

REPORTED AMERICAN VICTORY.

Rumor of Battle Off Coast of Hayti.

Twelve Spanish Vessels Said to Have Been Sunk.

While Only Harm to United States Fleet Was Two Ships Disabled.

The Cruiser Montgomery Runs to Cover Three Spanish Gunboats Cruising on the North Coast of Cuba.

CAPE HAYTIEN, May 21.—(Copyrighted, 1898, by the Associated Press)—A passenger from Port De Paix, who arrived on the Haytien steamer to-day, brought a rumor that a fight had taken place off Mole St. Nicholas, in which twelve Spanish warships had been sunk and two Americans disabled. The report, however, lacks confirmation.

It is reported here from a vague source that cannonading was heard off the Mole to the northward, ceasing at nightfall, and that the firing was renewed early to-day and continued until noon.

THE REPORT DISCREDITED AT NAVY DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON, May 31.—No confirmation of the rumored engagement off Mole Nicholas had been received at the Navy Department up to a late hour to-night. The naval officers are disinclined to believe that the American fleet has encountered the Spaniards. It was expressly denied at the department that information even giving an intimation of a fight had been received, and further, it was stated that a meeting between the two fleets was hardly to be looked for to-night. This statement is suggestive in that it indicates that the opposing squadrons are not so close as to justify an expectation of developments.

THE MARBLEHEAD CHASE A SPANISH GUNBOAT.

KEY WEST, May 21.—The United States cruiser Montgomery, which brilliantly silenced the Cabanas Island batteries in the battle at San Juan, had more practice last Monday afternoon. While cruising along the north coast of Cuba, 100 miles east of Cardenas light, she sighted three Spanish gunboats, and gave chase to them. The Spanish vessels were painted black, and were about the size of the Mayflower, and fled to the shore and took refuge in an inlet where the cruiser could not follow them. The Montgomery let fly two broadsides at the terrified Spaniards, but the effects of the shots could not be ascertained.

ANXIOUS DAY AT KEY WEST.

Everything Indicates Proximity of a Big Naval Battle.

KEY WEST (Fla.), May 19 (via Jacksonville (Fla.), May 20. Delayed in transmission).—To-night sees the close of the most intensely anxious and most vexatious day Key West has known since the war began. Everything indicates the proximity of a big naval battle, but with an unseen foe who may appear at any one of several forts, and possibly strike a blow and get away before force can be amassed the crush them.

At this hour the whereabouts of Schley's and Sampson's squadrons are the fixed quantities in the equation the Spaniards are represented by. Day-break found Commander Schley's squadron, which had sailed from Hampton Roads on Friday, anchored off Sandy Key Lighthouse, six miles below Key West. They had joined Captain Sigsbee's big greyhound, the St. Paul, who, leaving the roads a day later than they had, beat them here almost a day and a half.

Santiago de Cuba has already been evidenced in Key West by several Madrid cablegrams via London, sent after the bloody fight at Cienfuegos last week, when the American crew cut the cable at that point. Admiral Sampson's fleet arrived here at 5 p. m. This confirmed the forecast made by these dispatches on Sunday as to the whereabouts and intentions of these two fleets, though both had been slower in arriving than well-posted naval officers here supposed at that time. All this was interesting enough, but not a word of it was allowed past the censor's office, and a score of correspondents who had been besieging the cable office all the morning wilted down into the hotel veranda chairs out of the burning sun, helpless to get a word of the real news of the situation to their papers.

Naval officers for the most part were as ignorant as the correspondents as to how matters stood in the world outside of Key West, and whether or not the matters being censored had not already leaked out through the wireless restricted channels at Washington. Naval men, however, had less time for speculation, for the fleet was busily engaged in preparing for some move, details of which were known only to Commodore Watson and those nearest him. Every officer ashore was on the alert for orders to hurry aboard his ship. Such last night was the fate of the men from the Bancroft, the Castine, Helena and Wilmington. "Hurry orders" reached them about 6:30. The Bancroft's Quartermaster was ashore looking after stores, when word was sent him to cancel a provision contract and come aboard. The small fleet was already under way when he reached her, and the Bancroft's gig was snatched up to her davits while she was steaming out of the harbor.

