

ARRAY OF EVIDENCE.

Startling Developments in the Maine Inquiry.

EXPLOSION IS OUTSIDE.

Proof of Treachery Said to Be Accumulating.

SUMMARY OF THE FACTS.

Discovery of Unexploded Shells at the Magazine.

MANY PECULIAR CIRCUMSTANCES.

able object doesn't approach an explosion of twenty-five tons of powder. Shells Remain Intact. In addition to the previous description of the Maine's deck being curved over from the port side, while the magazine is on the starboard side, about the location of the magazine, they are unexploded and can be again used. They are actually turned against the shattered magazines. If that had gone the pieces of ten-inch shells would have covered Havana's water front.

Another significant fact is that a grate in the boiler was found today in the forward part of the ship near the magazine in question. It would have gone the other way had the magazine exploded.

Thousands of Women and Children Dying from Want—Heartrending Scenes at Matanzas.

Santiago de Cuba, Feb. 23.—[Correspondence of the Associated Press.]—While the United States cruiser Montgomery was at Matanzas recently a board of officers was appointed to inquire into the condition of the people of that province. Although the exact terms of the report are not known, it may be gathered from the substance of it that there are 14,000 people absolutely without food and clothing within the city limits. About 3,000 of these live in small huts of mud and thatched with palm leaves.

These 14,000 people are of the laboring class who have been driven into the cities from the treatment of the city and are absolutely without homes or shelter. Most of them are women and children, and they are all emaciated, sick, and almost beyond relief. They are dying in the streets for want of food.

According to statistics gathered from the best official sources the number of deaths in the Province of Matanzas from starvation is 98,000, and the number of starving people at present in the province is estimated at 98,000, out of a total population of 233,610 in December, 1897, and the number of starving people in the Province of Matanzas alone there have been about 11,000 deaths during the last year. The number is increasing daily.

The death rate at present averages about one per day, as shown by the reports from the cemetery. The increase in the death rate is confined to the laboring class, most of whom have already perished. It has now extended to those people who, before the war, were in moderately comfortable circumstances. Those who are now beginning in the city are, in a large part, well-to-do people, or the children of the well-to-do. And in addition to the starvation, the people are themselves are beginning to suffer for the actual necessities of life, having reduced the laboring class in order to supply the needs of the laboring class who have been quartered upon them.

The citizens of Matanzas have an organized relief for the starving people, but it is entirely inadequate and is daily becoming more glaringly so, for the resources of those who were well-to-do are rapidly diminishing, while the demand for food is constantly increasing.

The United States Consul at Matanzas has done everything possible under the circumstances to relieve the suffering people there. In the first days of February, the Consul had only a few dollars remaining in his pocket. In two weeks, after which the relief appropriation of Congress had been exhausted and then the sufferers of Matanzas would include the American citizens, who have hitherto received relief through the United States Consul.

The Spanish authorities, it may be said in connection with the relief for the starving people, on two occasions they have given \$100,000 to the fund for the destitute.

DAY DENIES AN INTERVIEW. He Does Not Know That Lee is Advising Americans to Leave Havana.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 23.—Assistant Secretary of State Day denied an interview today with the Chicago Tribune, which had reported that he had said that the Americans in Havana were in great danger and that General Lee had been quite right if he had advised them to leave the city.

"I have not had any intimation that General Lee has given the Americans in Havana any such advice," said Secretary Day, "and I do not discuss the matter with any one."

MILWAUKEE GARBAGE SCANDAL. City Council Investigates Charges of Bribery and Brings Out Some Interesting Facts.

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 23.—[Special.]—C. C. Currier, Superintendent of the city of Milwaukee, has been charged with the disposal of garbage, caused a sensational charge before the Council committee which charged Currier with the disposal of garbage in connection with the letting of the contract for the disposal of the city garbage. Mr. Currier said that Mr. Currier had been offered a bribe of \$5,000 by Henry J. Killelea of the Wisconsin Rendering company (which company was a bidder for the contract) \$5,000 to go to town and not let the way of any other person securing the contract. Mr. Currier said, also, told him that he had received \$1,700 in cash and a balance of \$1,700, also, as he termed, "pinched," by which he meant he had been offered the contract by Kempter testified that Cooper & Burke, the Chicago firm which was awarded the contract a few days ago, was to receive \$9,000 or \$7,000 a year for turning the contract over to the Wisconsin Rendering company, and he had had a definite statement from Mr. Richardson of New York to the effect that it was known that considerable sums of money had passed between parties here for the purpose of defeating the award of the contract to Criley & Currier, which was the only bidder on a document according to the terms of which Mr. Holthaus was to disappear from the city.

Further inspection of day before yesterday's find of a six-inch case shows that its appearance might have been caused by fire and outside explosive pressure.

Leading members of the committee of inquiry think that neither the six nor the ten inch empty case was detonated. Both all more surely came from the reserve magazine, where both were stored. But these are only weak negative proofs.

Powder Unexploded. The recovering of a big ten-inch case with its cap sprung and the unexploded powder openly exposed is direct, absolute, positive proof that the magazine's powder was exploded, and every expert, every man of common sense, rejects the idea that even one charge of one-half pound or 125 pounds of powder could explode in the closed magazine, holding 300 or 350 or 400 or 450 or 500 or 550 or 600 or 650 or 700 or 750 or 800 or 850 or 900 or 950 or 1,000 or 1,050 or 1,100 or 1,150 or 1,200 or 1,250 or 1,300 or 1,350 or 1,400 or 1,450 or 1,500 or 1,550 or 1,600 or 1,650 or 1,700 or 1,750 or 1,800 or 1,850 or 1,900 or 1,950 or 2,000 or 2,050 or 2,100 or 2,150 or 2,200 or 2,250 or 2,300 or 2,350 or 2,400 or 2,450 or 2,500 or 2,550 or 2,600 or 2,650 or 2,700 or 2,750 or 2,800 or 2,850 or 2,900 or 2,950 or 3,000 or 3,050 or 3,100 or 3,150 or 3,200 or 3,250 or 3,300 or 3,350 or 3,400 or 3,450 or 3,500 or 3,550 or 3,600 or 3,650 or 3,700 or 3,750 or 3,800 or 3,850 or 3,900 or 3,950 or 4,000 or 4,050 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