

the week with us, and then returned to Gisborne. We are striving with all energy for the furtherance of God's purposes among these our native friends, and believe that the seeds sown will in time take root and yield forth fruits. We have many good Saints who think they cannot do too much for the comfort of the Elders. Many times they have the privilege of eating out of the same dish with our Maori friends, and knives and forks are out of the question; yet, we always enjoy our food and feel thankful unto the Lord.

BRYANT C. MECHAM.

Talogo Bay, N. Z.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

Washington, April 21.—With the actual beginning of war, military and naval preparations were vastly stimulated today.

The navy bought a ship and a number of yachts. It secured some more material for guns and renewed orders for haste in the construction of guns.

Orders were sent to the squadron to guard their movements, and the preliminaries of a blockade were executed.

In the war department all arrangements have been made for a call for 100,000 volunteers, to be chosen from the national guard.

The strategy board of the department looked over and perfected the plans for a sub-system of coast patrol by the state authorities.

Movements of troops, begun a day or two ago, were changed by the direction of the department in some respects to meet the conditions of the moment at southern points, but in general there are indications that the department is acting with the purpose of concentrating no less than 80,000 men at the Gulf ports within the next ten days ready for embarkation to Cuba.

Key West, April 22.—Toward midnight a hurry message came ashore, ordering several officers of the flagship on board immediately. At 12:30 this morning there was no movement on the part of the fleet, but signaling was still progressing and there were many signs of activity. No naval men were then ashore. It was said that the fleet was under orders to sail at 4 o'clock.

At 2:35 this morning the warships lying in the harbor are apparently drawing nearer the flagship. Two are now moving out. They are thought to be the monitor Amphitrite and the gunboat Helena. The signaling is continuous, and the searchlights of the Iowa and New York are industriously sweeping the waters of the outer harbor.

Washington, April 21.—In the war department today many orders flew to and fro, relative to the concentration of troops in the South, and Secretary Alger was several times in consultation with the President, resulting in the determination to call for 100,000 volunteers as soon as Congress passes the necessary legislation.

Secretary Alger's day was the busiest he has experienced for some time. Arrangements have been completed under the secretary's directions for calling out 100,000 of the militia of the country to aid the regular army in the operations to compel the Spanish evacuation of Cuba, although the secretary announced just before leaving the department that the call would not be issued today.

The officials are awaiting the passage of the volunteer army bill by Congress, in order that there may be explicit authority for asking for the volunteers. The number of men required from each state, it is said, will be in the proportion that its population bears to that of the whole country. According to this ratio, the several western states would be called on to furnish men as follows:

California	2,590
Colorado	1,059
Idaho	186
Kansas	2,230
Missouri	4,239
Montana	419
Nebraska	1,921
Nevada	110
Oregon	663
Texas	3,333
Utah	340
Washington	942
Wyoming	184
New Mexico	272
Oklahoma	114

Secretary Alger has heretofore stated that in the first call for troops the national guard of the states would be accepted. The figures in possession of the war department show that in some of the states there is no such organization and in others it falls below the quota which such states will be asked to furnish if the policy of asking each state to furnish its proportionate quota is finally adopted; then under a call for 100,000 men, many of the national guardsmen would be unable to go. It is suggested, however, that the President may disregard the method above outlined and permit the full enlistment of 100,000 men from the guard as at present organized.

To add to their effectiveness, the war department has decided to increase the number of guns in the light batteries of artillery from four to six.

In accordance with the wishes of Gen. Miles, the Sixteenth regiment of infantry from Fort Sherman, Ida., under command of Col. Theaker, will be temporarily halted at Chattanooga. It was also intended that some of the other infantry regiments should be stopped at Chattanooga, for a short time, but they had proceeded beyond that point before orders holding them could be issued.

