

INTERESTING EVENTS ARE LOOKED FOR.

Cervera Will Soon Feel Effects of Our Guns.

Sampson and Schley Expected to Reduce Forts and Fleets

Without Waiting for Reinforcements of Land Forces.

Spain's Protest Against the Purchase of Coal in Canada and British Columbia Proves to Be Without Avail.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—It was plainly noticeable at the Navy Department today that the officials were expecting news of the first importance, but that they did not look for it immediately. The firmness with which they have insisted that Schley could have had no general engagement with the Spanish forces, ships and forts at Santiago, as was reported, appeared to be based on a full knowledge of the plans on which the Commodore is acting, and the greatest concession that they would make toward admitting that a fight had taken place there Tuesday was to say that possibly Schley detected some earthworks going up, and had hazed them with his shells. They were confident he made no attempt to enter the harbor.

It is believed now, however, with Sampson in the field and in command of Santiago with an augmented force, that interesting events may be looked for. They are expected, too, notwithstanding the fact that no troops have yet started for Tampa, as was established by inquiry at the War Department this afternoon. The insurgents are known to be in force in the neighborhood of Santiago, and through Captain Dorst the War Department not only has been in communication with them, but has supplied them fully with good weapons and an abundance of ammunition. The headquarters of the best of the Cuban Generals, Garcia, are distant from Santiago only fifteen miles, so that it is possible Sampson feels strong enough with their support to begin the assault by sea upon the doomed Spanish fleet and forts without awaiting the arrival of the United States troops from Tampa.

The trend of the news that came to Washington from unofficial sources during the afternoon all went to support this belief, so there is some ground for the expectation of the officials that something may be expected shortly.

The Spanish Government has made a protest to the British authorities against the shipping of Canadian coal from British North America to San Francisco for the relief of the ships of Admiral Dewey's fleet at Manila, and also against the shipping of coal from Nova Scotia to Atlantic ports for use by United States warships operating in the West Indies. In view of the ruling by the British Government that coal was contraband of war, this protest of Spain might have caused considerable embarrassment, as the Canadian coal is considered by the naval authorities to be of a superior article for the use of our ships. It is only a short distance from the British North American coal fields to San Francisco, and the Nova Scotia coal fields are easily accessible to Atlantic ports. It is understood, however, that Spain's protest has not proved of any avail. The subject was referred to the Canadian authorities, who, on investigation, learned that the coal shipments, both from British North America and from Nova Scotia, were in the ordinary course of commercial transactions. They were made by private parties in Canada to private parties in the United States. Whether the coal subsequently passed into the hands of the United States for use by the American navy was held to be outside of the province of the British and Canadian authorities. It is probable that any direct sales to the Navy Department would have been stopped, as these would have been manifestly a breach of the neutral attitude maintained by the British Government and its colonial possessions, including Canada.

If the Queen Regent of Spain has instructed Senor Castillo to ask the Powers to intervene for peace, that movement has not yet taken any form in Washington, either at the State Department or any of the foreign embassies. Among diplomatic officials it is thought to be possible that Spain is feeling her way toward securing peace, but it is not believed this will meet any active assistance from the great Powers. As one leading diplomatic official said today, Spain finds herself in the same condition of isolation that France was in 1870-71. At that time M. Thiers, afterward President, went from

capital to capital seeking to secure the co-operation of Europe with France. But his mission was a failure. The mission of Castillo is said to be like that of Thiers, and the diplomatic officials believe it will meet with the same fate. It is known that Spain has counted most on arousing the active interest of France, but it has been unsuccessful. The French authorities have not heard of any negotiations for many weeks past.

SANTIAGO ENGAGEMENT. Navy Department Asserts That No Official News Has Come.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—It was stated authoritatively at the Navy Department at noon today that not a word had been received from Commodore Schley as to the engagement at Santiago. The officials express no surprise at this delay and account for it on several grounds. In the first place, it is said that a fleet commander must wait until an engagement is completed before he makes a report and that the reports may give only the initial feature of an action, without waiting for its completion. There are intimations that the press reports cover only the first features of Commodore Schley's movements, and that until these movements were developed to the point where the results in view were actually achieved, reports would not be made on incidental bases of the great movement.

