

TRANSITION FROM WAR TO PEACE

Reflected in Dullness in Official Circles.

Bustle and Activity Which Have Prevailed for Months

Gives Way to Calmness Not Apparent Since Hostilities Opened.

The President Has Not Definitely Determined the Personnel of the Peace Commission Which is to Meet at Paris.

WASHINGTON, August 13.—The sudden transition from war to peace was reflected to-day in a complete dullness and stagnation through official circles.

There will be a large amount of important details to be worked out from this time forward; a gradual reduction of the army and navy to peace footings, the establishment of temporary and permanent administrations for our new colonial possessions; caring for the prisoners and the relief of the distressed in Cuba.

The question of immediate attention is the appointment of the peace commission which is to meet at Paris and of the military commission to meet at Havana and San Juan.

The President conferred with Secretary Day during the day relative to the peace commission but it was said at the State Department late in the day that an announcement of the commission might be deferred for some days.

It is understood that the President has not fully determined upon the personnel of the commission. Several of the public men who saw him to-day were satisfied that the commission would be made up of Secretary Day, Senators Allison and Gorman, either Joseph K. Choate or Elihu Root of New York, and probably a prominent army officer.

General Corbin is spoken of favorably in connection with the army appointment on the commission. The military commissions for Cuba and Porto Rico are not receiving any attention from the State Department, as the military authorities will have entire charge of these branches of the peace settlement.

During the day the State Department received a call from M. Thiebaut, Secretary of the French Embassy, for the purpose of leaving a letter explaining the authority given by cable to the French Ambassador to sign the peace protocol.

General Greely is satisfied that no use can be made of the cable connecting Hongkong with Manila, as there are no cable operators at the Manila end.

Acting Secretary Allen said to-day that the matter of establishing coaling stations, the disposition of Admiral Cervera and other Spanish prisoners and like questions brought up by the peace settlement would receive consideration in due time, but that there was no immediate necessity for passing upon them.

Preparations are making to receive the battleships and armored cruisers now under orders to come North. Dry docks No. 1 and No. 2 at the New York navy yard are available for the big cruisers New York and Brooklyn, but not for the battleships. Dry dock No. 3 will receive the battleships, but will not be in condition before September 1st, as it has just gone through a long period of repair.

The War Department is busy all day with matters pertaining to cessation of hostilities. Secretary Alger consulted the President for some time, but when he returned said that the Military Commissioners for Cuba and Porto Rico would not be announced to-day.

There was no need of haste, he said, as the terms of the protocol ten days were allowed for the selection of the commission. There has been some speculation as to who will be Commissioners, and nearly all of the more prominent officers of the army have been canvassed, both volunteer and regular. It seems to be generally conceded that General Lee will be one of the Commissioners for Cuba, on account of his knowledge of the conditions in the is-

and. General Brooke and General Henry are mentioned as probable Commissioners for Porto Rico.

The subject of mustering out a part of the volunteer forces has been considered, and it is probable the total force will be reduced to 100,000. This mustering out will not begin at once. Garrisons of both regular and volunteer soldiers will remain in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. Manila and Porto Rico will be governed through the military arm at present, and probably the authority which the United States exerts in Cuba by the same method. This state of things is likely to continue until Congress meets.

It is understood at the War Department that the Spanish soldiers in all places over which the United States exercises control will be virtually prisoners of war and under the orders of the United States officers in command.

FROM WAR TO PEACE.

The Sudden Change Noticeable at War and Navy Departments.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—With peace proclaimed, all of the energies of the military and naval establishments to-day were directed into peaceful channels. The sudden change from war to peace was manifest at the War and Navy Departments. The orders given last night for the immediate cessation of hostilities brought all military and naval movements to a halt, and it now remains only to bring affairs back to a peace basis. In this, however, the authorities were acting on the theory that the protocol of yesterday was but the first step toward peace, and not the final and lasting peace secured will there be an entire return to a peace basis.

This was particularly true as to the Navy Department. In that branch it was accepted that permanent peace would be made, and yet, instead of stripping our warships, redistributing them into squadrons on a peace basis and returning them to their old channels, the naval authorities acted on the principle that the present armistice might end in a resumption of hostilities. For that reason, the four battleships and two armored cruisers ordered north from West Indian waters are to undergo a complete overhauling, with a view of putting them in the pink of condition. For many months they have been in tropical waters; their bottoms are foul, and their engines and machinery need careful overhauling. As soon as they reach New York all work at the navy yard will be subordinated to pushing the complete overhauling of the big battleships and armored cruisers.

