

WAR NEWS A SCARCE ARTICLE.

Few Events of Importance at Washington.

Interest Centered in Movements of Spanish Fleet.

Notice Having Been Given That It Must Leave Cape Verde.

The Administration Not Alarmed Over Reports in European Papers of Powers Threatening to Prevent Blockade of Philippines.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—This was a day of alarming rumors, running all the way from the blowing up of a big monitor to the detection and punishment of traitors, but fortunately all of them turned out on inquiry to be without foundation. Actual events of importance were few in number.

The news of the day of most interest was the departure from Cape Verde of the Spanish fleet, the stay of which at St. Vincent has been a source of anxiety on the part of the officials here, because it seemed to indicate that the sympathy of Portugal for Spain might lead her to wink at a violation of the neutrality laws in favor of Spain. Late in the afternoon a cablegram to the State Department from Cape Verde, bearing no signature, announced that four battleships and three torpedo boats had started north, and some of the transports for Cuba, and that the northern fleet returned shortly, having been in collision. Because there was no signature attached, the officials did not know what importance to attach to this message, as these are not times to accept what appears to be information without close scrutiny.

The majority of the naval officers here feel that the Spanish fleet will next appear at the Canary Islands, about half-way between Cape Verde and Spain, and lying directly in the homeward path of the ships. As the Canaries are Spanish islands, and possess some fortifications worthy of consideration, it may be that the fleet will be allowed to remain there for some time, as the islands form a good strategic base. What most concerns the navy officers just now is to learn when the fleet does arrive. The cable to the Canaries being in Spanish hands, the arrival of the fleet would be kept secret. The intended visit of American liners to the coast of Spain may hasten home the return of the Cape Verde squadron, for it is believed that that squadron comprises about all of the vessels in the Spanish navy that are speedy and powerful enough to warrant an attack upon vessels of the St. Paul class.

Captain Sampson sent a telegram relative to the firing at the Matanzas fortifications, but it was disappointingly lacking in detail, though the few words contained in the dispatch went to confirm the official view that the affair was nothing more than a naval reconnaissance.

No news came to-day from Admiral Dewey's squadron, now on its way to the Philippines to do battle with the Spanish fleet. The announcement that the State of Texas, laden with supplies for the reconcentrados, is destined for Sagua has led to the surmise that it is probable this port, instead of Matanzas, has been selected for the landing place for the first attack of the United States troops.

Regarding the harmless rumors that appear in the European papers and threats to interfere to prevent the United States forces from blockading the Philippines, it may be stated that this was fully expected. During the Civil War there were a great many attempts on the part of European nations to disregard our blockade and threats of interference, all of which came to naught from the firm attitude assumed by the Secretary of State. In the present case the cords of Cuban blockade are much more liberal towards the Powers than ever imposed before.

Viscount de Santa Thyrsio, the Portuguese Minister, stated to-day that the neutrality decree issued by Portugal would not permit belligerents to make long stays at Portuguese ports. Under the usual rules of international law, this sojourn is likely to be confined to a day or two. The Portuguese Minister drew attention to the privileges permitted under the decree when warships of both belligerent nations were in the same port simultaneously. In that case, if the warship of one Power leaves port the warship of the other Power can leave in pursuit within twenty-four hours, that much time being allowed the ship first departing to proceed on her way without molestation.

Representative Myer of Louisiana, a member of the Naval Committee, had

a conference with the President to-day over the yellow fever aspects of the campaign. The President asked him how many Immunes New Orleans could furnish for service. General Myer replied that he believed 5,000 would be a safe estimate. The President is understood to desire these men for early service. Mr. Myer announced his readiness to accept a command if his services were asked for.

At the Cabinet meeting to-day Secretary Gage explained his plan for making effective the popular loan feature of the new bond issue, and with the exception of one or two minor changes the plan was approved. As soon as the new Act passes Congress, the Secretary will issue a prospectus covering all points involved and giving the public all needed information.

In answer to inquiries, members of the Cabinet stated that the subject of Hawaii had not been under discussion, and the reports with respect to the islands being turned over to this Government are discredited.

The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of War each made a statement as to the progress of events in their respective departments, but nothing of an important nature that could be made public was done by the Cabinet, which was in session only an hour and a half.