Moreover, it is pointed out that the fleet commander must communicate with all the commanders of the ships making up his fleet in order to learn as to casualties, damage and all the circumstances of the engagement. When thus informed his report is made deliberately, and this in turn must be translated into the naval cipher code. When received there is another delay in deciphering the dispatch. Altogether, it is said that the care in preparing official dispatches makes them about twenty-four hours behind the press advices. It was thought that the absence of exact official information might embarrass the work of the War Board, but officials say this has not occurred.

The official intimation that the action of Tuesday is only the initial phase of a more general movement is strongly based on the view that Commodore Schley would hardly attempt an attack unless he had some definite object in view. This object, it is believed, is to learn exactly as to the number of Spanish ships now within Santiago de Cuba harbor and also to determine the exact position of the Spanish forts at the entrance to the harbor. With these two points established beyond the slightest doubt, the campaign, military and naval, could be executed against Santiago with much greater certainty as to results.

While the Navy Department has been satisfied for the last ten days that Admiral Cervera's entire fleet is inside Santiago harbor, Commodore Schley has not been able to make an official report establishing this fact beyond the shadow of a doubt. Of course the location of this entire Spanish fleet, not excepting a single vessel, large or small, is of essential importance to the complete formation of a strategic campaign. It would remove the last element of uncertainty in the mind of the War Department in pending troops from Tampa to Jacksonville.

It is of equal importance that the present strength of the shore batteries, their location, number of guns and general effectiveness should be established. The points can be learned only by a fleet, which will have the outward semblance of an assault upon the Spanish defenses. When completed it is felt that it will serve as a basis for more complete advices as to the actual situation of affairs at Santiago harbor than has been available at the Navy Department up to this time. It is in this light that Commodore Schley's movement is regarded as important, not so much from the destructive results achieved, as from the opportunities it affords for developing all the resources at the command of the Spanish Admiral.

That there was a total lack of official news at the White House of developments in the war situation was evident at 11 o'clock today, after Secretary Alger went to see the President. He spent only a few minutes, and on emerging came over to see if there was any news, and announced there was nothing of significance. He then drove off, saying he would leave for Philadelphia immediately.

The Secretary of War today sent to Congress a request for appropriations amounting to \$38,579,359. These appropriations will be used for the equipment and maintenance until January 1, 1899, of the 490 volunteers recently called for by the President. The several items are as follows: Pay for the volunteers, \$14,000,881; subsistence of the army, \$5,147,477; regular supplies of the Quartermaster's Department, \$2,500,000; horses for cavalry and artillery, \$1,000,000; barracks and quarters, \$1,500,000; army transportation, \$14,000,000; clothing for the army, \$13,000,000; contingencies of the army, \$30,000; equipment of engineer troops, \$25,000; signal service of the army, \$37,000; civilian assistants to engineer officers, \$20,000.

MORE TRANSPORTS. Additional Vessels to Convey the Cuban Army of Invasion.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—Assistant Secretary Melklejohn of the War Department today secured additional transportation of the capacity of approximately 5,000 men for the Cuban army of invasion. This swells the total number of available vessels to over thirty, with a carrying capacity of nearly 30,000 men. The ships secured today will be sent to Florida ports, chiefly Tampa, as fast as practicable and prepared for service.

The chartering of the additional ships at this time is taken as an indication of the promptness with which the War Department proposes to take the offensive operations against the Spanish forces in the West Indies. The statement has been made repeatedly at the War Department that additional transports for the West Indian campaign were not sought, as it already had an ample number for the purpose indicated. The understanding at the War Department is that up to this time none of the troops of the regular army, which it was announced would sail this week, have actually left the United States, and the officials express their ignorance of the time when embarkation is to take place. The latest information received here is that General Miles is still at Tampa, and several telegrams reaching here from him bear the name of that place.

Assistant Secretary Melklejohn today announced with considerable satisfaction that the troop ship Centennial, designed for the second Philippine expedition, would arrive at San Francisco probably to-morrow. She has been at one of the Pacific ports, and fully equipped and ready to start work. At the same time it is said the Ohio, also to go with the second expedition, will reach San Francisco on Saturday or Sunday, coaled for her long voyage, but not yet equipped.

