

INVASION OF WEST INDIES.

Washington Officials Very Reticent

Regarding the Embarking of Soldiers at Tampa.

General Belief, However, That the Movement is Under Way.

The Navy Department Very Busy Arranging Details for the Manila Expedition and Making Ready the Transports to Carry the Troops.

WASHINGTON, June 8.—The active and frequent exchange of communications between the War and Navy Departments, culminating in visits by Acting Secretary Allen, Admiral Sigsbee and Captain Crowninshield in person to the War Department to-day, led to the belief this afternoon that either the United States troops were actually embarking at Tampa, or that the movement is about to begin. The officials, however, who were not absolutely ignorant themselves as to what was going on at Tampa, were all under an injunction delivered by Secretary Alger himself to keep the troop movements absolutely secret. There were intimations that took away in a measure the disappointment occasioned by this attitude, to the effect that once the troops are ashore there will be a considerable relaxation of the rules so rigidly applied relative to the giving out of information as to the army's movements.

The robust imagination displayed in the Spanish bulletin recounting the killing of 1,500 of Sampson's men during Monday's fight with the forts of Santiago caused a good deal of amusement at the Navy Department, and the officers profess themselves, though willing to meet the Spaniards with arms, to be utterly unable to contend with them in the field of mendacity. To some of them this bulletin recalled vividly the stirring bulletins issued almost daily from the Spanish Legation here, in the days of Senor de Lome, telling how the Spaniards, with the loss of one man, had managed to annihilate the Cuban army.

No bulletins were posted to-day at the Navy Department, and although there were signs that the department was in communication with the South, the newspapermen were assured that there were no events worth reporting treated in the messages. The department is also very busy in arranging details for the Manila expedition, having undertaken to make ready the transports which will carry the soldiers from San Francisco to Manila. Work on them is being hurried under telegraphic orders, and by the end of the week there will be sufficient military force afloat to enable Admiral Dewey, when it reaches him, to do pretty much as he pleases at Manila. This is a project very much at heart just at present, for, fully recognizing the good military qualities displayed by the insurgents, according to the newspaper reports, in their combats around Cavite, the officials are loath to rely entirely upon them for any length of time, fearing a relapse on their part into savagery that might startle the civilized world.

The Japanese are the latest to turn up with applications for permission to study the technical features of the present war, and to-day Secretary Alger granted special permission to Commander Ketsuro Narita of the Japanese Imperial Navy, and Lieutenant Sane-yuki Akiyama to go with the army of occupation to Cuba. A delegation from the Young Men's Business Club of Cincinnati brought to the White House to-day a very beautiful illuminated copy of "The Address to Drake." This was intended for presentation to Rear-Admiral George Dewey as a token of admiration of the magnificent ability and great bravery displayed by him in the planning and execution of the battle of Manila, the culmination of the great victory, which startled the world, proving American officers of the army and navy are unexcelled. The magnificent piece of pen work was carried over to the Navy Department, where it will be held subject to Admiral Dewey's disposition. There is considerable mystery concerning the cutting of cables running out of Cuba, and the continuance of cable service from that island. It was positively established to-day that the French cable running from Santiago to Cape Haytien went out of service last Friday, and remained out of working condition until Saturday. During the two hours' interruption the cable company was unable to carry any

business over this line. There is little doubt that the interruptions were due to the work of the cable-cutting ship sent out by General Greeley, and in charge of signal service officers. But the mystery of the affair is that the French cable began working again on Saturday. How this came about is beyond explanation by the best cable experts. The French Cable Company is as much in the dark on this point as are the authorities here. All that the company knows is that it could do no business from the 3d to the 4th inst. It is apparent that the cable was not cut, else it could not have resumed service. At the same time, nothing short of cutting can account for the complete crippling of the cable on the 3d. The matter is further complicated by reports reaching the officials here to-day that the cable again stopped working at midnight on Monday. The condition of this cable is regarded as important by the authorities here, as it is one of the means open to General Blanco in his communication with the Spanish authorities.