Col. Henry C. Cook, who commanded the Fifth infantry at Fort McPherson, has been placed on the retired list on account of disabilities incident to the service. He has been succeeded in command of the Fifth regiment by Lieut. Col. H. D. Freeman of that regiment, who has been stationed in Oklahoma.

Washington, April 21.—The Post tomorrow will say: A military guard will be placed at the White House in a few days. This has been definitely settled, but none of the details of the arrangements are known. Col. Bingham, superintendent of public buildings and grounds, will have charge of the guard and such others as may be placed at the public buildings.

A conference was held today between Maj. Moore, superintendent of police, and Chief Wilkie of the United States secret service, in regard to a civil guard at the White House. The force around the grounds will be largely increased and many detectives in citizen's clothes will be placed on duty. Every active precaution will be taken to protect the President from any possible danger.

Torpedoes and mines are being planted in the Potomac river below Washington. They are being put there as a safeguard in case of an emergency, and the exact location of the mines being kept a secret. The majority of work is being done by night and is being pushed forward with an eye to the possible contingency of a hostile fleet attempted to shell the capital.

Bayonne, France, April 22.—1:30 p. m. —The farewell of the United States minister, Gen. Stewart L. Woodford, was in keeping with the dignity displayed throughout the crisis.

When asked if he had anything to say, he simply raised his hat and said "Goodbye."

The Segovia incident was comparatively unimportant. The students of the military school, in full uniform, packed the depot. They were silent until the train started, when there were

enthusiastic outbursts of cheering for Spain and Cuba.

The Valladolid incident, however, threatened to be quite serious. Thousands of excited people attempted to invade the railroad station and the twenty civil guards who accompanied the train were compelled to form up in front of Gen. Woodford's carriage with drawn swords while other civil guards of the local force issued from the depot to protect the train. The guards did everything possible to keep back the mob, whose yells and shrieks resounded on every side. Stones were thrown at the train and windows were broken.

A newspaper man was wounded in the face by broken glass, Sir Charles Hall, the recorder of the city of London, had a narrow escape from being hit with stones and Mr. Montague, Hughes Crackenthorpe, Q. C., had a similar experience.

On Board the Flagship New York, off Key West, Fla., April 21, 10:30 p. m. —The night is being spent quietly on board this vessel. All think it is the last they will spend in American waters for some time to come.

Capt. Chadwick has arranged a special mail to leave for the shores at 11 o'clock, and the officers and men are now busy writing farewell letters. Capt. Sampson is in his cabin with Capt. Chadwick and "Fighting Bob" Evans, who came over from the Iowa about an hour ago. They are consulting with respect to the final plans.

Though the seriousness of the impending war is not belittled, the general feeling is one of intense relief. The long suspense, which has proved so trying, is now practically at an end and the flying squadron knows what it has to face. It has been repeatedly stated in these dispatches that the rank and file are willing and anxious to fight. This is more than ever the tone exhibited tonight. The Maine has not been forgotten.

Washington, April 22.—The conference of the two houses on the volunteer army bill reached an agreement before Congress convened today. According to this agreement the Senate receded from its first amendment concerning the time in which the organized militia shall serve, but the time for which all volunteers are to be enlisted is reduced from three years to two. The Warren amendment authorizing the President to organize independent troops was retained, but the number was limited to 3,000.

The Senate receded from its amendment making it compulsory for the regiment and company militia officers to receive their commissions from the governor of their respective states and leaving it optional as fixed by the House.

The Senate also receded from its amendment attaching an engineer officer to the staff of each brigade commander. All the other Senate amendments reducing the rank of staff officers were agreed to.

Washington, April 22.—The volunteer army bill was signed by the President at 3:06 p. m.

Washington, April 22.—The following proclamation announcing the blockade of Cuban ports was issued today:

By the President of the United States:

Whereas, By a joint resolution passed by the Congress and approved April 20, 1898, and communicated to the government of Spain, it was demanded that said government at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and the President of the United States was directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States and to call into the actual service of the United States the militia of the several states