The department was informed to-day of the arrival at San Francisco of the Company of engineers from Willets Point, N. Y., in command of Captain William C. Langitt. The company is to be recruited to its full authorized strength of 150 men in the Pacific States.

AT TAMPA. No Embarkation of Troops Has as Yet Taken Place.

TAMPA (Fla.), June 2.—With the establishment of general army headquarters at Tampa and with Major-General Miles on the ground personally directing the movement of the army, affairs here, almost stagnant for some time, have again taken on a considerable degree of activity, but no embarkation of troops has as yet taken place from this point.

Although the work of preparing the army for the campaign still continues with unabated vigor, until the fate of the powerful Spanish fleet is settled no orders for the invasion of Cuba are expected.

Colonel J. K. Dorst, who was in charge of the corps of the expedition on the steamer Florida, describes the condition of the women and children as pitiable in the extreme. When the steamer Florida reached Point Raines on the north coast of Cuba, where the supplies of arms, ammunition and provisions were landed, it was met by a crowd of 300 pacificos, many of them emaciated to the last extremity by long privations. Nearly half of these unfortunate were women, and according to Colonel Dorst, scarcely one of them had more than a single garment, and that in tatters. Many of the children were absolutely naked and their appeals for food when the first boat from the Florida landed on the beach, were heartrending. As far as possible the crew of the Florida and her consort, the Osceola, have supplied the pacificos' wants, even giving away their underclothing.

AT CHICKAMAUGA. Four More Regiments Leave for Tampa, Florida.

CHICKAMAUGA (Ga.), June 2.—The Third Pennsylvania, First Illinois, Fifth Maryland and Sixty-ninth New York regiments of infantry left here today for Tampa.

The First Illinois has been here since May 19th. In this regiment there are no raw recruits. All the men are thorough soldiers, and are ready to move at once. Colonel H. T. Turner is in command. The Sixty-ninth New York has been here since May 25th, and the Fifth Maryland since May 21st, and the Third Pennsylvania since May 3d.

Private E. L. Thompson, son of Captain Thompson of the Fifth Maryland, was drowned last night.

The excellent band of the Third Illinois Regiment is out with new and costly instruments to-day, the gift of the Chicago "Daily News." Immeasurable quantities of supplies continue to come in, but the work of handling them has been thoroughly systematized and there is no confusion. Colonel Sharp, of the Quartermaster's Department, estimates that the cost of feeding the army is \$7,000,000 per day. Three deaths were reported from the camp hospitals to-day. Corporal Clarence R. Stewart, Company M, Eighth Massachusetts; John A. Riley, private, Company M, First District of Columbia, and W. C. Spofford of the First Vermont, are the victims, all dying of pneumonia.

Brigadier-General Fred D. Grant today assumed charge provisionally of the first division of the Third Army Corps.

The new Government bakery at Lytle has been completed. It consists of a dozen ovens and three shifts, and employs about sixty persons. The capacity of these ovens is 40,000 loaves per day, and it will be operated to its full capacity.

Captain Rockwell, Chief of the Ordnance Department, states that there has been a delay in shipping equipments due to the rush of troops to Tampa. Ten carloads of gun carriages and other artillery equipments have arrived at the park.

AT MOBILE. MOBILE (Ala.), June 2.—Orders and counter orders flew fast at General Coughner's headquarters to-day. The movement of troops will, in all probability, begin to-morrow. General Coughner left this afternoon for Tampa.

The Third, Eleventh and Twentieth Infantry Regiments are packed, ready to leave. The Nineteenth Infantry and Fifth Cavalry were ordered to proceed to San Francisco to embark for the Philippines, but the order was countermanded to-day.

SUBSISTENCE FOR TROOPS. WASHINGTON, June 2.—An evidence of the elaborate preparations that are making for the subsistence for the troops mobilized and to be sent to Tampa is obtained from the fact that the Commissary's Department has now on hand at that place 5,000,000 rations. A ration is one day's food supply for a soldier. On this basis there is subsistence at Tampa for an army of 50,000 men for 100 days and for a smaller army for a greater number of days. The supply is being increased daily, in view of the arrival of soldiers to be employed in the army of occupation of Cuba and Porto Rico.

