TERRIBLE EXPLOSION.

Thirty-Eight Persons Killed and Badly Hurt in Havana.

MAJORITY OF THEM ARE CHILDREN.

Cuban Conveniences Manifested in the Handling of Dangerous Explosives Cause the Appalling Disaster.

Havana, Nov. 28.—A box of powder or one of cartridges exploded this morning near the Reina battery, killing or injuring thirty-eight persons. The explosion occurred on the avenue Infanta, between the Reina, Clara and Reina hospitals. Many boxes of powder were stored in a private house, which was unloaded five years ago by order of Maceo and other carriages. The careless handling of one of the boxes of powder or of one of the boxes of cartridges, caused the explosion.

The presence of such a large quantity of cartridges—known to have been brought recently from the artillery depot—is an out of the way house, where for years gone by and had, has not been explained. Most of those employed in emptying the cartridges, evidently their only duty on the premises, were boys and girls under 12 years of age, and they formed the greatest proportion of the victims.

The employment of children in such a dangerous occupation and the existence of such a large quantity of powder in one of the houses of the city are both in contravention of the municipal regulations.

Whether there may have been some other motive in starting these explosives there suggests the probability that there may have been other similar deposits where the localities are unknown to the authorities. Some de Castro, the well known mayor of Havana, has authorized a guard over the unexploded powder and an investigation into the affair has been instituted.

Nobody was killed outright by the explosion, but three of the injured died this afternoon, and the condition of many of the others is critical. At least fifteen are not expected to live.

It now appears that a man known as Inocencio Sosa has acquired several hundreds of thousands of cartridges, only one of an pattern, at the various depots in the city for a mere song, and was attempting to turn his investment to account by removing the gunpowder from them and selling it, or else use it for a profit. To this end he had about fifty boys and girls with a rice mill, which was used for the work.

Up to the hour of filing this dispatch no arrests have been made, but enough clues have been given for the removal of similar contents of other houses in different parts of the city, which have not been offered sale, and the existence of such deposits in different localities.

KAISER BEHIND THE SCENES.

Col. Schwartzkopen Details the History of the Dreyfus Case to the Emperor.

Berlin, Nov. 28.—It is learned from an authoritative source that Colonel Schwartzkopen, the former German military attache at Paris, while engaged with Emperor William at Potsdam on Sunday, detailed the whole inside history of the Dreyfus affair, and Picquart cases. He had been summoned to complete taking minutes in the matter.

The Imperial Chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe, the minister of foreign affairs, Baron von Buelow, and Gen. von Hahnke, the chief of the emperor's military cabinet, will be summoned to finish the work of discuss the advisability of an official German protest against the Dreyfus case.

It is stated that the emperor, during his recent tour, conversed with several prominent men on the Dreyfus case, and it is added, that the new points which he has heard have prompted him to his recent action.

SPANISH NAVY.

Admiral Cervera Gives His Views Regarding the Defeated Marine Power.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The navy department yesterday published through the chief of naval intelligence, the "Views of Admiral Cervera regarding the Spanish navy in the late war." Capt. Cleaver, the chief intelligence officer, explains that this is a reprint of a number of letters published in La Epoca, of Madrid, on the 5th of the present month. The letters are dated from before the war up to May 25th. They are written by Admiral Cervera in the form of a diary, and are addressed to his son-in-law, Senor Lastres.

Cervera writes: "I ask myself if it is right for me to keep silent, and thereby make myself an accomplice in the crime which will surely result in the total ruin of Spain. And for what purpose? To defend an island which we cannot, long, hold against the United States even if we should not lose it by right in the war we have lost it in the long run. And with all wealth and an enormous number of young men, the time of the climate and failure in the Atlantic which is now so more than a menace idea.

"Furthermore, I believe that this opinion should be known to the world, and by the whole council of ministers. I have deemed it my duty to express my opinion to the minister concerned, and without hesitating about the bath. Now let orders be given to me; I will carry them out with every ardent devotion; I am ready for the worst."

Quite different says Spain had neglected the navy, and Cervera shows that it was incredulent for her to attempt war against a superior naval power. In a letter written in January he shows how the Vizcaya carried ammunition for the Oquendo, and a failure because of lack of power; and of the Catalonia, begun more than eight years before, was still incomplete and then he predicted that a combat would be disastrous to Spain.

In a letter written in February the admiral speaks of the Cuba having to wait for other vessels being defective; of the lack of the Pelayo to coal at Cadiz, of their being obliged to go with half rations, and finally their having to leave for the American seas. He says that the eight original vessels on the Havana station are worn out, and that the Vizcaya is as they are, the Spanish naval force, compared with that of the United States, is to the power of a man to three. In such condition, a campaign, he says, would be madness if not an offensive one, and if there should be done in an offensive way would be to make some raids with the fast vessels.

He adds points to the futility of attempting to defend the United States coasts, and says how the Spanish fleet would repair, even should they be able to do so, without resources. He says, "It would be foolish to deny that what we may reasonably expect is defeat, which may be glorious, but, all the same, defeat, which would cause us to lose the islands in the west possessions, Cuba by force we could scarcely hope for a satisfactory result."

The Sensational Orders to the Spanish

PURE FOOD AND DRINK

Poor Man's tea is *Schilling's Best*. It goes far and makes meat and potatoes luxurious.

Pacific fleet as not able to afford even a shadow of resistance to the American naval force. Further on, he speaks of the war as at bay in sight, and bemoans the impossible state of the Spanish vessels. And after all, he says that he is glad the end is coming, and is prepared to do his duty. He is not recreant to protesting against the idea of sending the little torpedo boat Ostilla to Cuba, pointing out that a total defeat for Spain would necessitate the loss of Cuba. He speaks of the enemies not uncomfortably experienced by all of the officers of his squadron, and receiving orders from Spain to sail from Cape Verde for Cuba. Inasmuch as they had agreed to protest