INVASION OF ISLANDS.

Officials Decline to Say Whether Troops Have Sailed.

WASHINGTON, June 8.—Secretary Alger this morning positively declined to say whether or not the United States troops had sailed yet from Tampa for Cuba. He held that notwithstanding the bottling of the Spanish squadron at Santiago, there are still sufficient good reasons why every precaution should be made to prevent the Spanish from obtaining information as to the departure of our troops, the point selected for their departure, and the strength of the expedition. He was a good deal annoyed at the attempt of some of the newspapers to indicate the very point selected for landing the troops and the number of troops in the neighborhood of Santiago de Cuba. If it were true that the department had selected a place where there is a strong wharf upon which the vessels may discharge the heavy siege trains directly, the publication of that fact, if authenticated, might very naturally lead the Spaniards to destroy that particular place, and thus seriously hamper the operations of the troops.

Careful inquiry at other places in the War Department where information as to the movements of troops might naturally be expected developed the fact that no word had yet come from the departure of the military expedition from Tampa. As the troops are under orders to go to sea just as soon as they can be made ready, without further direction from the department, it was deemed possible that they will get off some time during the day.

No further word from Admiral Sampson was received at the Navy Department. The bulletin made public at the department last night in confirmation of press reports of the attack upon Sancti Spiritus last Monday is believed to be merely a sketch of the morning's operations, and is not to be taken as a statement of fact. It is believed that the term used in the bulletin "silenced the works without injury of any kind" was based upon a statement in the original dispatch broad enough to indicate that the ships had sustained no injuries, and that there had been no casualties among the personnel of the American fleet.

Naval officers to-day expressed the belief that about all of the force landed Monday from Sampson's fleet were marines, and that their purpose was not so much to take military possession of the landing as, perhaps, to spike some guns and destroy some batteries that might have been reoccupied by the Spaniards to advantage after the retirement of the American fleet after the attack.

One object of Admiral Sampson's attack which has escaped general observation, though exceedingly important, was pointed out at the Navy Department. This was to prevent the Spaniards from making a successful attempt to remove the obstruction of the channel caused by the wreck of the Merrimac. Having silenced the forts at the entrance of the harbor, which, while effective, obliged the American fleet to many miles out at sea to keep out of range of their guns, Sampson will now be able to place one or more of his ships close to the mouth of the bottle, where it will lie in comparative safety, and yet be able to command easily with his guns the wreck of the Merrimac.

PHILIPPINE EXPEDITIONS.

Six More Ships Chartered to Transport Soldiers.

WASHINGTON, June 8.—Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn of the War Department announced with considerable satisfaction to-day that the problem of securing an adequate number of transports for troops to the Philippines appeared to have been solved. He made this statement after having chartered six ships in addition to those heretofore named, and making preliminary steps for obtaining more. If the battleship Oregon is ordered to the Philippines, it will have at its disposal altogether eighteen ships for the Philippine expedition, enough to accommodate as many thousand men, should they be put to the use exclusively. As some of them, however, are cavalry and artillery, the actual number of men the ships will take may be reduced somewhat, and the vessels in all probability will make a second voyage before their charters are cancelled. As a result of the acquisition of the additional vessels, extraordinary activity in fitting them out for the work intended will be started, and no time lost in preparing for the third and later expeditions for the reinforcement of Admiral Dewey. The names of the vessels just chartered are: The Indiana, capacity 1,000 men; the Morgan City, now at San Francisco, capacity 1,000 men, and the City of Para, which will carry approximately 1,500 men; the Victoria, which is at Tacoma, Wash., and Olympia, which will be at Tacoma on the 18th inst., and the Arizona, which will be at the same place on the 10th of July. These latter three vessels belong to the Northern Pacific Steamship Company, and their charter depends upon the granting to them by Congress of an American register. Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn made an original proposition for these ships over a week

RUMORED BATTLE AT CAIMANERA.