TREATMENT OF CAPTIVES. Complaints of Their Treatment Causes Much Disaffection.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—The complaints made against the United States officers at Key West of improper treatment of the captives on prizes brought in by American vessels are being reinforced, and are creating so much dissatisfaction here that it would not be surprising if the prizes hereafter taken by naval vessels were ordered further north, to Charleston, for instance, thus depriving the Key West officials of the fat fees which they have been making from this source.

First came a report through Admiral Sampson of Canejo's charges against the officials, which are now to be formally investigated by a naval court martial. The latest case is in connection with the British ship Resolute. (Continued on Eighth Page.)

SPAIN HAS ENOUGH OF THE WAR.

Appeals to the Powers to Intervene.

Austria Ready to Accede if the Others Will Join.

The Report of Another Battle Not Confirmed by Late Advices.

Not an American Vessel Struck and Not a Seaman Injured in Tuesday's Engagement at Santiago Harbor.

LONDON, June 2.—The Vienna correspondent of the "Daily Mail" says: Spain has addressed another appeal to the powers to intervene in the war, and Austria is prepared to accede, but only in conjunction with other powers.

FRANCE MAY TAKE THE LEAD.

LONDON, June 3.—Yesterday's news and that which comes this morning has brought no fresh feature in the situation, except to increase the mystification as to whether Admiral Cervera is really at Santiago de Cuba.

The Madrid correspondents of the morning papers make the point that the persistence with which Senor Sagasta and Captain Aunon, the Minister of Marine, assert Cervera's presence there is a mere attempt to mislead the enemy. On the other hand, it is argued that Admiral Cervera could not be in a safer place, and that if Admiral Camara could succeed in entering another western harbor, thus employing two American squadrons in the work of blockading, Spain's policy of delay would be assisted.

But for the negative evidence that Admiral Cervera has not been seen elsewhere, London opinion leans to the theory that he escaped from Santiago harbor either before Sunday or possibly under cover of the torpedo maneuvers Sunday night. In any case, it is said that Admiral Sampson will soon



U.S. BATTLESHIP MASSACHUSETTS.

take steps to solve the mystery finally so far as Santiago is concerned.

With regard to the report of European intervention, the Vienna correspondents of both the "Daily Chronicle" and "Daily News" deny that the Austrian Government has received any fresh communication from Spain. It would appear, therefore, that any efforts in this direction are being made only in France, where they are apparently the most likely to succeed.

It is understood that M. Hanotaux and other Ministers regard the present situation as intolerable. A protracted war, besides destroying commerce, would necessitate postponing the coming exposition. It is hoped that the new commercial agreement between France and the United States will smooth the way to French intervention, in which certainly Austria and perhaps England or other powers will join. Russia, it is asserted, would be willing to undertake the office of mediator to save France the necessity of becoming prominent.

Count De Rascon, the Spanish Ambassador in London, who has been interviewed on the subject, admitted that war means ruin for Spain, and he said: "The sentiment is growing in favor of seeking an honorable peace, which America, considering her unpreparedness for a war of invasion, would also welcome in preference to a protracted struggle, involving heavy sacrifices of money and men. This being so, I hope a basis of understanding may be found leading to peace."

REPORT OF ANOTHER BATTLE.

NEW YORK, June 2.—A special to the "Evening World" dated Port au Prince, Hayti, says that the United States fleet renewed the attack upon Santiago de Cuba this morning. The people of Santiago, it is added, are momentarily in fear of an attack from the land side, where there are said to be 3,000 insurgents.

A later dispatch says it is reported from Santiago that the rebels have attacked the city in three columns, and that a bloody fight is going on. NOT CONFIRMED. PORT AU PRINCE, June 2.—9:30 p. m.—No fresh news has been received

from Santiago de Cuba this afternoon. The report of an attack upon the city by the insurgents is not confirmed, and appears to be without foundation.