General Miles and his assistants were in conference at various times during the day respecting military operations that are to be undertaken in the occupation of Cuba. They all maintain the strictest reticence concerning the result of these deliberations.

General Shafter, who commands the brigade at New Orleans, left to-night for that place, accompanied by his Adjutant, Colonel Babcock.

The Cuban representatives in Washington were at General Miles' headquarters to-day, and were consulted to-day at various steps which would arise in connection with the co-operation of the United States troops with the insurgent forces in Cuba. The War Department, it is expected, will endeavor to secure additional ships for transports, but it is said that none were acquired to-day. The capacity of those obtained yesterday is not adequate as to the number of men reported to embark on the expedition to one of the Cuban ports, and which, it is believed, will be sent in a very short time. The Commissary Department has depots of supplies at New Orleans, Mobile and Chickamauga adequate, it is said, for the immediate use of the service.

The War Department is very seriously concerned over the publication in some of the morning papers of its intention to select General Shafter to command the first detachment of troops to be sent to Cuba. To prevent any further disclosure of the plans of campaign, Secretary Alger this morning issued a most sweeping order directed to all bureau chiefs of the War Department and all officers on special duty, from the highest to the lowest, instructing them under no circumstances to give any information to the press on any subject connected with the war. While this seems to work a hardship upon the newspapers that feel impelled to obstruct the Government in its campaign, it is said to be necessary under the present condition.

PLANS TO INVADE CUBA.

Newly Formed Preparations for Actual Hostilities.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—It is stated on the highest authority that as the newly formed preparations for actual hostilities stand they contemplate these operations:

1. The opening of ingress to Cuba for the relief ship which is to bear supplies to the reconcentrados in Cuba and the co-operation of the United States naval forces with those of the insurgents. This invasion, which is to be conducted purely as a relief expedition, may land at Matanzas. The Sampson squadron is to be used to make way for, and to protect the relief expeditions.

2. The preventing of the Spanish fleet north at Manila, in the Philippines, from joining forces with the Spanish fleet at Cape Verde islands and in Cuban waters. The instructions to Commodore Dewey are not to shell Manila, unless the fortifications assail the American fleet. A rigid blockade, similar to that established at Havana, is to be enforced against Manila. An engagement, if an occurs, will be precipitated by the Spanish fleet under command of Admiral "Fighting" Montojo.

3. The flying squadron is to be held at Fort Monroe as a reserve fleet, but is to be drawn upon if necessary to protect unfortified cities. The squadron may reinforce the Sampson squadron. This is the original plan mapped out more than three weeks ago by Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt.

4. The guarding of the approaches to cities on the North and Middle Atlantic Coasts by regular warships and auxiliary cruisers. The original plan contemplated the performance of this duty by vessels manned by naval reserves, but a change was compelled by advice of the sailing of a Spanish fleet from Cadiz with instructions to bombard unfortified cities of the North Atlantic coast. Hence the dispatching to-day of the auxiliary cruisers New Orleans and San Francisco to guard the approaches to the Massachusetts and New York coasts.

5. Hurried preparations for the transportation of the land forces now at Chickamauga to either Tampa or New Orleans for embarkation to Cuba. These orders are now being carried out, and it is expected that General Miles will leave Washington Sunday to assume actual command of the land forces.

6. The maintenance of the State militia forces which have reported "ready" in an advanced organized condition in the view of calling them to follow the regular army forces now mobilized at Chickamauga.

AUXILIARY CRUISERS.

Are to Be Rushed to Sea and Possibly to the Coast of Spain.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—It is entirely possible that the operations of the American fleet in Cuban waters in

the matter of seizing Spanish vessels will soon be completely eclipsed by the perfection of swift ocean greyhounds recently purchased by the Government from the American Line. These vessels—St. Louis and St. Paul and Harvard—have been fitted with armor protection over all exposed machinery, and have already received good batteries. It was the intention of the department to considerably supplement these batteries at the navy yards. But owing probably to the receipt of information from a board of the movements of some very richly laden Spanish vessels, the department does not consider that time remains to complete the work in the ordinary manner at the navy yards, now overcrowded with other work, so the transformed liners are to be rushed to sea, and it is rumored that they carry in their holds some guns of heavy caliber, which will be mounted when they are in blue water. No official statement can be secured as to the destination of these splendid and swift cruisers, but it is rumored that they are to head directly for the coast of Spain, where they will be in wait for the Spanish prizes. Unless the small observation force of the Spanish in the Mediterranean composed of torpedo boats and destroyers remain out of the way, they are likely to fall easy victims to the gunners of the cruisers.