Where the small fleet went is still a mystery, all being too slow to act as scouts for the Spanish fleet. The most plausible theory advanced to account for the quick departure was that they were to form a second line of scouts to the southwest, where the Cincinnati and the Vesuvius are supposed to be patrolling the narrow of the Yucatan Channel. These two vessels moved quietly out Thursday morning, and disappeared at a leisurely pace to the southwest. It can be candidly admitted that all discussion of the Spanish fleet here is speculative. Key West is so completely isolated from the current news, such as is furnished by daily bulletins. The understanding of the intention here, however, is that Sampson counted confidently on finding the Spanish squadron bottled up in San Juan, as did Dewey the Spaniards at Manila. It is a mystery, all being too slow to act as scouts for the Spanish fleet. The most plausible theory advanced to account for the quick departure was that they were to form a second line of scouts to the southwest, where the Cincinnati and the Vesuvius are supposed to be patrolling the narrow of the Yucatan Channel. These two vessels moved quietly out Thursday morning, and disappeared at a leisurely pace to the southwest.

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MONTEREY ORDERED TO MANILA.

Most Formidable Monitor in the World.

Will Assist Admiral Dewey in Holding Philippines.

Navy Department Pleased at the Record of the Oregon.

Stems Thirteen Thousand Miles, From the Pacific to the Atlantic, Without the Slightest Injury to Her Machinery.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—The news event of the day with the Navy Department was the dispatch of the order to the Monterey to proceed to Manila to reinforce Admiral Dewey's squadron. The Monterey is a tower of strength in herself, and her addition to Admiral Dewey's force, together with the dispatch of thousands of troops to Manila, is ample evidence that the Administration has assumed no half-hearted attitude toward the Philippine question, and is determined to take no chance of dispossession until such time as the United States itself has arranged for the disposition of the islands. The Monterey is probably the most formidable monitor in the world, yet she combines with the enormous offensive and defensive qualities of the monitor type a seaworthiness that is almost phenomenal. The Monterey is described technically as a barbette turret, low freeboard monitor of 4,000 tons displacement. She is 256 feet long by 50 feet beam and 14 feet 6 inches deep. She carries in two turrets surrounded by barbette two 12-inch and two 10-inch guns, while in her superstructure between the turrets are mounted six 6-pounders, four 1-pounders and two Gatlings. The turrets are seven and one-half and eight inches thick, and the surrounding barbette are fourteen inches and eleven and one-half inches of steel, and against the armor all the batteries in Manila might thunder away without effecting an entrance. The Monterey's personnel is nineteen officers and 172 men, and once she is in the entrance of Manila harbor nothing in the shape of a navy would be likely to budge her from her position. Her dispatch may have an important bearing upon the Spanish Government, which so openly published the account of the sending of reinforcements to Manila.

THE MONTERRAT Arrives at Corunna, Spain, From Cienfuegos.

TRANQUILITY IN SPAIN.

Such is the Announcement Made at Madrid.

MADRID, May 21.—It is announced here to-day that perfect tranquillity prevails throughout Spain, in spite of the fact that famine is imminent and that Spanish trade is ruined. An official dispatch from Havana to-day says several American warships have arrived in front of the bay. It is added that the vessels remain distant from the port. Another dispatch from Havana says two American ships again shelled Guantanamo yesterday without doing much damage. Admiral Camara, after having had several conferences with the Minister of Marine, has returned to Cadiz. The fleet, commanded by the Admiral, will, it is said, sail under sealed orders.

CUBAN INSURGENTS.

Spanish Ministers Think They Can Be Induced to Support Spain.

LONDON, May 21.—A dispatch to the "Evening News" from Madrid says Spanish Ministers declare nothing is officially known of the result of the negotiations which have been going on with the Cuban insurgents in order to induce them to make common cause with the Spaniards against the Americans, though some of the Ministers claim they believe the negotiations will succeed. Continuing, the dispatch from Madrid says it is hinted that the negotiations of Senor Leon y Castillo, the Ambassador at Paris, to which much importance is attached, are with the Cuban representative at the French Capital. It is maintained that the submission of the insurgents to Captain-General Blanco would remove all pretext for American intervention. The general belief that there is some ground for the hopefulness existing has led to a recovery of prices on the Spanish Bourse. All securities have risen. Gold is now at \$5.00.

INTERVENTION.