DESTITUTION AT SANTIAGO. CAPE HAYTLEN (Hayti), June 2.—9:45 p. m.—(Copyrighted, 1898, by the Associated Press).—No direct news has been received here to-day from Santiago de Cuba, except a reiteration of the reports of the dreadful destitution of the inhabitants there. It is said that now even the officials are unable to procure a normal supply of food.

MADRID PAPERS ELATED.

LONDON, June 3.—The Madrid correspondent of the "Standard" says: The Madrid papers are much elated over another repulse suffered by the American fleets. According to official advices, the forts and batteries at Santiago de Cuba were undamaged, and not a single Spanish vessel killed or wounded, and not a single shell struck the Spanish cruiser Cristobal Colon.

"El Herald" regrets that the Spanish fleet was not sent to the Philippines instead of Cuba.

CERVERA WAS THERE. MADRID, June 2.—Despite the statement that the Spanish fleet was not present at the bombardment of Santiago de Cuba on Tuesday, Captain Aunon, the Minister of Marine, in an interview to-day declared that Cervera hoisted his flag on the Cristobal Colon in order to direct the Spanish fleet. "The success of which is principally due to Cervera, who has given proofs of high strategic ability."

DENIED THAT THE ALFONSO WAS CAPTURED.

MADRID, June 2.—7 p. m.—The report that the Spanish iron ship Alfonso XIII had been captured by an American auxiliary cruiser is without foundation. It is announced officially that the Alfonso XIII is now landing her cargo of provisions at Porto Rico.

The Captain-General of Porto Rico cautions that the question of subsistence has raised no difficulty in the island, as several vessels have entered the ports with provisions.

SENOR POLO DE BERNABE, FORMERLY SPANISH MINISTER TO THE UNITED STATES, HAS BEEN APPOINTED UNDER SECRETARY IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

TUESDAY'S BATTLE.

Not an American Vessel Struck, and Not a Sailor Injured.

ON BOARD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH BOAT DANEY, PORT ANTONIO (Jamaica), June 1, 7 a. m. (Copyright, 1898, by the Associated Press).—For an hour yesterday afternoon the Massachusetts, Iowa, New Orleans and Vixen of Commodore Schley's squadron, exchanged shots with the Spanish fleet under Admiral Cervera, and with the land batteries guarding the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. The engagement was the first of the war, and was a prelude to serious work in the latter part of the week.

No attempt was made by the American Commander to bring off a general engagement, it being his desire to locate the batteries on the hills above the harbor, and to determine the position of the Spanish fleet.

Shortly before 10 o'clock Commodore Schley left the Brooklyn for the Massachusetts, on board of which he had remained during the night. At 1 o'clock the signal to form column was hoisted on the Massachusetts, and the New Orleans, Iowa and Vixen fell in the order named.

The Massachusetts steamed slowly until about five miles west of the harbor entrance, when she turned in toward the shore and when about 5,000 yards off she turned east again and bore down on the harbor, the New Orleans being close up, and the Iowa half a mile behind. The flagship gradually increased her speed, and was soon running through the water at the rate of ten knots an hour. She drew closer and closer to the batteries, and to the anxious watchers on the other ships it seemed that she would never open fire.

When, however, she had passed the harbor entrance by 500 yards, a great cloud of white and yellow smoke burst from the two 13-inch guns in her after turret and two shells rose over the hill, one of them striking the Spanish flagship Cristobal Colon as she lay at anchor, and the others falling close alongside. The two guns on the forward turret were then fired, and their shells exploding threw up great jets of spray close to the Colon. All the shore batteries took up the firing, and began a rapid fire on the Massachusetts. But she was soon beyond their range, and the batteries thereupon turned their guns on the New Orleans.

This cruiser had been directed to pay attention to the batteries, and to draw their fire as much as possible, and she obeyed her instructions to the letter. Her first shot located a large battery on the hill above Morro. It flew straight into the fort, and must have caused much damage, as a great cloud of dust and debris rose as the shell burst. A couple of more shots sent part of the walls of Morro flying into the air, and then the New Orleans confined herself to the batteries, her fire being rapid and extremely accurate. Every shot she fired made trouble for Spain.