THE FLYING SQUADRON.

Did Not Suffer in the Least From the Storm Experience.

OFF FORT MONROE (Va.), April 29.—(On Board the Flagship Brooklyn.)—The flying squadron, after two days of most unpleasant experience, during which careful lookout had to be preserved to avoid collisions, and all facilities were ready for emergency, were at rest to-day, the sea being calmed down and clear weather prevailing. The squadron did not suffer at all for its experience, officers and men coming through a severe test with flying colors.

No shore leaves were granted this morning and drills were gone through with.

The cutter Saturn delivered 150 tons of coal to the Massachusetts, and then, lightened enough to go to sea, left port. The Merrimack, a still larger collier, that has been fitting out at Newport News, was finished to-day, and will join the squadron in a day or two with a full supply of coal. The Brooklyn and Texas took coal to-day.

Much indignation is expressed here regarding the ridiculous stories sent out as to the navy yard that the movement of the squadron. Commodore Schley and his squadron have nothing to do with the protection of the harbor or the closing of Hampton Roads at night.

WAR BULLETINS.

The Montgomery Did Not Go Ashore in Cuban Waters.

MADRID, April 29.—Havana dispatches say the Montgomery was ashore on rocks off Colonados, Pinar Del Rio. Three other warships succeeded in floating her, but she is badly damaged.

[Note.—The Montgomery arrived at Key West to-day from Hampton Roads, conveying the troop ship Panther, which has not been in Cuban waters.]

PRINCETON (Mass.), April 29.—The cruiser Columbia was still at anchor off Long Point this afternoon. The big northeast gale had not abated and rain was still falling.

NEW YORK, April 29.—Orders have been received from the navy yard that the cruisers San Francisco and New Orleans are to sail at the earliest possible moment. Both vessels have taken stores, provisions, ammunition and coal aboard. The New Orleans will go out Sunday and the San Francisco to await final instructions from Washington.

NEW YORK, April 29.—The public statement that the steamer Havel had sighted the Spanish fleet off the Azores on her voyage to New York is positively denied. It was also added that the Havel's course was nowhere near the Azores.

NEW YORK, April 30, 2:47 a. m.—The American liner Paris has just been sighted off Fire Island.

WAR EXPENSES.

Secretary Alger Asks for a Large Deficiency Appropriation.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—The Secretary of War to-day received from the Secretary of the War estimates of deficiencies in appropriations for the use of the War Department for the remaining two months of the present fiscal year, aggregating \$34,019,997.

In his letter Secretary Alger says that the Acts of Congress, approved April 22 and 26, 1898, authorizing the enrollment of a volunteer army and placing the regular army on a war footing, will necessitate this increase for the organization, support and maintenance of new troops. The general items in the deficiency appropriation asked for, are, cents omitted:

Signal service of the army, \$21,000; pay, etc., of the army (volunteers), \$7,766,001; pay, etc., of the army (regulars), \$1,227,252; subsistence of the army, \$2,370,443; quartermaster's department, \$1,000,000; incidental expenses Quartermaster's department, \$750,000; horses for cavalry and artillery, \$1,500,000; barracks and quarters, \$500,000; armaments and quarters, clothing and camp garrison equipment, \$10,000,000; contingencies of the army, \$20,000; ordnance department, \$3,747,405; medical and hospital department, \$750,000; equipment for harbor defenses, \$200,000; expeditionary force to Cuba, \$150,000; total, \$34,019,997.

This estimate, which was transmitted to Congress to-day, is entirely independent of the allotments made by the President to the War Department of the \$50,000,000. This will indicate that up to July next (two months) the increased expenditures on account of the war will be approximately \$90,000,000.

A Bank President an Embezzler. BOSTON, April 29.—The police of the city were notified by the Springfield authorities this afternoon to be on the lookout for Lewis Warner, President of the Hampshire County National Bank of Northampton, for whose arrest a warrant has been issued in Springfield on a charge of embezzlement of \$10,000.

