

the down town district to resume the pumping, stopped last winter while the strike was on will begin next week. The arrangement for pumping will result in the employment probably of 2,000 men within six months. It is thought that by August 1st the upper levels of the working mines will be sufficiently dry to permit the introduction of men, and from that time on men will be continually added to the working force until all the properties are in full operation. It is believed many repairs will be necessary on account of the swelling and crushing of the timber occasioned by the extra weight of water. More than 3,000 acres are included within the territory the development of which will be vigorously pushed with deep shafts.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—The President today sent the following message to Congress:

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

"Official information from our consuls in Cuba establishes the fact that a large number of American citizens to the island are in a state of destitution, suffering for want of food and medicine. This applies particularly to the rural district of the central and eastern part.

The agricultural classes have been forced from their farms into the nearest towns where they are without work or money.

"Local authorities of several towns, however kindly disposed, are unable to relieve the needs of their own people and are altogether powerless to help our citizens.

"The latest report comes from Gen. Lee estimates that from six to eight hundred Americans are without means of support. I have assured him that provision would be at once made to relieve them. To that end I recommend that Congress make an appropriation of not less than \$50,000 to be immediately available for use under the direction of the secretary of state. It is desirable that part of the sum which may be appropriated by Congress, in the discretion of the secretary of state also be used for the transportation of American citizens who are desiring to return to the United States, and without means to do so.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.  
EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 17, 1897."

WASHINGTON, May 17.—The Senate committee on foreign relations ordered today to report the resolution carrying into effect the President's message in regard to Cuba.

A resolution appropriating \$50,000 for the relief of destitute Americans in Cuba passed the Senate without division.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Senator Morgan says the President's message and the passage of the resolution will have no effect upon the resolution offered by him and it will be taken up at 2 o'clock. Other members of the committee on foreign relations say they know no reason for changing the program with reference to the pending resolution.

The only speech made in the Senate on the Cuban relief resolution was by Callaghan. He said:

"The most effective relief would be a demand by the President and government that the Cubans be released from bondage in the towns and per-

mitted to go where they could secure food. He was ready to assume his share of responsibility for such a step. Still, if the resolution reported gave some measure of relief, he would heartily support it without urging the other plan of relief he had suggested."

It took exactly eighteen minutes for reading the message, the presentation of the committee report and the final passage of the resolution.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 16.—The Porte has replied officially to the note of the powers and declines to agree to an armistice until the following conditions are accepted:

The annexation of Thessaly, an indemnity of £10,000,000 Turkish pounds, and the abolition of the capitulations. The Porte proposes that plenipotentiaries of the powers shall meet at Pharsala to discuss the terms of peace, and declare that if these conditions are declined the Turkish army will continue to advance.

The demand, for the annexation of Thessaly is based on the fact that the province was originally ceded to Greece on the advice of the powers with the object of ending brigandage and Greek incursions into Ottoman territory, the Porte believing at that time that the cession would attain these objects, but the recent incursions of Greek bands and the events immediately preceding the war have proved to the contrary. This is the substance of the reply.

The ambassadors met today to consider the Porte's answer, which is regarded as raising an extremely grave issue. It is believed that representations will be made to the sultan personally to induce a modification of these terms, but it is foreseen that this will be very difficult, owing to the attitude of the powerful old Turk war party.

If the Porte should prove obdurate a European conference is not improbable, although at present Russia is opposed to this. It is regarded as quite certain that the powers will not consent to a recession of Thessaly. Even Germany is believed to be resolute on this point, because it would involve a violation of the Berlin treaty and imperil the peace of the Balkans.

Altogether the reply of the Porte has caused the greatest surprise.

It appears that during the discussion of the note from the powers by the council of the sultan's ministers, news reached the council that the Greeks had landed at Palamo and were marching to Janina with the intention of co-operating with other forces at Arta. This created a bad impression among the ministers.

LONDON, May 18.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Constantinople says the Porte's reply demands in its concluding paragraph, an extradition treaty with Greece, and that the ports of Volo and Prevera be kept open for vessels carrying food supplies to the Turkish troops.

A dispatch to the Standard from Constantinople says: The Porte's reply to the powers is based upon a mazbata presented by the ministers to the sultan, representing that Greece was responsible for compelling the Turks to declare war, that for the past fifteen years Greece had ignored her engagements under the Berlin treaty by omitting to pay indemnity, by seizing

and confiscating religious vakoufs, or religious domains, and finally by invading Turkish soil; and that therefore the council was of the opinion that Greece had no just claim upon him for leniency.

Then follows the proposals upon which the council would base a peace. The grand vizier, in submitting the mazbata, assured the sultan that the nation was prepared to shed its last drop of blood in support of such conditions of settlement. The war party threatens to dethrone the sultan if he shows any weakness, but shrewd observers believe that this is only a farce to enable him to pose before Europe as the unwilling victim of his fanatical subjects.

In spite of the great success of Edhem Pasha, the palace spies have expressed their doubts of his fidelity, and the sultan has sent a special aide-de-camp to watch him.

The preposterous terms proposed by the Porte must be regarded as the natural and usual method of Oriental bargaining. They would not be serious did they not force a continuance of the fighting.

With the failures of the Greek dash in Epirus, there is no chance to make a further stand unless at Thermopylae, which by virtue of its natural conditions is an immensely strong position, from which the Turks would have the greatest difficulty in dislodging them from the rocks.

At Domokos the Greek troops must be suffering severely from the heavy rains, as they have no tents. The capture or evacuation of the town is only a question of a few days.

The Turks have been seen at the passes east and west of Domokos, and Gen. Smolenski has warned the crown prince to expect an attack.

As to the terms on which peace will finally be declared, the general belief in official circles is that they will be settled by European conference.

HAVANA, May 17.—In view of the statement published in New York that Consul General Lee had made a report to the state department in the course of which he had attacked Captain General Weyler savagely and declared that the insurgents would be successful in driving the Spaniards from the island, a representative of La Lucha has interviewed General Lee on the subject. La Lucha says today on the express authority of Consul General Lee, that no attack was made by him on Captain General Weyler in any report to the American government, nor has he ever asserted in any report or orally that the insurgents could expel Spanish troops from the island under the conditions now existing.

Upon General Lee's desk is a portrait of Captain General Weyler with the following inscription: "To Gen. Lee as a token of friendship and with best wishes.

VAREYLINA WEYLER."

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 18.—The coat makers' branch of the garment workers' union to the number of twenty-six joined the garment workers' strike for an increase of wages this morning. It is believed that unless the contractors accede to the demands there will be 7,000 to 8,000 garment workers on a strike by the end of the week.