Measures for the smaller warships in West Indian waters have been ordered to fast harbors, as the West Indian hurricane season is near at hand, while sufficient ships for police patrol are left along the Cuban and Porto Rico coasts. The General Merritt of the monitors will remain at Porto Rico, and most of the blockading fleet will winter at Key West under Commodore Watson. The peace protocol will give a breathing spell and time for bringing every ship back to the highest state of perfection. It is expected that a peace basis, the establishment of peace squadrons, etc., is a matter for the future.

It is expected that the American occupation of Manila will occur immediately after the receipt by Admiral Dewey of General Merritt's orders sent them last night. This may not be deferred by the lack of cable facilities, as the American occupation of Manila probably will result in the opening of a direct cable communication between that city and the United States. The only difficulty thus far has been that the cable company would not recognize American control of the cable so long as our forces were not in possession of the city. The orders sent Admiral Dewey are much more specific than those sent the navy commanders, as the occupation of Manila and the holding of the bay and harbor involve more important considerations than the mere cessation of hostilities.

During the early hours of to-day the War and Navy Departments received the war and military commissions from the various naval and military commanders, but it was presumed that the orders suspending hostilities were being carried out in all directions.

It is probable that the conquered stations like Porto Rico and Manila will remain under military government until Congress can act. It is believed that the military commissions, which are to be appointed within ten days, will make such a recommendation to the President. In fact, it is pointed out that little else can be done for Porto Rico, and Manila officially should be governed for the present by the War Department and military commander. As to Cuba, it is quite likely that so far as the United States authority is extended or asserted, it will be through the Secretary of War and the officers in Cuba under his direction. Consideration is being given to the appointment of the military commissioners, and many of the prominent commanders in the army have been mentioned.

The energies of the War Department now are being directed toward making the soldiers in the field and in the different camps as comfortable as possible, relieving the sick, taking care of the wounded, and placing the soldiers in healthy and more pleasant camps and quarters.

Arrangements have been made to send larger reinforcements to General Merritt. With the troops already at Manila and those which will arrive within a few days, General Merritt will have 16,000 men. The 7,000 troops at San Francisco are to be sent as rapidly as transports can be obtained. These transports are now on their way from Nagasaki, Japan, to San Francisco.

The War Department is canceling the charters to the various vessels issued for the transportation of troops. The Government purchased thirteen vessels, and chartered about fifty. Already the charters of the Lampasas and Louisiana have been canceled, and orders have been issued canceling those of the Concho and Leonora as soon as they arrive from Santiago.

CUBAN JUNTA.

Send Instructions for the Insurgents to Cease Hostilities.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Senator Palma, the head of the Cuban Junta, has sent the following cable by way of Santiago:

"Bartolomeo Maso, President Cuban Republic, Santiago: I have this 13th day of August, 1898, accepted in the name of the Cuban Provisional Government the armistice proclaimed by the United States. You should give immediate orders to the army throughout Cuba suspending all hostilities. Preliminary terms of peace signed by representatives of Spain and the United States provide that Spain will relinquish all claim over and title to Cuba."

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Assistant Secretary of War Melkeljohn has had a conference with Tomas Estrada Palma, the representative of the Cubans in this country, at which the signing of the protocol and the President's proclamation of a cessation of hostilities were discussed. Mr. Palma stated to Assistant Secretary Melkeljohn that he accepted in the name of the Cuban Provisional Government the armistice proclaimed by the United States, and had so cabled President Bartolomeo Maso of the Cuban Republic at Santiago, Cuba. He had also advised President Maso to give immediate orders to the army throughout Cuba suspending all hostilities, stating to him that "preliminary terms of peace, signed by representatives of Spain and the United States, provide that Spain will relinquish claim over and title to Cuba."