Premier Sagasta's Efforts to Bring the War to a Close.

NEW YORK, May 21.—A dispatch to the "World" from Madrid says: A Continental alliance for Spain or intervention to stop the war is now the joint act of Premier Sagasta, Minister Leon de Castilla at Paris, and the court at Madrid. Events may soon demonstrate that the new Cabinet is regarded as a makeshift, and only temporary. Only an alliance or intervention could finally establish it. The Ministry announced in the Cortes, through Premier Sagasta as spokesman, that it is fully resolved to carry on the war, and to employ for that purpose every means the Cortes will place at its disposal, confident of the support of the crown and country. The Ministry undertakes at the same time to crush the rebellion in Cuba and the Philippines "with the utmost severity, reserving for the day of pacification the accomplishment of the promised reforms."

As to the finances, the Cabinet expects to raise money through the assistance of the bankers of France and of Barcelona, and through railway concessions. It will be almost impossible to raise a loan in Spain with the guarantee of the tobacco and stamp monopolies, and the proposed increase in taxation had to be abandoned because it was not so popular. Financiers would have preferred a military Cabinet to check the popular and revolutionary agitation, which defeat may at any moment make formidable, or a conservative Cabinet with Silveira and Campos to force the nation to accept the advice of Austria and the Pope, to make peace by timely concessions in Cuba.

REINFORCING TOWNS.

Spanish Evidently Expect Attack on Their Own Coast.

NEW YORK, May 21.—A dispatch to the "World" from Gibraltar says: The Spanish towns nearest to the British possession are being strongly reinforced. Thousands of troops arrived last night at San Roque, a town of 9,000 inhabitants, largely smugglers, seven miles from the coast.

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not insisted upon entering the navy as an organization, but have enlisted individually as volunteers, to the number of 200. Commander Hawley, who is doing the work of recruiting for the department, telegraphed that they would be ready for service Monday; that they are splendid men, and in large proportion seamen.

PHILIPPINE TROOPS.

One Hundred and Three Thousand Mustered Into the Service.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—One hundred and three thousand volunteers have been mustered in the service of the United States, according to the reports which have reached the Adjutant-General Corbin, and by the end of next week the officials hope every man of the 125,000 called for will have taken the oath to protect the United States Government in its war with Spain. The mustering in of the regular army business, the probability is that a week will elapse before anything definite can be done in this direction. Six Colonels for these volunteer immune regiments were nominated by the President yesterday, and it would not be surprising if some of the regular Colonels were to be appointed. Two of the appointees to Colonelcy are now detailed for duty in the Adjutant-General's office of the War Department, Messrs. Sargent and Pettit.

AT CHICKAMAUGA.

All the Regiments in Camp Settled Down to Hard Work.

CHATTANOOGA (Tenn.), May 21.—All the regiments in Camp Chickamauga have settled down to hard work and are doing practical training in the art of war. The business-like methods employed by General Brooke will make the men available for active service in the United States service much earlier than many army officers believed possible. Supplies of every description continue to pour in. Careful attention is given to provisions, and a vast amount of clothing and equipment is also being received. The indications are that the entire army will be equipped during the next two weeks. Captain W. K. Wright, Adjutant-General, received notice to-day that 4,500,000 rations, in addition to the first order, had been purchased, and are now en route. Prosper, Lazard & Co. have begun work on an immense bakery in the park. This firm has a contract to supply the army with 75,000 loaves of bread daily. The Chaplains of the various regiments have started a fight against the liquor saloons scattered all over the camp. They have a strong backing and the saloons will probably be abolished. The park now numbers nearly 35,000 men, and each day adds more.

THE OREGON'S CAPTAIN Did Not Want to be Tied Up With Instructions.

HAVANA BLOCKADE.

No More Permits Will be Granted Vessels to Pass Into Harbor.

CHICKAMAUGA, May 21.—A special to the "Journal" from Washington says: When Captain Clark, with the battleship Oregon, arrived at Rio Janeiro he received long orders from the Naval Board of Strategy, telling of the dangers of his being intercepted by the Spanish fleet, and how to avoid meeting them. Clark wired in reply: "Please don't tangle me up with instructions. I am not afraid of the whole Spanish fleet."

FRENCH OPINION.

Almost a Complete Reversal of Press Disposition.