A Brewery Burned.

ST. LOUIS, April 29.—The New Athens (Ill.) brewery plant has been entirely destroyed, causing a loss estimated at \$100,000; fully insured.

AMERICAN FLEET AT PHILIPPINES.

Attack Looked for at Any Moment.

Spanish Warships Remain in Manila Harbor.

General Weyler Justifies His Administration in Cuba.

Severely Criticises the Home Rule Policy of the Government in the Island and the Time Selected for Decreeing It.

HONGKONG, April 30.—It is denied that the Spanish fleet has left Manila to meet the American squadron. On the contrary, it is asserted that the Spanish warships will remain in Manila Bay to assist the forts.

It is reported from Manila that the American warships have been sighted, but the weather has been too stormy for the fleet to communicate with the rebels.

Aguinaldo, the insurgent chief, and his colleagues are elaborating a plan to make a descent in force near Manila. They have secured a vessel for the purpose, and have been plentifully supplied with arms and ammunition from the American squadron.

The steamer Esmeralda has gone to Manila, Capital of the Philippine Islands, to bring away the specie there, as trouble is apprehended. It is understood she will be able to leave Manila before the United States fleets attack that port. She has a considerable quantity of coal on board, and also has as a passenger the insurgent leader Filipino. She is said to have sealed orders to join the United States fleet after her mission is accomplished.

The cable to Manila has not been cut.

A BATTLE MAY HAVE ALREADY BEEN FOUGHT.

LONDON, April 29.—A dispatch to the "Daily Mail" from Singapore says: Commodore Dewey was accompanied by Jose Alexandro, a prominent officer under Aguinaldo. Alexandro has magical influence in the Philippines and will head the popular movement to throw off Spanish rule. A naval battle is expected to occur to-day (Friday) in Manila Bay. H. M. S. Bonaventura has sailed, presumably for Manila.

SPANISH FLEET STRENGTHENED.

MADRID, April 29.—Dispatches received here to-day from Manila, Capital of the Philippine Islands, say the Spanish fleet has been divided into two squadrons. Two cruisers, the Castilla and other vessels remain near the front of Manila. The remaining Spanish warships, under Admiral Montojo, are patrolling the western coasts, awaiting the arrival of the American ships.

The Spanish fleet, it appears, has been reinforced by a large auxiliary cruiser, said to be capable of steaming twenty knots, and armed as a warship. She is known as the Montevideo, but an examination of the maritime registers fails to establish her identity. It is claimed, however, that she is a large vessel.

MANILA BAY MINED.

LONDON, April 30.—The "Daily Mail" says this morning: We have private information that the strength of the defenses of Manila and Havana is much underrated, and that no bombardment can be attempted by the American commanders with much chance of success. The entrance to Manila Bay is mined and ten-inch guns have been mounted.

WEYLER'S ADVICE.

Urges Spain to Take the Offensive Against the United States.

MADRID, April 29.—Weyler, in the Senate to-day, urged the Government to take the offensive against America. He justified his administration in Cuba.

General Weyler in a clear voice and amid marked attention from the whole house and the galleries apologized for prolonging the debate, pleading that he could not allow the opportunity to pass of defending himself against criticism. With much warmth and sternness he defended his political and military acts of severity in Cuba, showing that he deemed them vitally necessary and that they were justified by the results they produced. So much was this the case, he declared, that had he been allowed six months longer he would have entirely crushed the insurrection and would have realized the promise he made to Senor Canovas Del Castillo, that by April, 1898, he would be in a position to offer him 50,000 veterans to attack the United States.

General Weyler severely criticized the home rule policy in Cuba, and the time selected for decreeing it, and he concluded a passionate appeal for a display of energy, urging the Government to take the offensive vigorously on both land and sea, as remaining on the defensive was "the worst possible policy with such an enemy."

The Duke of Tetuan and Lieutenant-General Azcarra declared that the Conservative party always approved and accepted the responsibility for the acts of General Weyler in Cuba. These declarations afforded Senor Moret, Secretary for the Colonies, an opportunity of avoiding a debate with Weyler, Senor Moret declaring that such a course would be inadvisable at present, and would better be left for "a day when statesmen can find time for discussion."

