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ORDERS FOR THE REGIMENT

District Volunteers Directed to Leave for Chickamauga.

THEY WILL START SATURDAY

Adjutant General Corbin issues the Command This Morning—The District Quota is Full, and the Last Three Companies Leave for Woodburn Manor.

The First Regiment of District of Columbia Volunteers will leave for Camp George H. Thomas at Chickamauga on Saturday.

Orders to this effect were issued to Colonel Harries when he called at the War Department today and informed Adjutant General Corbin that the last three companies of the District's regiment would go into camp at Woodburn Manor this afternoon, thus completing the quota.

The order directing the regiment to move follows:
"War Department,
"Adjutant General's Office,
"Washington, D. C.
"Col. George H. Harries, commanding
First Regiment District of Columbia
Volunteers, Washington, D. C.
"By direction of the Secretary of War,
you will proceed, on Saturday, May 21,
with your regiment to Chickamauga, and
report to the commanding general there.
Upon receipt of this order you will at once
communicate with the quartermaster
general for the necessary transportation,
and with the commissary general for ten
days' field rations, the necessary travel
rations and coffee money.
"Telegraph day of departure to the com-
manding general at Camp George H.
Thomas, also to the office, specifying
amount of tentage and ammunition taken
with you.
"Acknowledge receipt.
"H. C. CORBIN, Adj. Gen."

TRYING TO STEAL AWAY.

Spanish Prize Ships Caught Plotting to Escape.

Key West, May 18.—An evident determination of the crew of the Spanish steamer Catalina to run the gantlet or iron-clad and escape with their ship is reported by members of the guard placed aboard her by the United States marshal.

The Catalina was one of the first large steamers captured. She has a crew of sixty-five men and she was placed at anchor off Fort Taylor. Nine watchmen were placed aboard. It is now claimed that three days ago the Spanish were heard plotting. One of the watchmen declared he heard the words "poison in food" mentioned two days ago. It was found that the crew had quietly got everything ready for flight Monday night. The arms of the guards were stolen. A mere accident a watchman frightened the Spanish. Tuesday the authorities were informed and at dusk United States Marshals Atchison and Knight heavily armed went aboard. Two gunboats were also anchored near the ship. The arms were recovered after a search, and the Spaniards warned that treachery meant death.

CHARGED WITH MURDER.

Alleged Slayer of a Chinaman Arrested.

Trenton, N. J., May 18.—Edward J. McConnell, twenty-three years old, who says he lives at 718 South Fifth Street, Philadelphia, was arrested early this morning, charged with being the murderer of Sing Lee, the Chinaman, who was butchered after a terrible struggle at his laundry, No. 109 North Willow Street, last night, and whose safe was robbed. The strongest kind of evidence seems to fasten the guilt upon McConnell.

The crime was committed about 9 o'clock and one hour later McConnell was placed in the St. Francis Hospital for treatment. He pulled a revolver on the resident physician when that individual attempted to detain him, but the physician Dr. Gordon, disarmed him and the hospital management held him for the authorities. McConnell claims that he fell off a train coming from Philadelphia.

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WRECKED BY A TORNADO

Nebraska Towns Damaged by a Furious Twister.

MANY PERSONS ARE INJURED

Cyclone Sweeps Across a Wide Section of Country, Tearing Down Houses in Its Path—Water is Drawn From a River by the Wind.

Albion, Nebraska, May 18.—A tornado passed over this section yesterday afternoon, with disastrous results. While all towns for a radius of fifty miles through the valley were more or less damaged, Wood River, judging from early reports, seems to have suffered the worst.

The wires are down, and only meager details had been secured over the telephone before they went down. Then many houses had been destroyed and several persons hurt, and the storm was increasing in force every moment.

The express train which passed through Wood River during the storm reported everybody in storm cells. The depot was partially destroyed. The debris of buildings was flying in every direction. The train ran before the gale thirty miles without steam, so high was the wind.

At this place cyclones passed high, but it uprooted seven buildings and several persons were hurt by falling timbers. Mrs. Mary Austin and two children were caught under falling walls and seriously injured.

Agent Sam Morton, of the Union Pacific, suffered a broken leg, while trying to escape from a falling house.

