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### MARCH 19, 1898.

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#### WAR MEASURES THAT MAKE FOR PEACE.

The extreme tension of the past few days in our foreign relations has undoubtedly been greatly relaxed \$50,000,000 for the purpose of national defense. While the extraordinary activity in our dockyards and arsenals and the voting of this vast sum for naval and military expenditure have all the appearance of prein reality the very best guarantee that peace will be preserved.

Although the Court of Inquiry on the "Maine" disaster has not yet reported, there is a growing impression that the loss of the ship was not accidental. At the same time it is doubtful if anyone, outside of that section of the press (happily very small) which would criminally drag the country into war, believes for a moment that if the ship was deliberately wrecked the Spanish government was in any way concerned in such an unspeakable crime. Self-interest alone would prevent a government from commencing hostilities by an act which would bring down upon it the execration of the whole civilized world.

The administration is for peace, if peace can be preserved consistently with the rights of all the parties concerned in the present crisis. It is admitted on all hands that the President has acted with the moderation, dignity and self-restraint that become the representative of a nation of our wealth and power. The vote of \$50,000,000, moreover, is not in any sense a reversal of our policy of peace. It is simply a concrete evidence of the fact that our pacific attitude is not to be mistaken for pusillanimity, and that we can afford to be calm under circumstances of extreme aggravation because we are sure of our strength and sure of the integrity of our purpose.

The defense fund is to be used in thoroughly equipping the army and navy, in strengthening the fortifications and possibly in the purchase of ships which are completed or nearing completion in foreign shipyards. If a conflict should occur, it would largely be confined to the sea, and while our navy is undoubtedly stronger than that of Spain, the difference is not so great but the purchase by Spain of the warships nearing completion in European yards might make matters even, if it did not give the Spanish navy a slight preponderance. It was reported that negotiations were under way for the transfer of several powerful ships to Spain; but it is now reported that the English government has prohibited the sale of these vessels to either country-the alleged reason being that she may require them for her own pressing needs.

In order to render available to the full our own preponderance of naval strength every ship is being placed in commission. An enlistment board has been named which is enlisting some 2,000 additional seamen, and plans have been completed for commissioning our fast merchantmen, such as the "St. Louis" and "St. Paul," as auxiliary cruisers. The warships to be newly placed in commission include the commerce destroyers "Minneapolis" and "Columbia," monitors like the "Miantonomoh" and "Terror," and the ram "Katahdin," and, possibly, the old monitors which remain on the list as a legacy of the late war. Full supplies of shell | and ammunition are being manufactured and forwardedto the sea coast fortifications, and both the private and tion. government factories are working to their utmost ca pacity to provide guns and mounts for our uncompleted batteries.

Meanwhile our various fleets are being concentrated at strategic points-the Atlantic fleet in the neighborhood of Cuba, the Pacific fleet at Hong-Kong, and our ships on the European station within striking distance tention. A suit under this section may be brought by of Spain. In the event of hostilities-which we con- any party engaged in the production or sale of the sider to be very unlikely-the chief fighting ground would be in the West Indies and more particularly in locality wrongfully designated as place of origin of the Cuban waters, where Spain would soon be at enormous goods, or in the region (section of the country) in which disadvantage through the difficulty of securing ade- such locality is situated. quate coal supplies. This fact alone renders a resort to war on the part of that country a very remote possi- are to be adopted by the countries belonging to the bility; for unless the chances of war should greatly International Union, and with reference to admission favor her, it is difficult to regard such a conflict as being anything better than a forlorn hope.

trade marks: also for suppressing fraud in the designation of the origin of goods.

One of the most important sections of the Paris conby the action of Congress in appropriating, unan- vention is that which allows citizens or subjects of any imously and practically without debate, the sum of of the contracting parties a right of priority during a predetermined period after the filing of an application for a patent, design or trade mark in one of the states of the International Union. In relations between the United States and the European countries belonging to parations for war, it is well understood that they are the union this period amounts to seven months so far as patents are concerned and to four months as regards the registration of trade marks. Thus, a person who files an application for a United States patent on April 1, 1898, will, if he applies for a British patent under the International Convention on or before November 1. 1898, secure the same rights in the United Kingdom as if the application had been lodged there also on April 1.

> The Brussels conference has adopted a series of amendments to be submitted for approval and ratification to the respective governments.

> The first amendment extends the privileges of the convention to the subjects or citizens of states not belonging to the International Union, provided that they are residents of one of the countries of said union, or have bona fide industrial or commercial establishments in such a country.

Another amendment has been proposed to make it appear more clearly than in the original wording that public use of the invention by the inventor, after he has filed his application in one of the contracting states, shall not invalidate his claim to a patent in any country in which he files an application in conformity with the convention.

The most important amendment is one declaring that patents obtained in countries belonging to the union. by persons entitled to the benefits of the convention, shall, in their term or duration, be entirely independent of any patent obtained for the same invention in any other country, whether this latter country be a member of the union or not. This amendment is very similar to that recently made to the United States patent law, and will, if adopted, do away with the limiting provision still found in the patent laws of many countries (for instance, France), that the domestic patent shall terminate with the expiration of any prior foreign patent. The same amendment further specifies that its provisions shall apply to all patents existing at the time of its adoption, and, in case of accessions to the International Union, the newly received state shall adopt the same practice in regard to its own patents and those in other countries of the union, so far as such patents exist at the time of the accession.

As to inventions, designs or trade marks used or exhibited at official or officially recognized international expositions held in one of the countries belonging to the union, such inventions, designs or trade marks shall receive temporary protection in all the countries of the union, in accordance with the legislation of each country.

For the protection of trade marks and trade names, it is proposed that in countries where the law does not permit of the seizure of goods bearing such marks or names unlawfully, a prohibition of importation may take the place of the seizure. Goods in transit need not be treated according to this section of the conven-

Furthermore, goods will be liable to seizure or to be prohibited from importation in the countries of the International Union if they bear, as a fraudulent indication of origin, the name of a well defined locality. provided said name is used together with a fictitious trade name, or with one borrowed with fraudulent ingoods, and having his establishment either in the

In regard to the manner in which these amendments of other states to the union, and to the time when said amendments shall be and remain in force, the follow-Whether matters are pushed to the last extremity or ing conditions have been agreed upon : The governments of the countries comprising the sity of keeping the defenses of the country up to the union are invited to sign the amendment within six state of efficiency which its naval and military advisers months from December 14, 1897; said governments shall ratify the amendments, and forward the ratifications to Brussels for exchange as soon as possible, , and not later than within one year. The amendments shall be effective three months after the exchange of the ratifications, and shall remain in force as long as the original convention of March 20, 1883 (subject to modification and cancellation at later conferences). The convention shall be revised periodically, by conferences to be held in one of the contracting states. Countries desiring to be received into the International Union shall inform the Swiss government by their This convention (to which the United States adhered | diplomatic representatives, and this government will give notice to the other countries of the union. The zens of the contracting states reciprocal privileges in accession will become effective one month after the

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<sup>21</sup> not, it is certain that Congress has realized the neceshave so long and so vainly recommended.

#### <sup>20</sup> THE BRUSSELS CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY.

From December 1 to 14, 1897, representatives of the countries belonging to the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property met in conference at Brussels, Belgium, to discuss the advisability of changes in the provisions of the convention concluded at Paris on March 20. 1883.

in 1887) had for its object to secure to subjects or citiregard to the protection of inventions, designs and Swiss government will have forwarded the above men-