American Fleet Attacks the Fortifications, Forcing Spaniards to Abandon Their Positions.

Our Warships Also Forced the Entrance to Guantanamo Bay.

United States Forces Probably Already Landed, Such a Move Being Expected by Spanish When Last Accounts of Battle Were Sent.

HAZARDOUS TRIP.

That Made by Edward Emerson in Porto Rico.

NEW YORK, June 8.—Edward Emerson, Jr., an attaché of the War Department, Bureau of Information, arrived here to-day on board the steamer Mariana from St. Thomas, after having performed some hazardous service and undergone some thrilling experiences in Porto Rico, transforming his name into Emerson, he secured a bogus passport and went to San Juan ostensibly as a correspondent of the Berlin "Deutcher Zeitung." "At San Juan," said Mr. Emerson, "they would not permit me to go through the German Consulate, and they allow me to make a visit to the newspaper correspondent, Halstead, who is held in prison as a spy. I was permitted to walk through the streets, however." "The War Department, I may say, need have no fears of divulging in talking San Juan whenever the attempt is made. While I could not see that any great damage was done by the bombardment of the city, the fortifications are in such a shape that they offer almost no resistance. "I succeeded in penetrating to the exact center of the island to a place called Caguas, where my papers were examined, and the Alcalde was not altogether satisfied with their regularity. I said that I had been employed as the overseer of a sugar plantation covered by the Government, and also beyond that place, but I was promptly thrown into jail. The Alcalde said he would have to communicate with San Juan to find out whether or not I was all right. "How long will that take?" I inquired. "It may take two or three weeks," he replied. "We will have an answer by the middle of the summer, anyhow." "This was not cheerful, especially as I feared my identity had been discovered at San Juan. I wrote a telegram to the War Department, and offered to pay for a telegram to the Governor of San Juan. This gave me a little better standing with the Alcalde, and I was allowed a measure of liberty. "May 23d I walked some distance from the prison at noon, and found a number of horses standing outside about a blacksmith shop. The hostlers were taking their noonday meal, and I immediately appropriated the best horse I could find and decamped. To get to Pagan I must go to the west, and that seemed dangerous, I went in an opposite direction, riding back over two days and two nights. "I met a shepherd boy and offered him a jack-knife if he would draw me a map of the surrounding country. From that grew the map, and the statement that a foreigner had compelled a boy to draw a map under threat of slitting his throat. The map I have now in my possession for the War Department, and I found it correct in every detail. "When I rode again to the east I crossed a range of hills to find the entire east side of the island in the possession of the insurgents. The insurgents welcomed me and gave me an escort to the coast, where I found a schooner at anchor. Though the schooner belonged to a Spaniard, the Captain was prevailed upon to take me away. We had just lost sight of land on May 28th, when a warship loomed in sight that we took for an American. Our Captain was greatly excited, and began to pray until he decided, and the stranger flew the Spanish flag. It proved to be the torpedo boat destroyer Terror. "She steamed alongside and an officer was sent aboard. I was dressed as a sailor and had taken a position at the masthead. After an examination of the books the Spaniards left her, and we headed for Santa Cruz. There I boarded the Madiana and found a number of United States newspaper correspondents and artists aboard. "The Spanish Alcalde has sent a telegram to the authorities to hold me upon arrival as a thief. Mr. Moore, the United States Consul at St. Thomas, positively refused to surrender me, and even took me in a boat himself out to the Madiana. When Emerson left San Juan he saw four Spanish war vessels in the harbor—the Isabel II, Alicante, Colchoa and the Terror.

LIUENANT HOBSON.

Sampson Directed to Forward Report of His Gallant Action.