The Iowa came next, like the Massachusetts, devoted her attention to the ships lying within the harbor. Her 12-inch shells made the water fly all around that part of the harbor in which the Cristobal Colon lay. The latter, however, was not seriously damaged, and kept up her fire until long after the American ships steamed out of range.

After the Iowa the little Vixen, which apparently had no business in a fight where battleships were engaged, scudded along after the Iowa, like a fox terrier following a mastiff, and when at the proper point she let fly with her one-pounder and glided away, proudly conscious of having done her best.

The Massachusetts turned again to the westward, followed by the other ships in the same order, the one exception being the yacht Josephine, which was ordered to keep out of trouble. The ironclads bore down on the harbor once more. The flagship kept on until less than 4,000 yards from the shore, and then her shells again began to heave up the waters of Santiago harbor. This time the shore batteries were better served, and the Spaniards replied to the warships' fire in energetic fashion. But nearly all the shots of the batteries fell short.

Then came the New Orleans once more, her long black guns doing fearful work and tearing up the ground all around the battery in the most savage manner.

The Spanish dropped shells close to the Iowa, as she came by for the second time, sending a stream of shells into the harbor as she did so.

The Spanish warships, with the exception of the Cristobal Colon, were behind the hills, and could not see the enemy who threw shells around them so rapidly that they knew he was somewhere on the other side of the hill and then hopefully raised the muzzles of their guns and banged away. The result was what might have been expected. Their fire tore the bosom of the Caribbean Sea, but it harmed nothing else.

After the Massachusetts had passed the point where she could fire into the harbor with advantage, she returned to the open sea, the other vessels following her. The fight was over, as far as the Americans were concerned. Spanish honor, however, demanded that some further destruction of gunpowder be made, and the ships boomed and the batteries roared long after the American vessels were entirely out of range.

THE SPANISH FLEET.

How It Was Located by Commodore Schley.

WITH THE UNITED STATES FLEET OFF SANTIAGO DE CUBA, May 29, via Port Antonio, June 2.—(Copyright, 1898, by the Associated Press).—Four weeks after the victory of Rear Admiral Dewey at Manila, Commodore Schley, in command of the flying squadron, had shrewdness and pertinacity awarded by finding the Spanish fleet in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. For ten days he had, in the face of conflicting rumors and some cases of alleged verifications, insisted that the ships of Spain were trying to make a landing on the southern coast of Cuba. This was evidently not in consonance with newspaper and official information, and his opinion was not given much public weight. In fact, it is believed that some days before he proved the correctness of the situation he was ordered to return to Key West. However, new facts gathered by him in the meantime gave him still more ground for belief as to his proximity to the Spaniards.

The Captain of the British steamer Adula, who was interviewed at Cienfuegos, testified to seeing the Spanish fleet in the vicinity of Santiago de Cuba, evidently awaiting opportunity to get in. Captain Sibree of the St. Paul related how he had captured a Spanish coal vessel going into the harbor of Santiago de Cuba, and Commodore Schley argued from these two incidents that the fleet of Spain was awaiting some haven near Santiago until such time as a visit, fruitless in its results, should be made there by the Americans, and on their departure the Spanish fleet would run into the harbor.

Commodore Schley decided to make that visit, and on Friday night he ran within six miles of the harbor. The St. Paul was then detached and sent back to keep out of sight, with instructions to be ready at a twenty-knot clip to bring news to the Commodore at any moment.

From the American ships the Spanish batteries were in plain view, but no doubt under preconcerted arrangement they made no attempts to fire, and the flying squadron, after circling around, slowly steamed away in the direction of Key West, as its coal supply was getting short. There was a collision with the squadron, but there was no friendly harbor with smooth water and there was serious danger of smashing the collier if an attempt was made to coal any of the battleships at sea.

Resourceful and daring, Commodore Schley showed forth, however, and at dark, with an original rigging to protect the ship, the Texas and the Marblehead began to coal. They worked all night, and at daybreak had filled their bunkers. By noon on Saturday the converted yacht Vixen had also coaled, and at 1 o'clock, nothing having been heard from the St. Paul, the warships moved again towards Santiago. Standing off the coast about fifteen miles, the squadron afterwards circled in front of Morro Castle, but not close enough to get a view inside the harbor, guarding carefully against the possibilities of a torpedo boat attack. At night the squadron lay off a point of land.

