

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

to withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and directing the President of the United States to use the land and naval forces of the United States to carry these resolutions into effect.

Upon communicating to the Spanish minister in Washington the demand which it became the duty of the executive address to the government of Spain in obedience to said resolution, the said minister asked for his passports, and withdrew. The United States minister at Madrid in turn notified by the Spanish minister for foreign affairs that the withdrawal of the Spanish representative to the United States had terminated diplomatic relations between the two countries, and that all official communications between their respective representatives ceased therewith.

I recommend to your special attention the note directed to the United States minister at Madrid by the Spanish minister for foreign affairs on the 21st inst., whereby the foregoing notification was communicated. It will be perceived that the Spanish government, having cognizance of the resolutions and in view of things which the President is thereby required and authorized to do, responds by treating the representative demands of this government as measures of hostility, following with that instant and complete severance of relations by its action, whereby the usages of nations accompanies an existent state of war between sovereign powers.

The position of Spain being made known and the demands of the United States being denied, with a complete rupture in the intercourse with Spain, I have been constrained in the exercise of power and authority conferred upon me by the joint resolution aforesaid to proclaim under date of April 22, 1898, a blockade of certain ports of the north coast of Cuba, lying between Cardenas and Bahia Honda, and of the port of Cienfuegos on the south coast of Cuba; and further, in exercise of my constitutional powers and using the authority conferred upon me by the act of Congress approved April 22, 1898, to issue my proclamation dated April 23, 1898, calling for volunteers in order to carry into effect the said resolution of April 20, 1898. Copies of these proclamations are hereupon appended.

In view of the measure so taken, and with a view to the adoption of such other measures as may be necessary to enable me to carry out the expressed will of the Congress of the United States in the premises, I now recommend to your honorable body the adoption of a joint resolution declaring that a state of war exists between the United States of America and the kingdom of Spain, and I urge speedy action thereon to the end that the definition of the international status of the United States as a belligerent power may be made known and the assertion of all its rights and the maintenance of all its duties in the conduct of a public war may be assured.

(Signed) WILLIAM M'KINLEY.
Executive Mansion, Washington, D. C., April 25, 1898.

New York, April 25.—It is becoming more and more evident that Germany will cordially follow England's lead in the treatment of delicate questions of international law, especially concerning commerce on the high seas rather than the lead of Austria or France, says the Berlin correspondent of the World.

Although the German newspapers continue to make hostile criticism of America's action, signs are not lacking with attitude of the press is not shared by the government. The immense German population in the United States and the evidence the German Americans have given of patriotic sentiments have told here with considerable force.

Two companies of naval militia have been organized at Astoria, Ore.

Indian Agent Fuller of the Blackfoot agency fears an outbreak there, because of the removal of the troops.

A Red Cross society, 150 strong, has been formed at Berkeley, Cal. Its members will tender their services to the government.

At the naval recruiting office in San Francisco there is an average of forty applicants a day, of which about 20 per cent are chosen. There is an urgent demand for machinists, seamen and ordinary seamen.

A woman jury tried a woman's case at Weiser, Ida., Monday, the defendant being Mrs. George L. Smith, who was charged with a battery upon Mrs. Abshire. A verdict of acquittal was returned.

At Kemmerer, Wyo., Sunday, Charles Estes fell dead from rheumatism of the heart. For three years Mr. Estes filled the position of state deputy game warden in Jackson's Hole. He was a single man, 35 years of age.

A deserter from the Eighth Infantry, sentenced to five years' imprisonment at Fort Leavenworth, escaped from the guard house at Fort Russell, Wyo., Thursday, and has not yet been recaptured.

In the event of the entire state forces being called out by the government, Governor Budd of California, by virtue of his office as commander-in-chief of the national guard, will take the field in person at the head of the troops.

Lieut. Col. Wallace F. Randolph of the Third artillery regiment left San Francisco Friday night on the overland train. He has been assigned to the command of the light artillery in the federal camp in recognition of distinguished services.