Severe damage to the other towns is reported. Franklin reports ten houses totally blown to pieces and many people hurt. The cyclone crossed the Republican river squarely and threw columns of spray one hundred feet in the air. The dry bed of the river could be seen for some distance. The whole country for miles on either side of where the cloud crossed the river is inundated, the result of the water thrown from the river by the wind. Six farm houses near Franklin were torn to pieces, together with outbuildings.

The tornado veered eastward from here, passing through a thickly settled portion of the country.

Bladen reports three farm houses demolished, but no one killed. Property damaged at Riverton is heavy but no fatalities are known.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 18.—A tornado passed over this city at 11 o'clock last night. Small bridges, fences and trees were blown down and thousands of dollars' worth of damage was done by the blowing in of plate-glass windows. Great damage resulted to the fruit trees from the gale.

No loss of life has been reported.

IMMEDIATE INVASION

America Will Force the Fighting on Sea and Land.

SPAIN'S PHANTOM FLEET

A Change of Plan Has Been Determined on by the Administration. The Movement of Troops Will Be Pushed and an Armed Force Land Directly.

The plans of the Administration have undergone another change. The new policy may be dated from the Cabinet meeting yesterday, as a formed plan.

Since the Spanish fleet began to dodge around the coast of South America the change of plan has been under contemplation.

The opinions of Secretaries Long and Alger, the Naval War Board, and the President have all been compared and out of them has come a decision to push the war immediately both on land and sea.

Since the Spaniards have failed to strike and have shown a disposition to keep away from the American ships the Administration has decided that the American Navy should be amply able to take care of them.

The general plan is that the Navy shall do three things; find the Spaniards, catch them, if possible, but, above all, prevent them from getting north of Cuba. At the same time, several ships of the Navy shall convoy the army of invasion.

The movement will begin on Saturday of next week or the Monday following, if there is not another change of plans.

WILL TRAVEL REGULAR ROAD.

Lee's Idea of Entering the Grand Masonic Lodge.

Richmond, Va., May 18.—It is understood from officials high in Masonic circles that there has been a plan on foot to make General Fitzhugh Lee a member of the grand lodge without undergoing the usual preliminaries, but the distinguished soldier, when approached in regard to the subject, said, while he appreciated the honor, he would prefer being properly initiated. Grand Master Duke authorized one of the highest officials of the lodge to say to General Lee that he would make him a Mason "at sight," a prerogative which he has the right to exercise, but which has never been done in the case of anyone, except the Prince of Wales. General Lee, after considering the matter, concluded that when he became a Mason he would rather go through the usual formalities. The general, in his hearty, outspoken manner, said: "I appreciate the honor intended, but I do not think it would be treating the rest of the fraternity just right. I hope to be a Mason some day, but I wish to ride the 'billy goat' just like all the other Masons have done. If I should get in through the grand master's side door many of my Masonic friends might comment."

SCHOOLSHIP ST. MARY'S.

She Will Be Manned by Western Naval Reserves.

New York, May 18.—A red pennant floating from the foremast of the schoolship St. Mary's this morning announced that she had been put in commission as a Government vessel. A detail of naval reserves were also hard at work putting on supplies and cleaning decks.

"No," said an officer, when questioned regarding the cause of all this preparation, "we are not getting ready to sail. As I understand it, orders have been received to have the St. Mary's made ready to receive the naval reserves who are to be enlisted in the Navy from Illinois, Michigan and Ohio.

"There will be about 200 mustered in from each State. They will remain here until selected to serve on the various warships, as they are ordered. It is expected that the reserves from the States named will arrive in New York by the end of the week."

The St. Mary's is owned by the Government, but for many years she has been placed at the disposal of the city to be used as a schoolship. When war broke out the Government reclaimed the vessel, and she will be used as a receiving ship until the end of the war.

THE RED BEACON.

Morro Burns a Signal to the Fleet That Never Comes.

New York, May 18.—The Herald's key West correspondent says for two nights Morro Castle has blazed a red signal to the Spanish ships into the harbor.

Gen. Blanco last Sunday caused it to be officially announced to his soldiers and to the people of Havana that a powerful fleet, with re-enforcements and supplies, had eluded the American fleet and was approaching.

This news was brought by a Cuban scout, picked up in a rowboat near Colimar on Sunday night, who brought out the information to the blockading squadron under cover of darkness, and then returned to land.

