

IS EAGER TO KNOW.

Spain Asks What Our Object Is in Purchasing Warships.

Her Question Is Looked Upon as the Same Sort of Bluff as the Lee Incident—May Receive a Curt Answer.

Washington, March 16.—Spain has again ventured on dangerous ground. Another step has been taken that may increase the irritation in this country. The case in point is a question directed to this government as to what construction is to be placed on its purchase of foreign war vessels.

Regarded as a Bluff. As a general thing such a query is a prelude to more vigorous measures, but in this case it is believed in government circles that it is merely another of Spain's bluffs, like the one she made when she suggested Gen. Lee's recall from Cuba.

What Will the Answer Be? There is some curiosity to know what answer the United States will make to this rather searching question.

FLOOD AT GRAND RAPIDS.

Rise in the River Fills Basements with Water—Several Factories Shut Down.

Grand Rapids, Mich., March 16.—Basements of a few factory buildings and many residences are flooded. The river below the rapids is less than a foot below high water mark, but above the city it lacks several feet of the height reached in former floods.

Basements of a few factory buildings and many residences are flooded. The river below the rapids is less than a foot below high water mark, but above the city it lacks several feet of the height reached in former floods.

Basements of a few factory buildings and many residences are flooded. The river below the rapids is less than a foot below high water mark, but above the city it lacks several feet of the height reached in former floods.

Basements of a few factory buildings and many residences are flooded. The river below the rapids is less than a foot below high water mark, but above the city it lacks several feet of the height reached in former floods.

Basements of a few factory buildings and many residences are flooded. The river below the rapids is less than a foot below high water mark, but above the city it lacks several feet of the height reached in former floods.

Basements of a few factory buildings and many residences are flooded. The river below the rapids is less than a foot below high water mark, but above the city it lacks several feet of the height reached in former floods.

Basements of a few factory buildings and many residences are flooded. The river below the rapids is less than a foot below high water mark, but above the city it lacks several feet of the height reached in former floods.

WILL DO HIS DUTY.

If Worst Comes to Worst the President Will Not Shirk.

Anxious, However, to Avert Hostilities—The Court of Inquiry Sails for Key West—Cannot Fix Date of Making Its Report.

Washington, March 16.—President McKinley told a senatorial caller he would "rather have his administration called a failure than to bring on an unholy war."

Court Leaves Havana. Havana, March 16.—The Mangrove, with the court of inquiry on board, sailed Tuesday night for Key West. Capt. Sampson, president of the board, assured the correspondents that the decision to leave Havana was not reached until Tuesday afternoon after a consultation of the members.

Court Leaves Havana. Havana, March 16.—The Mangrove, with the court of inquiry on board, sailed Tuesday night for Key West. Capt. Sampson, president of the board, assured the correspondents that the decision to leave Havana was not reached until Tuesday afternoon after a consultation of the members.

Court Leaves Havana. Havana, March 16.—The Mangrove, with the court of inquiry on board, sailed Tuesday night for Key West. Capt. Sampson, president of the board, assured the correspondents that the decision to leave Havana was not reached until Tuesday afternoon after a consultation of the members.

Court Leaves Havana. Havana, March 16.—The Mangrove, with the court of inquiry on board, sailed Tuesday night for Key West. Capt. Sampson, president of the board, assured the correspondents that the decision to leave Havana was not reached until Tuesday afternoon after a consultation of the members.

Court Leaves Havana. Havana, March 16.—The Mangrove, with the court of inquiry on board, sailed Tuesday night for Key West. Capt. Sampson, president of the board, assured the correspondents that the decision to leave Havana was not reached until Tuesday afternoon after a consultation of the members.

Court Leaves Havana. Havana, March 16.—The Mangrove, with the court of inquiry on board, sailed Tuesday night for Key West. Capt. Sampson, president of the board, assured the correspondents that the decision to leave Havana was not reached until Tuesday afternoon after a consultation of the members.

Court Leaves Havana. Havana, March 16.—The Mangrove, with the court of inquiry on board, sailed Tuesday night for Key West. Capt. Sampson, president of the board, assured the correspondents that the decision to leave Havana was not reached until Tuesday afternoon after a consultation of the members.

Court Leaves Havana. Havana, March 16.—The Mangrove, with the court of inquiry on board, sailed Tuesday night for Key West. Capt. Sampson, president of the board, assured the correspondents that the decision to leave Havana was not reached until Tuesday afternoon after a consultation of the members.

MANY PATENTS ISSUED.

The Annual Report of the Commissioner Shows a Great Increase in Inventions.

Washington, March 15.—The report of the commissioner of patents for the calendar year 1897 was laid before congress Monday. It is dated January 31 and was prepared by Assistant Commissioner A. P. Greely, who was acting commissioner for several months preceding the death of the late Commissioner Butterworth.