In further reply to inquiries as to matters discussed by Mr. Palma and himself, Assistant Secretary Melkeljohn made the following statement:

"Pending giving notice of armistice through their official channels, Mr. Palma desires our Government to afford him means by fast sailing vessels and otherwise to communicate with the Cuban forces in different portions of the island, notifying them of the peace proposals, and requesting suspension of hostilities. He greatly desires our positive assistance of our Government in sending food supplies to the Cuban forces in the field and their families, as he is without ships for this purpose. They desire to co-operate in every respect and assist in any and every way in promoting the peace plans of our Government, and have undoubted confidence in the good intentions of the Government of the United States and in the satisfactory outcome of the struggle for independence which is now assured. He is especially anxious that the American Government should immediately secure the release of the political prisoners in Spanish prisons."

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.

The Mental and Physical Strain Upon Him Has Been Severe.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—President McKinley said to-day that the mental and physical strain of the last few months had been severe upon him, as upon all officials who had borne the weight of great responsibilities, and now that the war was over and the sufferings that he involves were at an end, his feeling was one of profound thankfulness. Work in connection with the appointment of commissions to negotiate a treaty of peace, the preparation of his instructions and other important matters, he said, probably would necessitate his remaining in Washington until some time in October, when he hoped to be able to take a short rest. The work of the peace commission might occupy a month or so, and he hoped that in his next thanksgiving proclamation he would have the very great pleasure of announcing to the people the fact that a treaty of peace had been signed.

Secretary Day spent some time at the White House to-day in consultation with the President, but later it was stated that the conference had no reference to the personnel of the peace commission. It was said further that no appointments would be made to-day.

General Gobin, from Camp Alger, Past Grand Master of the Knights Templar of the United States, accompanied by other officers of the Grand Encampment, called on the President and extended to him and Mrs. McKinley an invitation to attend the next triennial convocation of Knights Templar, to be held in Pittsburgh next October. The President hoped that he might be able to attend, but he feared that would not be possible.

DISPOSITION OF TROOPS.

A Question the War Department is Now Seriously Considering.

WASHINGTON, August 13.—The War Department is seriously considering the settlement of the questions growing out of the Spanish war. The disposition of the troops, the number to be retained, and what troops to must-

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AMERICAN INVASION OF PORTO RICO.

Spanish Battery Near Alibonito Silenced.

The Enemy Driven From Their Position.

One of Our Men Killed and Several Others Wounded.

American Warships Bombard Manzanillo, Cuba, Day and Night, Not Ceasing the Fire Until Informed That Peace Had Been Declared.

WASHINGTON, August 13.—Adjutant General Corbin to-night received the following cablegram:

PONCE, August 13.—General Wilson reports that Major Lancaster, with Potts, at 1:30 p. m. on the 12th inst., quickly silenced enemy's battery at Asomanta, near Alibonito, and drove him from his position and rifle pits; no infantry fire on our part. Lieutenant John P. Haines, Fourth Artillery, was struck by a stray Mauser bullet, but seriously wounded. A shell from the enemy's gun burst just over one of our pickets, killing Corporal Swansen and wounding Corporal Jenks, Company L, Third Wisconsin, in the neck and arm; Private Vought, same company, seriously wounded in the abdomen; Private Coe, same company, in chest, seriously.

OCCUPATION OF MAYAGUEZ.

PONCE (Porto Rico), August 12.—Delayed in transmission.—General Schwan has occupied the town of Mayaguez, taking formal possession without resistance. The Spanish force which had held the place withdrew to Lares, about sixteen miles northeast of Mayaguez, and half way between the town last named and Arecibo, on the north coast of the island. General Brooke is still at Guayama.

The munitions and supplies for this division are being unloaded from the transports at Arroyo. General Wilson is still at Coamo, waiting reinforcements of cavalry and dynamite guns before executing the plans formulated for the advance in the direction of Alibonito, in co-operation with General Brooke.

On Thursday about 4 o'clock there was desultory firing between the pickets on General Wilson's line and those of the Spanish forces in the front. Two companies of the Second Wisconsin volunteers were sent to support the pickets. As this dispatch is sent (8 o'clock p. m.) there is sharp firing going on. An occasional volley is heard. A battery

of artillery has been moved out to the support of the infantry. Prisoners captured during the day report that there are 2,500 Spaniards at Alibonito.

CASUALTIES NEAR HORMIGUEROS.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The War Department to-night posted the following:

"Ponce, Aug. 13, 1898, 7:15 p. m.—"Secretary of War, Washington: Following is a complete list of casualties in engagement near Hormigueros August 10th:

"Killed—Frederick Fernberg, Company D, Eleventh Infantry.