JAPAN WILL NOT PROTEST

No Objection to America Seizing the Philippines.

HO HI MAKES A STATEMENT

Stories of the Mikado's Opposition to Our Occupation of the Islands Pronounced Wild Rumors—A Conference Between the Minister and Secretary Day Regarding Hawaii.

The Japanese minister, Toru Hoshi, made another call on Secretary Day at the State Department this morning. When he emerged he made the following statement relative to the Philippines to a reporter for The Times:

"The Japanese government has made no protest against the occupation of the Philippines by the United States. The stories that have been printed in various newspapers, alleging that Japan objects to this occupation are based on wild rumors only."

Minister Hoshi has made several visits to the State Department recently and undoubtedly has important business on hand. It is not believed that Japan will in any way offer objection to the United States as a neighbor.

Secretary Day has also made a positive denial of the rumor.

There are a great many Japanese subjects in the islands, but assurances which the minister has, lead him to believe that they will be fully protected.

It is known that some of Minister Hoshi's visits have related to Hawaii and the proposition made a month or more ago that these islands be seized by the United States as a war measure. This, it is understood, would have been objected to by Japan, on account of the somewhat unsettled relations between the present government of the islands and Japan.

It is also understood that Japan may become a bidder for the Philippines, if they are for sale when the Spanish-American war is over.

TO ATTACK OUR COAST?

London Correspondent Hears a Rumor of the Spanish Plans.

New York, May 18.—The Journal has the following London cable:
I have just heard from a secret source that Admiral Cervera received orders at Curacao to make an attack on some American port. I am unable to vouch for the truth of this, but it comes to me in such a way that I cannot ignore it. This story may be another Spanish ruse, but it would be well to have everything along the American coast prepared for a possible attack on Thursday or Friday.

PATRIOTIC WOMEN.

Offer Their Services to Mend the Soldiers' Clothing.

MORE TROOPS FOR MANILA

Tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers to Go With Merritt.

ORDER'D TO START AT ONCE

A Well-Drilled Regiment of Key-stone Fighters to Assist in the Invasion of the Philippines—Expected to Leave for San Francisco Tonight or Tomorrow.

Adjutant General Corbin this morning issued an order increasing the Philippine expedition by the addition of the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment of Volunteers.

This will give General Merritt about 15,000 men. His regulars will be the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Infantry. Reports on file at the War Department show the Tenth Pennsylvania to be in excellent condition, and it is thought that it can start for San Francisco tonight or tomorrow morning.

Colonel Huges, the representative of General Merritt, had a further conference with Secretary Alger and General Corbin today, and it is said that arrangements entirely satisfactory to the War Department and General Merritt regarding the Manila campaign were reached.

The City of Pekin will sail from San Francisco tomorrow night or Thursday with the first part of the expedition. The Charleston will go along as convoy. The other transports are being loaded and will follow as soon as practicable.

The commissary general arranged for two months' provisions to be sent with the expedition. It is thought that this will supply any emergency that might arise before the men could be landed on the island.

STRENGTHENING THE NAVY.

Bids Asked for the Construction of Warships.

The Navy Department this morning issued a circular letter asking for bids for the construction of three first-class battleships, sixteen torpedo boat destroyers, twelve torpedo boats and four harbor defense monitors.

These vessels were authorized by a bill which recently passed Congress for the increase of the naval establishment, and are the greatest number ever called for by the Government.

The Naval Advisory Board on Construction has decided that the three new battleships shall be of the Alabama and Illinois type, but faster.

The torpedo boat destroyers must have a minimum speed of 25 knots, and be able to cruise 2,000 miles without refueling bunkers. The torpedo boats must have a speed of 25 knots.

SENT TO THE SENATE.

More Army Nominations Made by President McKinley Today.

The President sent to the Senate today the following nominations:
War—To be inspector general, with rank of major, John C. Evans, of South Carolina.

To be commissary of subsistence, with rank of captain, James Edward Calhoun, of New York, and James F. Jenkins, of Wyoming.

To be assistant adjutant general, with rank of captain, Harry S. New, of Indiana; Beverly A. Read, of Texas.

To be assistant quartermaster, with rank of captain, Haldeman F. Young, of New York; Frederick H. Bugher, of the District of Columbia.