The influence of patented inventions is most strikingly shown in the creation of industries of enormous magnitude since 1880—this is, within the term of patents now in force, but very recently expired. Of these new industries, the most noted are those connected with the development of agricultural inventions.

The use of electricity for power purposes has found most noted development in the electric railway. The first electric street railway in the United States was put in operation little more than ten years ago. In 1880 of the 2,500 road miles of street railway in the United States nearly all used animal power.

The great development of the bicycle industry has come since 1880, as a result of the inventions in pneumatic tires made about that time. In 1880 there were reported as engaged in the manufacture of bicycles 27 establishments.

Sympathy from Mexico. Guadalajara, Mex., March 15.—All classes of Mexican citizens sympathize with the United States in its controversy with Spain and the alleged blowing up of the Maine, which is called a characteristic Spanish trick.

Defense of Pacific Coast. Washington, March 14.—In making preparations for the possibilities of a future, the navy department has by no means overlooked the strategic defense of the Pacific coast.

America's Heavy Demand for Gold. London, March 14.—The money market has tightened considerably and an advance in the bank rate is mooted.

Ice Bridge Over Niagara. Niagara Falls, N. Y., March 15.—The immense masses of ice coming down the river during the last two or three days lodged in the gorge below the falls Sunday night, and Monday Niagara Falls enjoyed the novelty of an ice bridge formed in the middle of March.

Ice Bridge Over Niagara. Niagara Falls, N. Y., March 15.—The immense masses of ice coming down the river during the last two or three days lodged in the gorge below the falls Sunday night, and Monday Niagara Falls enjoyed the novelty of an ice bridge formed in the middle of March.

SENATOR PRO.

Speaks Guardedly—Thinks Was a

Washington, Me. Proctor, of Vermont. Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon.

Washington, Me. Proctor, of Vermont. Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon.

Washington, Me. Proctor, of Vermont. Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon.

Washington, Me. Proctor, of Vermont. Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon.

Washington, Me. Proctor, of Vermont. Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon.

Washington, Me. Proctor, of Vermont. Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon.

Washington, Me. Proctor, of Vermont. Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon.

Washington, Me. Proctor, of Vermont. Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon.

Washington, Me. Proctor, of Vermont. Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon.

Washington, Me. Proctor, of Vermont. Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon, Col. Myron M. Lyon.

BAKER'S CHOCOLATE. Celebrated for more than a century as a delicious, nutritious, and flesh-forming beverage. Has our well-known YELLOW LABEL on the front of every package, and our trade-mark "La Belle Chocolatiere" on the back. NONE OTHER GENUINE. Made only by WALTER BAKER & CO. LTD. DORCHESTER, MASS. ESTABLISHED 1780.