"Wounded—First Lieutenant Joseph C. Byron, Eighth Cavalry. Following wounded of Eleventh Infantry: Sergeant William S. Wheeler, seriously; Corporal Joseph P. Ryan, Company C; Private William Rossiter, Company G, seriously; Private Arthur Shays, Company C; Private John L. Johnson, Company D; Private A. Sands, Company D; Private Paul E. Milsie, Company E; Private Henry Gerrik, Company E; Private Harry E. Arrick, Company E; Private Samuel Cobb, Company I; Corporal Amos Wilkie, Company E, seriously; Private Daniel S. Graves, Company C, seriously. Corporal John Irving, Private Samuel G. Frey, Private G. Curtis, Light Battery D, Fifth Artillery; Doctor thinks all but one of wounded likely to recover.

MANZANILLO BOMBARDMENT.

Continued Until Informed That Peace Was Declared.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Aug. 13. P. m.—Advices were received by General Shafter to-day to the effect that the bombardment of Manzanillo, day and night, and again this morning, General Shafter at once cabled to the Spanish commander at Manzanillo that peace had been declared, and requesting him to advise the American commander of the fact under a flag of truce, which he did, and the shelling of the town ceased.

HORSE FLESH.

For a Time It Brought a Fancy Price at Santiago.

[Copyrighted, 1898, by Associated Press.] SANTIAGO, July 26.—There are two ways of looking at the value of horseflesh here since the American occupation. Alive and kicking, as horseflesh pure and simple, it is dirt cheap. You can buy an animal for a \$5 gold piece, with all the trappings thrown in. Dead, as a meat at so much a pound in the market, it comes high—in more ways than one. The reasons for the discrepancy in value between a live and a dead horse is now more obvious. General Shafter's report says that on July 24th 143 horses were turned over by the Spanish cavalry under his command. It is well known that 1,000 is nearer the number that should have been turned over.

When Santiago surrendered, on July 17th, 11,000 Spaniards stood in urgent need, first of food, second of cash. These crafty Castilians bethought themselves of an ingenious plan for satisfying their lust of flesh and gold. They knew our boys would enjoy a repast of fresh meat and would be glad to pay almost any price for it. So a goodly number of sliney chargers and tough old war horses were put to the sword and distributed at fancy prices to the inns and chophouses of the district, for the especial benefit of the Americans.

For a time this horseflesh brought excellent prices, but after many equine steaks had been served, devoured and paid for the American troops gradually began to realize what they were eating, and would have no more of it. A slump in the market followed.

In the chaotic condition of Spain's military regime in the city, orderlies would mount their officers' steeds and ride into the market place, offering their mounts to the first comer for the most they could get. In this simple manner, unhampered by a formality of a bill of sale, many horses changed hands, always to the advantage of the seller, who was getting something for what had cost him nothing—and in-

centally depriving Uncle Sam of lawful prizes of war.

And thus, at least partially, is explained the fact that the Spanish cavalry horses turned over to General Shafter had dwindled to the ridiculous figure of 143.

The first American Postoffice in Cuba was opened on July 23d at Balquitril. Eben Brewer was the postal agent. From the first day United States postage stamps were sold and money orders issued. An immense amount of mail had accumulated at Tampa since the departure of the army, and its prompt delivery to the men at the front after its arrival at Balquitril was a task of immense magnitude. After sorting the mail by regiments and companies, Mr. Brewer bought a horse, loaded the animal with a heavy pouch of mail, and started for the front to make deliveries. It was the first mail in Cuba under American auspices. He was gone thirty-six hours, and immediately after his return made another trip, this time hiring two mules, on which he loaded the mail matter, riding on the backs of one himself. He was gone for two days, and besides delivering his mail he assisted in caring for the wounded on the battlefield and helped the field surgeons in their task. Mr. Brewer during these four days took neither sleep nor rest, and the soldiers among whom he went agreed that he was as self-sacrificing on the field of battle as the brave men whom he helped during several days of fierce fighting.