CABLES TO BE CUT.

Blanco's Line of Communication with Madrid to Be Broken.

New York, May 18.—A dispatch from Washington, says all Cuban cables except those running to the United States are to be cut.

Blanco is still in communication with Madrid. This the naval board intends to stop.

Orders for the Day.
Naval orders were issued this morning assigning Commander Horace Elmer, under date of April 16, to command the auxiliary cruiser, *Take*, at the same time detaching him from the command of the mosquito fleet at New York. Commander Elmer died nearly a month ago and these orders, it is understood, are issued to fittingly round out his naval career.

The Weather—Libbey & Co. say: Fair tonight and tomorrow.

LAUNCH OF THE ALABAMA

Our Fine New Battleship Leaves the Ways.

CHRISTENED BY MISS MORGAN

A Small But Enthusiastic Gathering Witnessed the Ceremony, Which Took Place at Noon Without a Hitch—Work of Completing the New Fighter to Be Rushed.

Philadelphia, May 18.—The battleship Alabama, which will be a worthy addition to the United States Navy, was launched at Cramp's shipyard here at 12:30 p. m.

As the formidable craft slid into the Delaware she was christened by Miss Mary H. Morgan, daughter of Senator John T. Morgan, of Alabama.

The ceremony of giving the Alabama her final slip was witnessed by a much smaller crowd than has been present at former launchings at this yard. Owing to the desire on the part of the Government to keep the general public away from places where war preparations are going forward, the Cramps did not issue invitations to attend the launch.

The spectators comprised only a few officials whose duties would permit them to leave the National Capitol, Senator Morgan and party the company's officials and a small knot of newspaper men. There were also several excursion boats which carried spectators to the yard at so much per head. What the assembly lacked in numbers however, was made up in enthusiasm.

The launch was under direction of Charles H. Cramp, president of the Shipbuilding Company.

When everything was in readiness, the signal was given for the workmen to chop away the blocks which were holding the vessel. Then with a graceful sweep the big battleship started to glide from the ways. When she was fairly under way, Miss Morgan stepped forward on the platform and broke the neck of the bottle of champagne against the prow of the vessel, saying: "I christen thee Alabama."

A cheer went up from the little crowd

MR. GLADSTONE'S CONDITION.

The Aged Statesman Slowly Passing Away.

Hawarden, May 18.—A bulletin issued here at 1 o'clock this afternoon says that the temporary improvement in Mr. Gladstone's condition has not been continued, and his state of prostration has returned.

Mr. Gladstone's physicians announce that he remained in the same quiet and slightly-improved state throughout the night until 4:30 o'clock this morning, when his strength again diminished, his pulse became imperceptible and it was thought that he might soon pass away.

Hawarden, May 18, 5 p. m.—Mr. Gladstone's strength is gradually falling, but he may possibly live for hours.

A MILLION-DOLLAR FIRE

Industrial Town of Attleboro, Mass., Suffers Heavily.

FOURTEEN FACTORIES BURNED

They Were Filled With War Jewelry and Flags, and Business Was Booming—Five Thousand Workers Thrown Out of Employment—List of the Losers.

Attleboro, Mass., May 18.—The business section of the town was wiped out by fire at an early hour this morning.

Fourteen factories, occupied chiefly by jewelry manufacturers, and a dozen dwellings, barns, and storerooms were burned. The loss is estimated at \$1,100,000; insurance partial.

Fully 5,000 persons are thrown out of employment. Coming at this time the fire is the worst industrial blow Attleboro could possibly suffer. The war excitement had caused a large demand for flags and jewelry of a patriotic nature, and

SCHLEY REACHES KEY WEST

Flying Squadron Reported There This Morning.

QUICK ACTION IS EXPECTED

Believed Here That a Combined Attack on Havana by Army and Navy Will Soon Be Made—Sampson's Squadron Said to Be Chasing the Spanish Fleet.