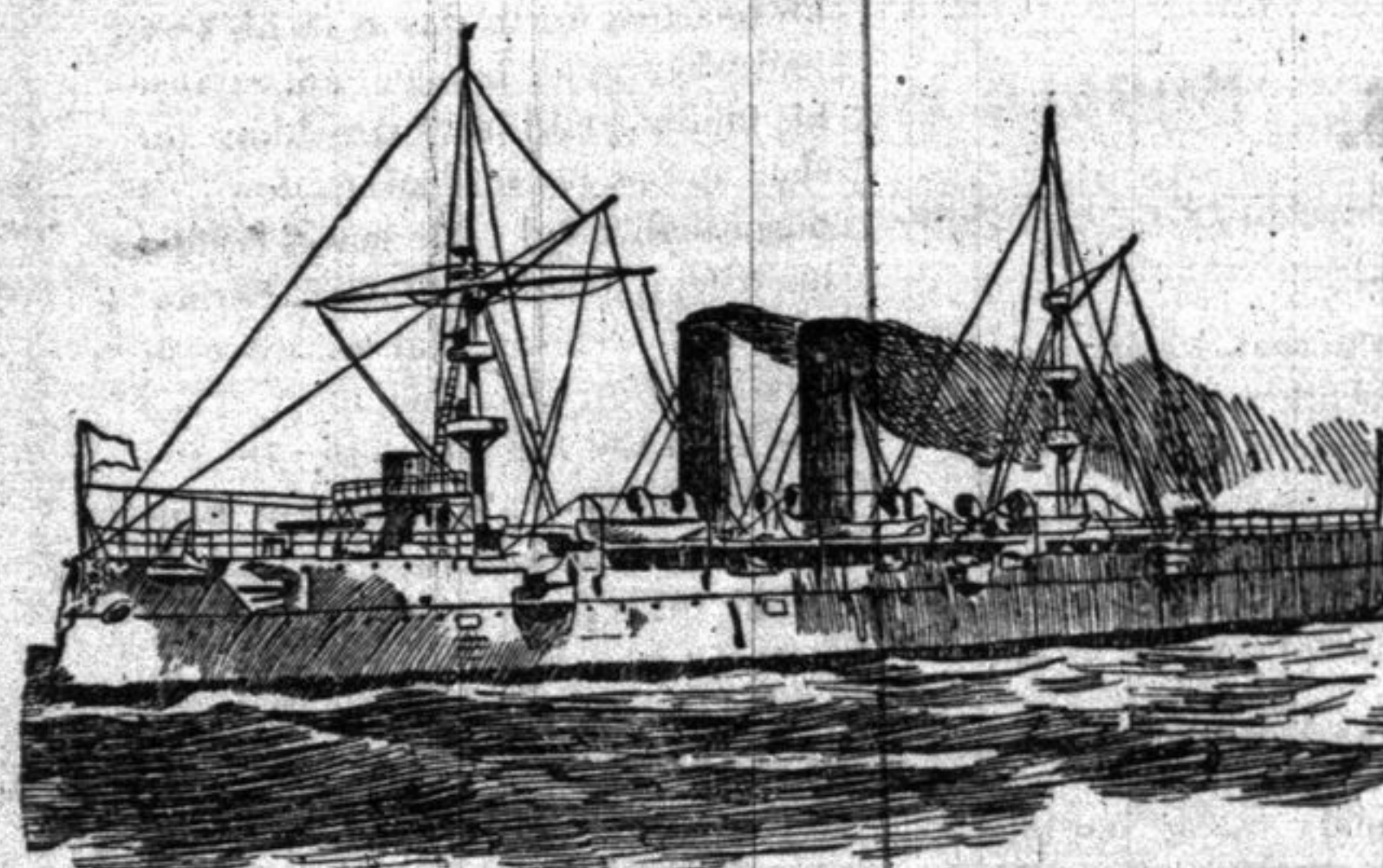
ESTES Excellence. Five-Finger Exercise, No. 4. In the purchase of an Organ the question of cost is modified by genuine musical qualities and durability. This is where the Estey Organ excels. If you buy one, it is for a lifetime, and a joy forever. Estey Organ Co., Brattleboro, Vt.

DO YOU COUGH. DON'T DELAY TAKE KEMP'S BALSAM THE BEST COUGH CURE. It Cures Coughs, Sore Throat, Croup, Influenza, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis and Asthma, and a sure relief in advanced stages. Use at once. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Sold by dealers everywhere. Price, 25 and 50 cents per bottle.

Try Grain-O! Try Grain-O! Ask you Grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it, like it. GRAIN-O has that rich seal brown of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomach receives it without distress. 15 cents and 25 cents per package. Sold by all grocers. Tastes like Coffee. Looks like Coffee. Insist that your grocer gives you GRAIN-O. Accept no imitation.

ALLEN'S ULCERINE SALVE. In the only sure cure in the world for Chronic Ulcers, Bone Ulcers, Scrophulous Ulcers, Varicose Ulcers, Gangrene, Fever Sores, and all Old Sores. It never fails. Draws out all poison. Saves expense and suffering. Cures permanent. Best salve for a Venereal, Erysipelas, Ulcers, and all Fresh Wounds. By mail, small, 50c. large, \$1.00. Sold by J. P. ALLEN MEDICAL CO., St. Paul, Minn. Sold by Druggists.

SEND FOR A BICYCLE. High Grade 75 Models, \$14 to \$40. GREAT CLEARING SALE of 75 and 85 models, best make, \$6.75 to \$14. Send us approval without a cent payment. Free use of wheel to our agents. Write for our new plan "How to Earn a Bicycle" and make money. SPECIAL THIS WEEK—High Grade 75 Models (lightest weight), \$10.00 each. "Wanderer" Model, "a superior motorcycle" \$12.50 for \$10.00 while they last. J. W. MEAD CYCLE CO., CHICAGO.



THE AMAZONAS. The Amazonas and the Admiral Bru, the two new warships which have been bought of Brazil by the United States, and which are now in our navy, are receiving their final touches in the English shipyard where they were constructed.

The Amazonas and the Admiral Bru, the two new warships which have been bought of Brazil by the United States, and which are now in our navy, are receiving their final touches in the English shipyard where they were constructed.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

THE CHINESE QUESTION. Sir William Robinson Says Interests of United States and Great Britain Are Identical.

London, March 16.—Sir William Robinson, who has just arrived in London from Hong Kong, of which colony he has been governor since 1891, in an interview warmly advocated an understanding with the United States on the Chinese question, saying the aims of the United States in regard to China were identical with those of Great Britain.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.

Princeton, Ill., March 16.—The Illinois river rose three feet Tuesday, flooding the farms in the river bottom lands for several miles. Unless the water soon subsides much damage will result.