NEW YORK, May 21.—A dispatch from Paris to the "World" says: There are remarkable indications in certain Paris journals hitherto inimical of a complete reversal of the French disposition toward America. The "Gaulois," for example, extols the cleverness with which Admiral Sampson has maneuvered, taking advantage of his opponent's slowness to effect a junction with Schley, and thus enable him to divide the forces into parts. M. Jaures, in the "Petite Republique," writes in the same strain of America's admirable attack and defense, "which have been directed with energy and life." M. Jaures chides Spain for allowing herself to be made the sport of clericalism and militarism. There is also a strong article in the "Echo de Paris" signed by Henry Baur, calling French hostility to his ancient friends and clients beyond the Atlantic foolish and illogical. "France," the writer says, "is naturally drawn to America as a republic, and should not give way to sudden tenderness for Spain."

BASEBALL.

Results of Games Yesterday on Eastern Diamonds.

CHICKAGO, May 21.—Swain was wild and poorly backed at critical points. Griffith kept the Senators guessing until his game was safe. Attendance 2,300. Score: Chicago—Runs 8, hits 8, errors 2. Washington—Runs 3, hits 11, errors 6. Batteries—Griffith and Donahue; Swain and Maguire. Umpires—Lynch and Connolly. AT ST. LOUIS. ST. LOUIS, May 21.—St. Louis played better ball than New York to-day. Seymour was on the rubber for New York, and was phenomenally insufficient. Taylor pitched a magnificent game, and was strongly supported. Attendance 6,000. Score: New York—Runs 5, hits 10, errors 4. St. Louis—Runs 14, hits 10, errors 4. Batteries—Seymour and Warner; Taylor and Clements. Umpires—Swartwood and Wood. AT CLEVELAND. CLEVELAND, May 21.—The weakness of the Philadelphia bats resulted in double defeat for them to-day. Seymour and Powell held them down to ten hits in the two games. Attendance 1,200. Score of first game: Cleveland—Runs 5, hits 15, errors 3. Philadelphia—Runs 2, hits 3, errors 3. Batteries—Young and Zimmer; Wheeler and McFarland. Umpires—Snyder and Curry. Second game: Cleveland—Runs 3, hits 11, errors 1. Philadelphia—Runs 0, hits 7, errors 3. Batteries—Powell and Curry; Donahue and Boyle. Umpires—Curry and McFarland. AT CINCINNATI. CINCINNATI, May 21.—Hamilton saved the champions to-day by making a wonderful catch off Beckley's bat in the seventh inning, while two men were on the bases. Attendance 4,620. Score: Cincinnati—Runs 3, hits 9, errors 3. Boston—Runs 4, hits 12, errors 0. Batteries—Dwyer and Vaughan; Lewis and Bergen. Umpires—McDonald and O'Day.

COL. GRIGSBY'S REGIMENT.

The Advance Guard of the Cowboys Arrives at Chicago.

CHICKAGO, May 21.—Colonel Grigsby's cowboy regiment arrived in Chicago from Sioux Falls to-day. Large crowds greeted the train, and the locomotive slowed up to allow the crowds to exchange compliments with the soldiers, who, leaning far out of the windows, cheered and waved flags and in other ways demonstrated their appreciation of the reception. There were two companies, containing altogether

186 men. The men were dressed in regulation cowboy costume, broad sombreros, etc., with long pistols strapped to their sides. The train proceeded to the stockyards to unload the cars, and give the tired men and their hairy less wearied bronchos a chance to stretch their limbs. The troops left this afternoon over the Pennsylvania Railway for Chickamauga. They were only the advance guard of Colonel Grigsby's regiment. Three other companies of the regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Lloyd, are now on their way from Fort Mead, S. D., for Chickamauga, where they will join Colonel Grigsby. The remaining five troops will follow in a few days. Four will come from Montana and one from Fargo, N. D.

PHILIPPINE TROOPS.