WASHINGTON, June 8.—The President has directed Admiral Sampson to prepare and forward at once a detailed report of the gallant action of Lieutenant Richmond Pearson Hobson at Santiago, and as soon as it is received will send a special message to Congress recognizing the heroism displayed not only by Hobson himself, but by the men who accompanied him on the Merrimac. The order for a full report is already on the way, the President feeling it best to await official advice before taking the action he now contemplates. What will be recommended for Hobson and his crew is not certain now, but there probably will be a recommendation for a vote of thanks specifically naming Hobson, though probably not naming the men. Medals of honor, it is expected by those who have talked with the President on the subject, will be struck off for the little band of men, and promotion of some sort is in store for all of them. It will take some days for Admiral Sampson to get his report here, but probably some time next week a message signaling the Merrimac incident will be sent to Congress.

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CAPE HAYTIEN (Hayti), June 8.—(6:10 p. m.)—(Copyrighted, 1898, by the Associated Press.)—It is reported here that a great battle has taken place at Caimanera, in the Bay of Guantanamo. At 5:30 o'clock yesterday morning (Tuesday) five ships of the American squadron opened a heavy bombardment of the fortifications of the town. There was a perfect hail of bombs in the bay, striking and demolishing many houses beyond the fortifications. On the Spanish side the artillery replied vigorously, maintaining for some time a stout resistance. The fire from the warships, however, never slackened for an instant. It was regular and carefully directed, and a great majority of the shots proved effective. The Spaniards were forced to abandon their position on the shore and retreat to the town of Caimanera proper. It is supposed that later they fled from this position also, with the inhabitants. Information reached here that the Spanish at Santiago and Caimanera are preparing for a final desperate struggle, and are determined to resist the assaults of the Americans to the last extremity. The commander of the district issued an order yesterday to burn Caimanera before yielding it into the hands of the Americans. The latter forced the entrance to the Bay of Guantanamo, and according to the latest advices from Caimanera, it was feared that the Americans would make an effort to land forces there this (Wednesday) afternoon. Measures to prevent this, if possible, have been taken by the Spaniards. The American fleet was still maintaining its position. Cable communication with Cuba which has been interrupted for many hours, was partially restored this afternoon, but it is still difficult and precarious. The report of the bombardment at Caimanera came by cable. The bombardment destroyed a little house which sheltered the shore connection of the French cable at Caimanera, though whether by the explosion of the bombs from the water or by explosives used by a party sent for that purpose, is not known. The cables uniting the main cable with the office at Caimanera and the town of Caimanera with Santiago, were cut, thus accounting for the prolonged absence of intelligence here as to operations in that vicinity. It is also believed that the cable at Santiago is cut, as no direct news from Santiago has yet been received at Cape Haytien since Monday at midnight. Even before the cables in Guantanamo Bay had been injured so that they could not be worked, the operators at the Caimanera station were forced to flee by the fire from the ships. Up to this hour (6:15 p. m.) there has been no direct cable communication from Santiago since Monday at midnight. LAND ATTACK TO BE MADE UPON SANTIAGO. NEW YORK, June 8.—A special from Cape Haytien says the Americans and insurgents have formed a junction near Santiago, and that a land attack on the city is momentarily expected. The Spaniards claim to have 24,000 seasoned troops in Santiago. Colonel Tenesse, a renowned Austrian artist in the Spanish service, was killed in Monday's bombardment of the forts of Santiago harbor. CAPTAIN PHILIP RECEIVED NO INJURY. KINGSTON (Jamaica), June 8.—(3:30 p. m.)—(Copyrighted, 1898, by the Associated Press.)—The report circulated in the United States that Captain Philip, commander of the battleship Texas, had been seriously injured by a shell during the bombardment of the Santiago fortifications on Monday, is without foundation. Captain Philip received no injury whatever.

SANTIAGO ENGAGEMENT.

Spanish Admit That the Reina Mercedes Was Sunk.