On the morning of Sunday the St. Paul came along, but did not report any knowledge of the Spanish fleet's whereabouts. Consequently Commodore Schley determined to find it himself, and with the flagship he started toward the harbor. The Spanish troops at the earthworks and batteries could be seen with glasses preparing in haste to give the American ships as warm a reception as possible. When about five miles from the batteries the lookouts reported the masts of two ships, and Lieutenant Sears and Ensign McCauley made the first one to be the Cristobal Colon. Two torpedo boats were also made out, and a second vessel of the Vizcaya class was seen.

SECOND PHILIPPINE EXPEDITION.

Will Be Some Days Before It Starts.

Vessels Not Near Ready to Receive the Troops.

Many of the Soldiers Now Counting on Going to Honolulu.

Battery C, Captain Cooke's Company, Formally Receives Orders to Proceed to Fort Canby Next Sunday.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 2.—The report from Washington that the annexation of Hawaii is about to be consummated is given much credence by the officers at Camp Merritt, and they are already figuring upon an order to send troops to the islands to look after Uncle Sam's interests and some of the volunteers who fear that they will not be sent to the Philippines are counting upon being ordered to Hawaii as a place of second choice.

General Merritt is arranging the details of the second expedition to the Philippines, but has not yet made public the assignments of troops for the expedition, and he will not make the order public until the date of the sailing of the fleet has been determined. It is stated in some quarters that the expedition cannot possibly sail for two weeks yet, and it is even semi-officially stated that the vessels will not be ready for ten days yet.

Just who is to blame for the delay is a mystery. The owners of the vessels say that they have not received any "hurry up" orders from Washington, and that they can perform their share of the contract at short notice as soon as definite orders are received. The Brutus, the collier recently bought by the Government, will be ready to go to sea next Saturday. Her alterations have been completed, and she is now receiving stores. A spare propeller for the Brutus and six spare blades for the Monterey's twin screws will be included in the freight. The Monterey is taking coal on in sacks, and her magazine is well filled. She, too, will be ready by next Saturday. The Monadnock is expected shortly from Puget Sound. It is believed in naval circles that the Monadnock will be kept in Honolulu.

Four batteries of heavy artillery, now stationed at the Presidio, will be filled by men from the ranks of the heavy artillery volunteer force now in camp at the Presidio.

The present formation of brigades at Camp Merritt is only temporary, and made only for administrative purposes. A reorganization will be effected when the second expedition reaches the Philippines.

The scarcity of water on the Presidio reservation has thrown the men now encamped there in a serious predicament. The supply in the reservation reservoir is about exhausted, and the pumps which supply the water are not powerful enough to keep the reservoir filled. Stringent orders have been issued cautioning the men stationed at the Presidio against any unnecessary waste of water.

General Merriam has issued an order directing Troop E, Fourth United States Cavalry, to proceed here at once from Vancouver to join the four troops now stationed at the Presidio. The troop is expected to arrive in this city within a week.

Battery C of the Heavy Artillery Battalion of Volunteers, now stationed at the Presidio, have received orders to proceed to Fort Canby next Sunday.

The Pennsylvania volunteers are in a serious predicament. They need shoes so badly that the regiment is seriously crippled for lack of them. Many of the men cannot drill on account of the dilapidated condition of their footwear.

Company F of the Sixth California Volunteers, Captain Lucey, will be sent from the Presidio to Santa Cruz for guard duty around the powder works as soon as they are properly equipped. Another company of this regiment, not yet designated, will go to Alcatraz Island for guard duty, relieving some of the troops there for service elsewhere, probably in the Philippines.

The work of coaling the transports China, Zealandia and Colon will probably be completed steadily. The Zealandia will be fully coaled within twenty-four hours, but the other two vessels will not receive their supply before Monday or Tuesday. Patent bunks, convertible into settees, will probably be put in all three vessels. The steamers Ohio and Centennial, now due here, will join the fleet of transports. It is stated that the accommodations for troops on the China are even worse than those on the City of Peking, which carried away the first California Regiment. Military officers here hope to