Two Italian tramps riding on a train going east from Grand Junction, Colo., were held up by a third six miles from that city Friday morning, the hold-up demanding their money. One was shot in the leg and arm and the other received a bad wound over the eye. The desperado escaped.

It has been decided to remove Edward Bellamy, the author, who is dying of consumption at Denver, to his home in Chickopee Falls, Mass. He will be accompanied on his journey by his family and his brothers, C. J. and F. J. Bellamy. The party started East Friday evening.

Renewed precautions have been taken at Mare Island, Cal., to guard against spies. None except government employees may enter the navy yard unless having a pass and this will be issued only to persons having business at the office. An attempt to visit any other section of the yard will be followed by arrest.

The dead body of James Spear was found in the basement of the new hotel at Kemmerer, Wyo., Sunday morning. Spear had been employed as a plasterer on the unfinished building, and it is believed that he fell through an opening in the floor. His neck was broken. He leaves a wife and family in Pocatello, Idaho.

Tuesday last Constable J. B. Smith of Arbuckle, Colusa county, Cal., shot and killed R. H. Campbell in the country, five miles from Ukiah. Smith had a warrant for the arrest of Campbell on a charge of seducing Smith's daughter. The constable declares that he tried to make the arrest and when Campbell resisted he fired and killed him.

The San Francisco wheat market is greatly excited. Although yesterday was Sunday a large number of brokers met at the Merchants' Exchange and transacted business. Dec. wheat sold at \$1.71½. At this price the market hesitated, that being the price asked when the brokers dispersed for their homes. Barley was traded in at \$1.38¾ for December.

Prince Albert of Flanders, nephew of King Leopold of Belgium and heir presumptive of the Belgian throne, is in San Francisco. He reached town Sunday after a trip of several weeks through the east and south, and registered at the Palace hotel simply as "De Rotty." The prince is accompanied by Col. H. Jungbluth of the Belgian army, his aide de camp; M. Jodstens, secretary of the Belgian legation at Washington, and his physician, Dr. L. Melts.

A dispatch from San Francisco says: The schooner James A. Garfield, Capt. Franke, four and a half days from Gray's Harbor, loaded with lumber, was coming in late Tuesday night with a flood tide under a light wind. The wind died away and the Garfield drifted bow-on to the British bark Inveramsay, anchored off Black Point, damaging both vessels. Portions of their rigging and one of the bark's boats were carried away.

H. C. St. Clair, convicted of the murder of John Decker, made a daring attempt Friday at Idaho City, Idaho, to escape from the county jail. When discovered, the prisoner was in front of the jail with a double-barreled shotgun, from which he fired three shots at Guard McQuillin, who attempted to thwart his escape. The shots went wide of the mark, however, and the guard, advancing towards the prisoner with a knife, stabbed him nine times, twice in the lungs, and also recovered the gun and shot him through the face. St. Clair is in a critical condition.

Sunday evening when the train from Santa Cruz, Cal., reached the Watsonville depot it was discovered that Willie Castro, aged 16, had been run over by the train. A match game of baseball between the Pajara Valley Wheelmen and the Dolphins of Santa Cruz had taken place at the latter town, and young Castro, with two others, had stolen a ride over and back on the brake beams. When the train slowed up and the air brakes were let out the young fellow was thrown off and fell under the wheels. The rear car ran over his leg, but he managed to pull his body from under the train or he would have been killed. His foot was amputated.

An explosion of giant powder at the Oat Hill quicksilver mine, thirty miles from Napa, Cal., Wednesday, resulted in the death of two Chinese and probably a third. Seventeen others were badly hurt. The explosion occurred at 5:30 o'clock in the morning. The Chinese employed in the mine live in little cabins near the works. Although it is contrary to the rules of the company, a box of giant powder was placed in one of the huts by some of the Chinese. One of the occupants of the cabin was burning punks to smoke out the devil when the building caught fire. The Celestial immediately decamped, possibly because he knew there was giant powder in the place.

Eight companies of the Eighth Infantry with band and hospital corps numbering in all 450 men, left Cheyenne, Wyo., for New Orleans at 12 o'clock Wednesday on the Burlington road. Lieut. Gerhardt and 16 men were