The Minister of War, General Correa, in the Chamber of Deputies to-day, replying to inquiries for particulars in regard to the bombardment of the fortifications at Matanzas, said the Government had decided to publish "all the news received, good or bad."

General Correa told the Deputies that the United States squadron fired six projectiles, and that the only victim was a man, a remark which aroused laughter among the Spaniards. The General next informed the House that the American warships were damaged by the Spanish batteries. He asserted that the insurgents were acting in conjunction with the United States forces, as they advanced in the direction of Matanzas while the bombardment was proceeding. "But," added the Minister for War, "they were completely routed."

In conclusion, General Correa remarked: "It was a glorious day for the Spanish arms."

A WALKOVER FOR AMERICA. Such is the Opinion of Lord Walseley in the Present Conflict.

LONDON, April 29.—A prominent Englishman who believes in the justice of America's cause, and who is also of the opinion that the United States will certainly have a walk over, is Lord Walseley, the commander-in-chief of the British forces. During a dinner party conversation, Lord Walseley drew a parallel between Cuba and Crete, saying:

"While England interfered in Crete on moral grounds, the United States has both moral and material justification for its intervention. I believe the quality of the American army and navy is so much superior to Spain's that the Americans will have no difficulty in defeating Spain's ships and land forces, which are their equal or superiors on paper only."

The weeklies, except the "Saturday Review," continue to favor the United States, and have faith in her success. The "States" thinks that if the continental Powers threaten to intervene, Great Britain ought to veto their action, and urges the Government to make this clearly understood.

The "Spectator" expresses confidence that Commodore Dewey will be victorious at the Philippines, and says: "We see great difficulties before the Americans, though not from Spanish ships. The 'Saturday Review' pursues its attack upon America, and the following extract will indicate the tone of its comments: 'American action, unfortunately, suggests the attitude of a huge and boastful bully attacking an effete but not cowardly, who cannot help sympathizing, especially when the bully, not content with thrashing his feeble opponent, and stripping him of his valuables, bellows out with tears and protestations that he does it unwillingly and with the highest moral purpose.'"

CUBAN REFUGEES.

A Large Number Landed on the Island of Jamaica.

KINGSTON (Jamaica), April 29.—(Copyright, 1898, by the Associated Press.)—The German steamer Remus, from Hamburg for Baltimore, touched at Port Antonio, this island, early to-day, and landed there 411 German, Cuban, British and American refugees from Santiago de Cuba. They will be detained a short time in quarantine, to comply with the law, and will be brought to Kingston by train this afternoon.

The Remus, which is loaded with iron ore for the Brothers of Santiago de Cuba, agreed to take passengers as an act of charity and run out of its course to Port Antonio to land them. The refugees are mostly women and children, many of them persons of refinement.

There was no accommodations for them on board of the Remus, and they were compelled to lie on deck all night, and they had nothing to eat, as the steamer was not provisioned for so many people. The refugees, not having had any breakfast, were very hungry when they arrived, and were worn out by their comfortable night at sea.

One of them said: "We may as well starve here as there. The Spaniards have attacked all the food in Santiago de Cuba for the army, and the civil population of that city, about 20,000 persons, is almost entirely without provisions."

Many of the children and women on the Remus were sick from lack of food. Luisqui Hyatt, the United States Consul at Santiago de Cuba, who left there some time ago for Jamaica under instructions from Washington, came to the rescue of the refugees, and at his own expense caused dinner to be prepared for all of them on the wharf when they landed.

The refugees confirm the reports that the Spaniards are abandoning the small cities and plantations which they have been guarding, burning the plantation buildings before leaving them. The activity of the insurgents has greatly increased, owing to news they have received from the United States, and they are getting very close to the outskirts of Santiago de Cuba.

The city of Santiago de Cuba, when the refugees left, was in a state of semi-panic, fearing the blockade of the port by the United States fleet. There was about 15,000 Spanish troops there and in the vicinity. But food and army supplies were running low. The agents of the insurgents communicated daily with the city of Santiago de Cuba. The "Bandera Espanola," a daily newspaper of Santiago de Cuba, in its issue of yesterday, printed the following telegram from Havana, received over the submarine lines around the island:

"A dispatch dated from Washington gives the assurance that Havana will not be bombarded. This, it is said, has tranquilized the city of Havana."