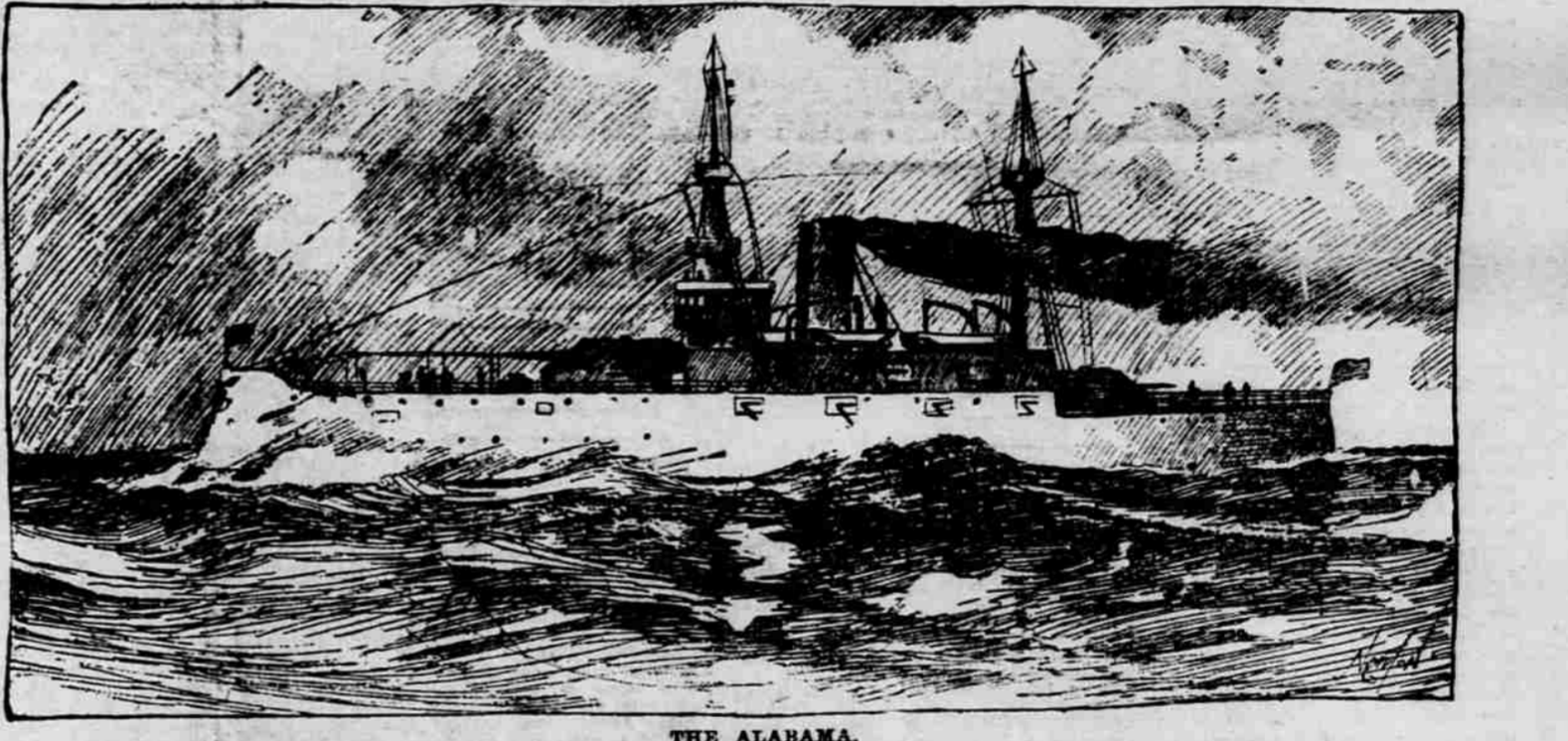
Key West, Fla., May 18.—The flying squadron arrived this morning. All on board are well and the fleet experienced good weather in the sail from Charleston.

It is believed in military and naval circles here that the arrival of the flying squadron at Key West this morning, will be followed almost immediately by an invasion of Cuba and a combined attack by Army and Navy forces on Havana.

It is believed in Washington today that Admiral Sampson has been informed of the whereabouts of the Spanish squadron and is hot upon the scent.

Members of the Board of Strategy, who object to being called the Board of Lethargy, are fond of pointing out that it took two years to catch the Alabama. The implied point is that while it would be very nice to catch the Spaniards before breakfast, it is not so easy. If they are looking for a fight they can quickly find one, but if they are seeking to evade the American squadron they can probably do so for some time.