The Twenty-Third and Eighteenth Still at New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, May 21.—The Twenty-third and Eighteenth Infantry, under command of Colonel Overshine, which have been ordered to San Francisco to embark for the Philippines, have not yet struck their tents, and it is not expected that they will be able to leave the city before Monday. The Fifth Cavalry are expected to get away for Manila to-morrow. The cavalry are ready, but the transport was not yet prepared to receive them. Adjutant-General John Daprey of the Twenty-third Infantry, who has served as Brigadier Adjutant, has been ordered to join General Brooke at Chickamauga in the capacity of Assistant Adjutant of the First Corps. Lieutenant Clarence R. Edwards, Quartermaster of the Twenty-third Infantry and Brigade Quartermaster of the troops stationed here, has been ordered to report to General Coppliger at Mobile.

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Over Eight Thousand Already Encamped There.

And Many More Are Due to Arrive at the Bay To-Day.

Now Definitely Settled That the Steamship City of Peking Will Sail for Manila on Tuesday Next.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 21.—Nearly 3,000 more soldiers were added to-day to the number already encamped here, numbering over 8,000. To-day's arrival represented the States of Colorado, Minnesota, Kansas and Wyoming. Every ferry boat from the Oakland mole bore its load of soldiers. The men commenced arriving on this side of the bay about 7 o'clock this morning, and arrived in detachments of about 400. As they marched off the steamers the aides of the Red Cross Society appointed themselves leaders, and headed the travel-weary soldiers to the headquarters of the society, where eatables and drinkables awaited them. Not a man was allowed to go away hungry, and to say the boys were pleased with their reception is putting it mildly, but to crown the evidences of good will displayed by the ladies of the Red Cross, each soldier was presented with a small bouquet of California flowers. These tokens were placed in the barrels of their rifles, and as the men marched up Market street the flower-tipped destroyers added greatly to the attractive appearance of the men. Troops marched through the city streets toward Camp Richmond all morning long, and every detachment was greeted with cheers and volleys of flowers. To-day's arrivals marched in better order than most of their predecessors, and as every regiment had a band, there was plenty of martial music. Minnesota turned out the finest body of men as far as physique is concerned. Over a thousand men represented that State, and they were an exceedingly clean and orderly lot, and marched with the aid and precision of regulars. Colorado turned out the greatest number of men, and they were the best equipped. They lack nothing in the way of outfits, and their band is the best that has arrived here with the Eastern troops. Their soldierly bearing attracted great admiration, and mingled with the regimental cry of the Colorado boys were the cheers of thousands of interested spectators. Kansas was represented by four companies, numbering 500 men. The Kansans are mostly "raw" recruits, but have been drilled as often as possible since leaving their native State, and are now quite proficient in military tactics. The regiment is designated as the Twentieth Kansas, following the Nineteenth Kansas, which was the last regiment sent to the civil war by that State. Two other regiments from Kansas have been sent to Chickamauga Park. Wyoming's 340 men represent four companies, and they are all well equipped and a very soldierly lot. The good people of the Red Cross Society took particular interest in them, and when they emerged from the rooms of the society they were literally covered with flowers of all kinds. The troops from Utah will arrive some time to-morrow. It is now definitely given out that the steamer City of Peking will sail for the Philippines on Tuesday next. The troops are ready for embarkation, and the last stores are being placed in the hold of the vessel. The first regiment may possibly be taken before the vessel puts to sea. The steamer will probably go into the stream to-morrow and take on her ammunition. Work on the steamers City of Sydney and Australia is being rushed, and they will be ready for the reception of the troops by Wednesday, and if the Government can furnish supplies enough the ships can leave here by the end of next week. It will not take more than forty-eight hours to put the Zealandia in condition for sea. The monitor Monterey has been ordered to go to Manila, but when she will sail is not known. It is reported that she will be towed to the islands by one of the transport vessels, as she cannot carry enough coal to last her during the entire trip. It may be that a collier will accompany her, and that the vessel will coal at sea. If the Monterey leaves this port the only ship of

THE SPANISH FLEET.

Report That It Was at Curacao on the 15th Confirmed.

PORT AU PRINCE (Hayti), May 21.—(Copyrighted, 1898, by the Associated Press).—The Dutch steamer Prinz Frederik Hendrik, which has arrived here from Curacao, confirms the report of the presence there on May 15th of the Spanish squadron. Only two of the ships were allowed to enter the roads. These vessels secured provisions, a quantity of coal and other supplies, in all estimated at a value of more than \$30,000. The fleet comprised the cruisers Vizcaya, Infanta Maria Teresa, Cristobal

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