Santiago, acting for the United States, has distributed the provisions which were left in the Condeado, but he has not been able to get the 100 tons stored in the custom house, owing to the technical devices adopted by the Spanish to prevent him from so doing. These provisions, which consist of flour, corn meal and rice, have not yet been confiscated by the Spanish, but it is said that this will probably be done before long.

The British third-class cruiser Pearl arrived here to-day. The sound of her guns saluting the Commodore at Porto Royal made the population believe that a naval battle was taking place outside the harbor, and crowds of people ran down to the beach expecting to witness the engagement.

The Spanish steamer Leonora arrived at Porto Royal last evening from Manzanillo, having on board twenty refugees, including several Americans.

At Port Antonio the crew of the American schooner Mary Sandford, has refused to take her out of the harbor fearing capture by the Spaniards.

SPANISH IN CUBA.

Text of the Proclamation Issued by the Autonomist Government.

HAVANA, April 22.—(Correspondence of Associated Press.)—The following is the full text of the proclamation issued to-day by the Autonomist Colonial Government of Cuba:

"President of the Court of Secretaries of the Island of Cuba, to the inhabitants of Cuba: The Colonial Government, the real representatives of the people of Cuba, is threatened with a most unjust and capricious attack by the United States, an attack which, notwithstanding its real hypocrisy, threatens to restrict our common nationality and rights in defending the home and future of our children. You will instantly answer to the urgent call to arms, which in the name of this nation, has been sent to us by the authorities of the islands. At any time of the history of the world, has such contempt been shown for international law and justice; never has such an attempt been made as this undertaking by the United States to ruin the island of Cuba, occupied by Spain four centuries ago, when that republic did not exist, save in the imagination of the colonizers of our race. The island belongs to the Spanish nation by sacred and indisputable title, claims the ambition and pride of a covetous and hostile people vainly wish to ignore."

"For the greater part of that North American territory was discovered and explored by our fathers, and that exploit is for their eternal memory. The mighty Mississippi covers us, and remains of Hernando de Soto, a former Governor and Captain-General of this island. None of the alleged pretenses justifies the proposed violation of this island. Nor do the pretenses themselves exist. The 'Saturday Review' has stated people of Cuba have taken up arms and that all are in combat against the sovereignty of the mother country. This statement is scornfully denied. It is not true. Spain has refused to satisfy the just aspirations of the Cuban people, because we are satisfied with the constitutional basis of autonomy."

"In the preamble the supreme Government explicitly states that no reform which will make the laws perfect will be refused to further the realization of the new Constitution, so long as they do not conflict with the authorized privileges. It is not true that our people suffer under the oppression of foreign officers. We are governed without arbitrary measures, and have no fault to find with men born among us who for many years have represented in the opposition our ideals and have maintained with steadfastness and perseverance our aspiration to political liberty and popular government."

"As a last statement, it is not true that peace is impossible unless the United States intervenes, but what is true—and this we declare and proclaim—the world knowing that none can honestly affirm the contrary—is that peace would already have been a fact if the United States, either directly or indirectly, had not encouraged the war, particularly at a time when the quick-tempered people of this unfortunate country were about to reach an understanding and become reconciled in the embrace of the immortal nation of which we are sons."

"Inhabitants of this island of Cuba, during these solemn moments, when we were about to take part in the first Colonial Parliament, the United States voluntarily seeks to arbitrate your destinies and delay the resolutions of your representatives with a view to impeding and craftily annulling them. The integrity of Spain and the autonomy of Cuba are the two points which the ambition of the Americans wish to possess themselves of this island, and it may be dominated by a strange race opposed in temperament, tradition, language and customs to ours. The elimination of the latter would be a fatal blow to the progress of the island, and gain through enslavement and absorption."

"The duty of all is to repel such an outrage and such an odious scheme. With unanimity and decision, let us follow in the imperishable steps and actions of the heroic defenders of this Capital, who, over a century ago, contended with the invading hosts under the English Lord Albemarle. As Spaniards we owe this duty to our blood and our history. As inhabitants of Cuba we owe it to her."