SANTIAGO MADRID, June 8.—Dispatches received here from Havana from Spanish sources say: "The Americans were

again repulsed at the last bombardment of Santiago de Cuba." Continuing the reports about the damage done to the batteries and to the town is "unimportant," or "is already repaired," adding, "The Spanish guns did not cease to fire an instant during the fight, and all the batteries are in condition to reply to the enemy's fire. During a second attack Colonel Ordóñez was aboard the Reina Mercedes, and personally assisted in working her guns. Every one regards Colonel Ordóñez and General Linares as the heroes of the day."

According to official Spanish dispatches received here, the exact loss of the Spaniards at Santiago de Cuba on Monday is as follows: Land forces, one soldier killed and five officers wounded, including Colonel Ordóñez, slightly wounded. Sea forces, the second officer of the Reina Mercedes, five sailors and twenty-four marines killed and an officer and eleven sailors wounded. The official dispatches also say that many of the wounded, including Colonel Ordóñez, are able to attend to their duties. It is announced here that the Spanish steamer Vendito has run the blockade of Manzanillo and arrived at Juracoa. REINA MERCEDES SUNK. MADRID, June 8.—10 a. m.—A semi-official note was published here to-day purporting to give an account of the bombardment of Santiago de Cuba by the American fleet on Monday last: "The American navy under Admiral Sampson has fiercely attacked Santiago de Cuba, and a bloody encounter ensued. The American fleet made three attacks on the Spanish marine and land batteries, which replied. As a consequence the Americans were repulsed with heavy losses, estimated at 1,500 men. The American projectiles, however, sank the Spanish cruiser Reina Mercedes."

The Reina Mercedes was a steel cruiser built at Carthagena in 1887. She was over 3,000 tons displacement, 278 feet 10 inches long, 2 feet 1 inch broad and drew 16 feet 5 inches of water. She had 3,700 horse-power when completed, was driven by one propeller, and carried a crew of about 370 men. Her engines recently had been useless, owing to her boilers giving out. With the Alfonso XIII and the Reina Christina, the Reina Mercedes of late years has been used as a transport. The three vessels were almost alike. The Reina Mercedes was a steel cruiser consisting of six 6.2 Hontoria breech-loading guns, two 2.7 inch Hontoria breech-loading guns, three 6-pounder quick fire guns, six 8-pounder quick fire guns, two machine and five torpedo tubes. She was bark rigged, and had a topmast. Her coal capacity was about 500 to 600 tons. The Reina Mercedes was supposed to have a speed of about eighteen knots. She had no protective deck. CASUALTIES ON THE SHIPS. LONDON, June 9.—The Madrid correspondent of the "Standard" says: "It is reported that during the engagement at Santiago two shells struck the Vizcaya and one the destroyer Furor. "Press dispatches say that the Reina Mercedes suffered most from the shell fire which wounded her commander mortally, Captain Acosta. The total number of casualties on the ship was thirty-nine, five seamen and twenty-one marines killed, and a lieutenant and eleven men wounded. Most of the Honoria and Krupp guns had before the action been placed in the Socapa battery. "Admiral Cervera's squadron, when steam up, was lying behind the first line of batteries, and Admiral leading from the bay, ready to co-operate, but the land defenses sufficed to keep the American fleet from attempting to force the entrance. "The loyalist volunteers," according to the press dispatches, "took part in the gallant defense of Morro fort, losing two officers and several men. They also assisted the troops to oppose an American landing, attempted at two places."

INSURGENT SUCCESSES.

LONDON, June 9.—The Singapore correspondent of the "Times" telegraphing to-day says: "The local Philippine insurgent committee received to-day a dispatch from Aguinaldo, saying: 'We have taken all the province of Cavite and several towns in the province of Batangas. We have captured ten guns, 600 rifles, 1,200 Spaniards from Spain, with 800 Philippine Spaniards, killing 300. We are besieging Belo. In the church there are thirty Spaniards entrenched who must surrender soon. We hear that the Governor-General proposes to capitulate.' "The Filipinos in Singapore serenaded the United States Consul-General, E. S. Pratt, to-night. Before the serenade they presented him with an address thanking him for sending Aguinaldo to Admiral Dewey and expressing a desire for the establishment of a native government under American protection. "The spokesman, continuing, deprecated the restoration of the islands to Spain, or their transfer to any power, and expressed his confidence that the natives would prove their ability to govern themselves. The Filipinos then gave three cheers for America, England and Admiral Dewey. Mr. Pratt responded, and presented the spokesman with an American flag amid great enthusiasm."