The Spanish squadron can move 400 miles a day and has not been reported since Sunday. This presents large possibilities. The 500 miles the Spaniards could have sailed up to this morning would have brought them into any harbor in Porto Rico, San Domingo, the Leeward or the Windward Islands or Venezuela. They could also have made



THE ALABAMA.

this class of goods was being turned out by thousands of gross every day.

The fire started in the basement of an iron-works watch case factory at 12:15 a. m. and spread with great rapidity. The local fire department was unable to cope with the flames and it was practically allowed to burn itself out.

So far as could be learned at 10 o'clock the losses are: Bates & Bacon, \$20,000; W. & S. Blackinton, \$150,000; C. H. Allen & Co., \$250,000; J. T. Inman & Co., \$40,000; Wexel & Co., \$60,000; Regnel Bigney & Co., \$75,000; J. C. Cummings & Co., \$50,000; Bargett & Clapp, \$50,000; Grant Bros., \$80,000, and others bringing the loss up to over \$1,000,000.

Buildings covering an area of four acres of ground were destroyed.

SPANIARDS HISS REFUGEES.

Blanco's Actonist Cabinet Reappointed as Originally Selected.

Havana, May 18.—The French man-of-war *Dubourdieu* sailed from this port yesterday. She carried four French passengers, who fled from this island. As the ship left port a mob hissed the fugitives.

Captain General Blanco has nominated the colonial cabinet, confirming the former officers, as follows:
Senor Galvez, president.
Senor Govin, secretary of justice and government.
Senor Montero, secretary of finance.
Senor Seayas, secretary of public instruction.
Senor Laureano Rodriguez, secretary of agriculture, industry and commerce.
Senor Doiz, secretary of public works and communications.

Some American ships at 8 o'clock on the morning of last Friday attempted to land troops on Tablas Acuas beach, Pinar del Rio province. Firing was kept up two hours, the Spanish preventing the landing. Later the Americans attempted to make a landing at Salado Jarro beach. An American gunboat fired forty-nine shots, but the Spanish troops prevented landing. It is said that the Spanish artillery fired two well-aimed shots, the missiles falling on the deck of the American gunboat.

Col. Rodriguez has routed in the Carmen Hills, near Guines, combined forces of the rebels, aggregating 400 men. They left many killed and wounded. About 200 bodies were picked up. It is said that among the dead Emilio Collazo was identified.

Many horses, weapons and supplies were captured at Guines, and many good soldiers among the insurgents have since sworn allegiance to the government.

Kingston, Jamaica, or gone clear through the Windward or the Mona passage provided there were no American warships to intercept them.

There is a report that the fleet is at Porto Rico, but it is generally supposed here that it sailed almost due west from Curacao and is now headed northwest, its present location being about 300 miles south of Santa Clara, Cuba.

Should this surmise be correct, the Spaniards might be making for Cienfuegos, where there are only a few small American vessels, or for the Yucatan Channel, with the idea of descending upon Havana from the west and raising the blockade.

The American plans to meet this are not divulged. Should Sampson have sailed steadily since he left San Juan, he could have been in Cienfuegos today, but it is supposed that he is nearer the Windward Passage.

But, as a naval officer sentimentously summed up the situation, "doubtful things are uncertain."

SPAIN'S NEW MINISTRY.

Members Will Take the Oath of Office Tonight.

Madrid, May 18.—The members of the new cabinet will take the oath this evening. Senor Sagasta will assume charge of the foreign portfolio, pending the return of Senor Castillo from Paris.

The other changes in the ministry are: Senor Anson, minister of marine; Senor Gamazo, minister of public works, and Senor Giror, minister of the colonies.

TROOPS ON THE MOVE.

Second New York Volunteers En Route to Washington.

Camp Black, Hempstead, N. Y., May 18.—The Second Regiment of Volunteers broke camp this morning and by 9 o'clock its members and their trappings were aboard trains bound south.

The Second Regiment is a magnificent body, fully equipped, and the peer of any regiment in the State.

These troops will reach Washington about 4:30 o'clock this afternoon. They will stop one hour at the B. & O. water tank, on H Street northeast.

Clear, Dry, Wheelwright Oak, 4c ft. Libbey & Co. Lumber, 6th and N. Y. ave.