"Let us forget our personal grievances and discord before the grand and sublime object that we should direct our wills and wishes. The object is worthy of our sacrifices. Let our souls rise to the heights of our trials and our thoughts and actions to the loftiness of our patriotic duties. Long live Spain! Long live the King, Don Alfonso XIII! Long live the Queen Regent!"

"JOSE MARIA CALVEZ, "ANTONIO GOVIN, "RAFAEL MONTORO, "FRANCIS ZAYAS, "EDUARDO DALZE, "LAUREANO RODRIGUEZ, "Havana, April 21, 1898."

SPANISH WARSHIPS.

The Fleet at Cape Verde Islands Goes to Sea.

LONDON, April 29.—The "Evening News" this afternoon publishes a dispatch from St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, saying the Spanish cruisers Maria Teresa, Oquendo, Vis-

WILD RUMORS WITHOUT FOUNDATION.

Story That Cardenas Was Bombarded

Positively Denied by the Commander of the Fleet.

The Report of a Traitor on Board the Puritan Also Untrue.

Hustling Day Among Troops at Chickamauga Park, Mobile and New Orleans—Soldiers Departing for Points in Florida.

KEY WEST (Fla.), April 29.—To-day was one of wild rumor and little action. First came the story of the bombardment of Cardenas by the ships of the fleet stationed there. The rumors suddenly developed from nowhere, and they developed lustily, acquiring an elaborate finish of detail and ornamentation. Then the monitor Puritan steamed into port, and Captain Harrington, the commanding officer of the Cardenas fleet, gave the story its quietus by a firm declaration that there had been no bombardment of the Cardenas batteries, incidentally adding that there were no batteries there, and only one or two insignificant gunboats, which had made no signs of offense.

The Puritan was hardly in port, to which she came for coal, when another picturesque story appeared. This was that a Spaniard was in the crew of the monitor, and had been detected with a bunch of skeleton keys, attempting to pick the lock of the powder magazines with intent to blow up the ship. His name is Yglesias, and he is eccentric and a trifle unbalanced, but he was never suspected of anything but the heartiest loyalty to the United States, in whose navy he has been for seven years. He was seen the other day in one of the turrets by a fellow-seaman, who reported an attempt to break open the magazine door, adding that cotton waste and rockets had been found on him. The man was immediately put under restraint, and a court of inquiry has been appointed to make an investigation. No court-martial has been ordered or recommended, and while Captain Harrington refuses to discuss the affair pro or con, other high officials say that a reasonable interpretation of the incident is preposterous.

A small Spanish sloop, the Engracia, was captured by the United States gunboat Newport, Captain B. F. Tilley, off Cardena yesterday, and was brought here this morning in charge of a prize crew. Only one blank shot was necessary to bring the Engracia to. She had a crew of seven men and a cargo of fish. The men had been in the Spanish navy, and served as a sort of a naval reserve. The officers of the Newport say the capture is important, in view of the fact that the little vessel was attempting to carry into Havana news of the movements of the United States fleet.

The crew of the Newport are anxious to have part of the prize money of the Catalina, if the prize is not returned. They say the Newport was in sight when the cruiser Detroit made the capture of the Spanish steamer. The Engracia, it is claimed, is the fifth prize the Newport is interested in.

The Red Cross ship State of Texas, with nurses, provisions and medicines on board, lies here awaiting the arrival of Miss Clara Barton, President of the Red Cross Society of the United States, who is expected here on the Mascotte to-day. It was intended that the State of Texas should go to Sagua la Grande, but owing to the fact that the war broke out after the ship left New York, she will remain here and await the instructions of Miss Barton.

The State of Texas will be used as a hospital ship for the troops and fleets of the United States.

TROOPS MOVING SOUTH.

A Day of Hustling Among Soldiers at Chickamauga Park.

CHICKAMAUGA NATIONAL PARK (Ga.), April 29.—This has been a hustling day among the artillerymen at Chickamauga Park. In pursuance of orders issued yesterday, the light batteries in camp were ordered at once to Tampa, and the entire day has been taken in getting the men, horses and guns aboard the cars. Trains bearing these men and their equipments have been given the right of way, and it is expected they will arrive at Tampa early to-morrow morning.

The Ninth Cavalry received pre-emptory orders to-night to move at once, and the men are packing up to-night. It is stated that they will march to

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