AUGUSTI WANTS FULL LIBERTY OF ACTION.

MADRID, June 8.—The Minister for War, General Correa, received news from the Philippine Islands to-day, and communicated it to the Premier, Senor Sagasta, saying the Governor-General of the colony, General Augusti, asked for full liberty of action. He asked that Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader, continues to excite a general insurrection in the archipelago. A dispatch from the Commander of the island of Vizcaya says that official sent two gunboats to the island of Luzon with instructions to try to communicate with Manila, but he adds, were compelled to return unsuccessful. The Government, it is added, replied, instructing the Commander of the island of Vizcaya to restore communication with Manila at all cost. General Correa declined to furnish the text of the dispatches for publication on the ground that it would be prejudicial to the country's interest, but a member of the Government with that name cannot be used, admitted that the dispatch of Spanish troops to the Philippines could not change the situation. He added: "We could send 6,000 troops, but if the natives are against us, such a force would be inadequate. If they were with us, it would not be necessary to send troops."

SPAIN'S PLANS.

Sagasta Says It Would be Unparliamentary to Reveal Them. MADRID, June 8.—On account of the serious news from the Philippines, the leaders of the minority parties in the Chamber of Deputies met Senor Sagasta to-day to consider the situation. The Premier strove to convince them of the gravity of existing circumstances, urging that they ought immediately to adopt the budget and to declare that the Chamber would sit in permanent session. The opposition leaders promised during the sitting of the Chamber to-day to make declarations regarding the Philippines of a nature that would adjourn all debates. When the Chamber door opened Senor Sagasta immediately spoke. He said: "The Spanish people ought to receive bad news with manly calmness. Since the unforeseen disaster at Cavite, the Government has only received three dispatches. The first came directly after the destruction of the squadron. It was an Admiral Montoliu, and stated the sufficient means of defense existed, and that the national population was loyal. The second announced that Aguinaldo had arrived, and was trying but without success, to excite the population against the authorities. The third has already been published to-day. Senor Romero y Robledo offered his support to the Government, 'provided the Government devotes its strength to a defense of the country, and not to a defense of its interests.' He accused the Government of inaction, saying: 'Thirty-nine days have passed with no resolution regarding the defense of the Philippines. The result is that the natives, induced by the easy victory of the Americans, regard the Spanish forces with contempt. The Government now seeks a shameful peace or foreign aid, I shall protest with my whole strength.' Senor Barrio declared that the Government did not deserve confidence, but that, nevertheless, it might count on the support of the Chamber in everything. Professor Salmeron made a similar statement on behalf of the Republicans. Senor Mella (Carlist) asserted that the Government had abandoned its pledges, and he blamed it for a 'system of silence,' declaring 'the nation which would suffer a Sedan in silence, could not deserve to figure in history.' Senor Sagasta replied: 'The Government is not responsible for results in the Philippines, nor the course Admiral Cervera has taken. The Government must execute its plans, and must not reveal them, which would be unparliamentary.'

POWELL WON HIS POINT.

Sends His Message in English, Despite a Protest. CAPE HAYTIEN (Hayti), May 26.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—There are some 900 tons of coal at this port, held by a foreign manufacturing concern, which will not sell except at an exorbitant price. This concern has cabled to the United States for a further supply of 2,000 tons of coal, but it is uncertain yet whether the coal will get so much. The correspondent of the Associated Press has information showing the completeness of the control exercised by the censor at Santiago de Cuba. The censor has a special apparatus on his desk in front of him, which records all messages sent over the cable, even the private gossip exchanged between the operators. A Consular case has just arisen at Gonaves which tested the question as to whether the Haytien Government has the right to prescribe the language in which a dispatch written by a diplomat or consular officer to another officer of his Government, and presented for transmission over the State telegraph wires shall be couched. Great Britain has no Consular agent at Gonaves. (Continued on Eighth Page.)

