle ship Maine, Senor Du lowing statement which, coming from such authority, may be considered as

"I wish to state on my own official knowledge that no mine exists inside or outside of Havana harbor, nor is there any submarine defense of any kind. The report is the mud which now encompasses the | could only have originated in the minds so absolutely false and ridiculous that it

likely it will be for the court to allow they were buried in the great heaps of any inkling of its conclusions to be debris. The dames shot up 100 feet, and then after a moment two more explosions occurred. The shocks broke Havana, March 1.-The difficulty ex- many windows in other buildings, perienced in recovering the bodies of horses were knocked down, and spectavictims of the Maine disaster is not tors thrown off their feet. The loss understood by any but the divers. The | will be \$30,000, upon which there is an latter Sunday worked for three hours insurance of \$18,000. The Kalamazoo trying to bring out one body intact, Paper Box company occupied the same and one of the divers had a bad fall building, and its loss is \$6,000; insurand several got their air tubes tan- ance, \$4,225. Some of the debris was gled. Even then they could not ex- blown across the tracks of the Michitricate the remains. The principal ef- gan Central railroad, and it will stop forts of the divers are now directed traffic for several hours. A fire engine toward clearing the upper wreckage, was covered up by the bricks, mortar smokestacks, decks, guns, hatches, and timbers, and the horses ran away,

> Washington, Feb. 26.-In view of the widely published report that the barbor of Havana contains a system of submarine mines, a statement around which has centered the chief public in-



HOW A SUBMARINE MINE IS PLACED AND OPERATED.

lower part of the wreck of the Maine of those persons anxious to incite the ev and examine the bottom. After this is | passions of both nations for their own misdone the court must deliberate in order. to secure an agreement upon their findings. The prevalent belief at the navy department is that up to this moment the court has not once undertaken to compare notes and endeavor to reach such an agreement.

congress that the president and his ad- | \$555,000. The case was on trial 19 days, visers have positive information regard- and was given to the jury Friday evening the destruction of the Maine, but ing. The court's instructions were in that facts are kept secret and the offi- effect that a verdict for the full amount cial inquiry is being delayed to give the | should be returned in favor of the state. administration needed time to prepare for threatened war.

Daughters of the Revolution.

Washington, Feb. 25 .- The election of officers of the Daughters of the Amerdent-general, she receiving 396 yotes. | gan (Ala.).

erable ends. I consider the very suggestion of such a thing an insult to Spain,"

Verdict Causes Surprise. Omaha, Neb., Feb. 28.-The jury in the case of the state against the bondsmen of ex-State Treasurer Bartley returned a verdict for the defense Sun-Opinion prevails among members of day evening. The amount sued for was

Can't Be a Senator.

Washington, March 1 .- Hon. Henry W. Corbett was on Monday denied admission to the senate as a senator from Oregon, on the appointment by the govican Revolution assembled in congress ernor, by the decisive vote of 50 to 19. here, was not finished Thursday night, Speeches were made against the ad- . New York, Feb. 25.—Francis M. movement of popular feeling, shared by The vice presidents-general and his- mission of Mr. Corbett by Senators Ba- Bunce, commandant of the navy yard the army and navy. From a financier's torian-general remain to be elected. con (Ga.) and Burrows (Mich.), and in there, has received from Washington his viewpoint it is equally impossible, be-

PREPARING FOR TROUBLE

Work on War Ships at Navy Yard Is Being Hastened.

Spain Is Also Pushing Work of Naval Construction and Armamitted to Secretary Bliss. An abstract ment-Fleet Ordered to Be Held in Readiness.

Washington, Feb. 28.-Activity seen at the military posts, and men by the thousands are announcing their readiness to serve the country in the event of a conflict with Spain. In order to hasten work on war ships at League Island navy yard large forces of men were kept at work all day Sunday. Many clerks were also kept at the navy department for Sunday work, something that is very unusual.

According to a report laid before President McKinley, 10,073,576 ablebodied men are now available for military duty in the United States. Of these 112,082 are already in the militia. Spain Prepares.

Ferrol, Spain, Feb. 28.-The work of paval construction and armament is being pushed by the government with the greatest activity at the arsenal and dock yard.

A former captain-general of Cuba (presumably Marshal Martinez CamWARDS OF THE NATION.

The American Indian Shows Very Rapid Advancement. Washington, March 1 .- The twentyeighth annual report of the board of Indian commissioners, of which Merrill E. Gates is chairman, has been sub-

of the report follows: In the general condition of the Indians no important changes have occurred, but there is evidence of steady progress in industrial pursuits and in education. The board views with satisfaction the

firm stand of the president in support of civil service reform," and the application of the order prohibiting removals without cause to the Indian service. Belief is expressed that the placing of the Indian agents themselves under the civil service would be a great boon to the service. The board thinks the agreements of the

Dawes commission with the Choctaws and Chickasaws in the Indian territory have one serious defect. They make no provision for some thousands of Chickasaw freedmen whose rights as citizens the government is bound to protect. If this defect can be remedied prompt ratification of the treaties by congress is urged.