TROOPS ON THE WAY TO CUBA.

Army Sailed From Tampa Yesterday

Consists of Twenty-Seven Regiments of Soldiers.

The Indiana, Helena and Bancroft Accompany the Expedition.

Expected to Reach Their Destination Friday Night or Saturday Morning, and to Attempt to Effect a Landing on Sunday.

LONDON, June 9.—The Washington correspondent of the "Daily Chronicle," with the approval of General Greeley, cables the following: "The army sailed from Tampa at noon to-day (Wednesday). The force numbers 27,000 men, composed of infantry, cavalry, artillery, engineers and signal corps. "The infantry consists of twenty-seven regiments, sixteen regulars and eleven volunteers, as follows: "Of the regular regiments, the Fifth, Second, Fourth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth. "Of the volunteer regiments, there were the First New York, Thirty-second Michigan, First and Fifth Ohio, Second New York, First District of Columbia, Fifth Maryland, One Hundred and Fifty-seventh Indiana and Third Pennsylvania. Total infantry force is 21,000 men. In addition there are a battalion of engineers, a detachment of the signal corps, five squadrons of cavalry, four batteries of light artillery and two batteries of heavy artillery. "General Shafter is in chief command of the force, which is conveyed by the battleship Indiana and the gunboat Helena, while the training ship Bancroft is General Shafter's floating home. "The transports are due at Santiago Friday night or Saturday morning, and the landing will be attempted on Sunday. This should be effected without difficulty, and no doubt by Sunday at the latest the Stars and Stripes will float over Santiago de Cuba."

MANILA EXPEDITION.

Semi-Officially Announced That It Will Sail Next Wednesday.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 8.—It was semi-officially announced to-night that the transports Zealandia, China and Colon, conveying the second Manila expedition, will sail next Wednesday. It was hoped that an earlier start would be made, but this does not seem possible. The third expedition, which may get away within ten days will consist of the transport steamer Senator, City of Puebla and Ohio, conveyed by the Monitor Monadnock, the cruiser Philadelphia and the collier Nero, recently the Whitgift. The Senator is already being prepared for the trip. There is a possibility that the Indiana may take the place of the City of Puebla, which will be held until the fourth expedition is ready. This will be composed of the Morgan City, Alameda, or City of Para, and either the Indiana or City of Puebla. A number of vessels mentioned in dispatches from the East as possible transports are not available, for the reason that they are coasters and have no means of transferring coal from the hold to the bunkers at sea. There is a lull at Camp Merritt. The volunteers have settled down again to the daily routine life of a soldier, and have given up the idea of getting away to Manila this week. The men are drilled every day, but that is about all the men have to think of. The Fifty-first Iowa Regiment of Volunteers will not arrive until to-morrow, the trains all being delayed. The troops from Georgia are expected to-morrow night. The popular subscription to the new 3 per cent. Government bonds in this city is steadily increasing. The amount subscribed at the First National Bank at noon to-day was \$724,000. The Sixth California Volunteers expect to be completely equipped by next Saturday evening. Within a week all the companies of the regiment now at the Presidio will be distributed to various points for duty. Company A, Captain Charles Dasher, was to-day transferred to Alcatraz Island, to relieve Battery K, Third United States Artillery, which joined the artillery camp at the Presidio. This makes Captain Dasher commander at Alcatraz. Company C, Captain George Duncan, and Company G, in command of Captain W. H. Cook, both of the First Battalion, will, on or before next Saturday, go to Benicia. Company F, under Captain Lucy, expects to go to Santa Cruz before the

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