Mention is made of the enlarged and improved facilities for Indian education inaugurated during the past year and figures are given showing that the enrollment in the 288 schools of all grades including contract and mission schools for 1897 was 22,964, as against an enrollment of 23,572 for 1896. The statistics presented are regarded as highly significant and full of hope for the Indian race. It means, the board says, that in a few years a generation of Indians will be raised up very different from any that have lived before-a generation educated

ADMIRAL SICARD AND SOME OF HIS AIDS.

pos), interviewed by a representative of Correspondencia Militiar, is reported as

"I never entertained a doubt that if the rebellion were not suppressed before 1898 war with the United States would become an established fact. Unhappily my prophtion of having done all in my power to dians are not included in these figures. avert it, and therefore I do not regret the | Considerable progress in the allotments blame which has been heaped upon me. All of lands to the Indians has been made dur-

The Correspondencia Militiar, organ of the army, says: "The prevailing impression is that war between Spain and the United States will break out in April."

Fleet for Cuba.

Key West, Fla., March 1, 3:30 a. m .-The fleet here, made up of the New York, Iowa, Marblehead, Montgomery, Nashville, Cushing and Ericsson, as well as three battle ships, Indiana, Texas and Massachusetts, now at Dry Tortugas, at three o'clock in the afternoon received orders to hold themselves in readiness to start for Havana at the tap of the drum. The Detroit left here Monday for Dry Tortugas, where she will join the squadron. The orders came from Long in Washington to Admiral Sicard, and are said to be based on information wired from Havana by the captain of the Bache United States coast survey boat, which left Key West for Havana Monday. The captain of the Bache told such a story of the heated state of the Havana public and the probability of riot at any moment, and danger to Americans now in Havana to flow therefrom, that Long at once made the order indicated.

England Won't Support Spain. London, March 1 .- The Daily News commenting editorially on the relations between the United States and Spain, says: "Spain can expect no support, moral or otherwise, from England against the United States. She has ruined Cuba, as she has ruined or lost every other colony, by the grossest corruption, cruelty and maladministration, and she must be left to settle the account for it with those whom it may concern without any aid or sympathy

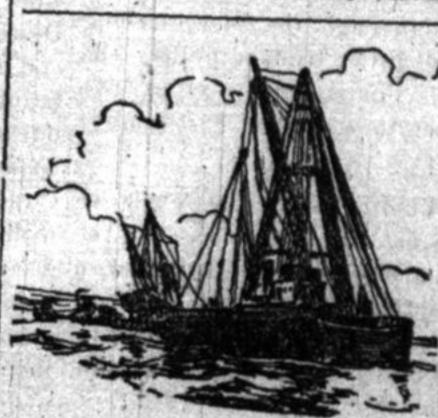
on our part."

Promoted. commodore.

to speak and read and write the language of the people among whom they dwell, of whom they are destined to be a part, and trained to habts of industry and in many mechanical arts.

The average attendance of pupils at Indianapolis has increased from 3,030 in 1877 to 18,676 in 1897. The schools of the five ecy will be fulfilled. I have the consola- civilized tribes and of the New York In-

that is now possible is that we should all ing the year. Nearly 60,000 allotments in unite to meet the danger That threatens the all have been made since the practice was begun, so that about one-third of the redmen, excluding those in the Indian territory and in New York, are now in possession of their own lands and have the opportunity of establishing individual homes and of gaining support by their own labor. The commission is strongly of the opinio that the allotment system is a good one, that as a result of Indian labor there is a gratifying growth in their productive industries which warrants the hope that the



WRECKING DERRICK CHIEF. (Now Being Towed to Havana.)

time is not very far distant when the issue of rations and other supplies to the Indians may be brought to an end. Unfortunately, the report says, much of the land allotted to the Indians is in the arid regions, and is unfit for productive cultivation without an extensive system of irrigation, and the board concurs with the commissioner of Indian affairs in recommending an appropriation to aid in works of this character.

Oppose Sale of Cuba. London, Feb. 25 .- The Madrid correspondent of the Standard says: Spanish statesmen of every shade of opinion are simply amazed and indignant at the idea that Spain would ever consent to sell Cuba. The suggestion would expose the monarchy to an irresistible Mrs. Daniel Manning was elected presi- favor of his admission by Senator Mor commission as rear admiral. His offi- cause the price suggested would not cial rank up to Thursday was that of half cover the Cuban debt, which is almost entirely held by Spaniards.

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