In the meantime 400 sacks of mail had accumulated at Balquitril, and an improvement in the system of mail distribution became imperative. It was decided to move the Postoffice closer to the front, and on July 6th the Siboney Postoffice was opened in place of the old Balquitril office. By this time Lewis Kemper had arrived to assist Mr. Brewer, and in two days every piece of mail matter was at the front, sent there by pack mules and carts.

Three days later Mr. Brewer was taken sick, and he was removed to the yellow fever hospital, where he died July 14th. The dreaded fever had begun to spread so rapidly that an order was issued to burn every building and hut at Siboney. Consequently the Postoffice building went with the others, and on July 12th the office was moved into a canvas tent, where business was transacted. Money orders to the amount of more than \$6,000 have been issued, and \$3,000 worth of stamps and stamped envelopes have been sold. A million pieces of mail have thus far been received and distributed, and more than 50,000 letters have been forwarded to the United States.

RETURNING TROOPS.

General Shafter Reports as to the Movement at Santiago.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The following cablegram was received at the War Department to-night:

"Santiago, August 13, 1898. "Hon. R. A. Alger, Secretary of War, Washington: Second Massachusetts has been fully equipped, also Seventy-first New York. Troops are being sent by brigades and divisions.

WAR SHIPS FIRED UPON.

Havana Batteries Open on the San Francisco and Miantonomah.

KEY WEST, Aug. 13.—(9 p. m.)—The flagship San Francisco, the monitor Miantonomah and the auxiliary yacht Silvia were fired upon by Havana batteries shortly before 5 o'clock yesterday morning. One 10 or 12-inch shell struck the San Francisco's stern as she turned to get away out of range, and tore a hole about a foot in diameter, completely wrecking Commodore Howell's quarters and smashing his bookcase into fragments. No damage was done, and being under orders not to attack the batteries, the ships retreated as fast as their engines would carry them.

Intelligence reached here to-day that the Spanish forces under General Luque, in Holguin, have been ordered by General Siles to evacuate the town. General Garcia, with 8,000 Cubans, was at last accounts strongly entrenched around Holguin, and demanded General Luque's surrender. This latter information came on the Spanish prize schooner Expresso, which was captured by the United States at Gibara on July 27th, and brought here by a prize crew under command of Ensign Walker. When the Expresso left Gibara on Tuesday last the Spaniards were still in Holguin, and had not replied to Garcia's demand for their surrender. On August 1st, however, the Nashville captured a small Spanish sloop, the Fongrafa, at Gibara. The sloop carried mail for Spanish officers and a cargo of tobacco. The mail was seized and its contents gave the American officers some special information. Subsequently the sloop was set free.

The flagship and the Silvia are parallel to each other, not more than a mile from Morro Castle, and separated from each other by a distance of between three-eighths and a quarter of a mile. The Miantonomah lay about three-quarters of a mile to the rear of the other. All were within range of the Spanish batteries, and the temptation was too strong for the Spaniards to resist. The first glimmer of dawn was breaking through the eastern skies, when, without an instant's warning, the lookout of the flagship saw a jet of smoke puff from one of Morro's big guns. Almost before he could pull himself together sufficient to make a report of the incident ten and twelve-inch shells were screaming all around.

The Spaniards had the range, and, apparently, were grimly in earnest in their last effort to wreak injury on their mighty enemy. Shells fell between the San Francisco and the Silvia. Some fell short, a few went over them. The flagship signaled the Silvia to get out of range without delay, and both ships swung around and made for the sea.

It was then that the shell struck the San Francisco's stern. Commodore Howell was on deck with Captain Leary when the shell struck. With the utmost speed the fleet moved out about three miles. Here the men on the flagship patched up the ragged hole in the vessel's stern. All the shells fired at the vessels fell around the ships. One of the Silvia's men stood calmly on the deck of the yacht, watch in hand, and counted them. Morro Castle fired several of the missiles, but how many

CONDITIONS BEFORE MANILA.

View of the Situation on July 9th,

Just After the First Expedition Arrived.

The City of Manila Was in a State of Siege.

The Place Could Easily be Taken by the Americans, but the Force Was Insufficient to Properly Garrison the City.

(Correspondence of the Associated Press—Copyrighted.)

ON BOARD THE U. S. S. CHARLESTON, OFF CAVITE, Manila Harbor, P. I., July 9, 1898.—Although eight days have elapsed since the arrival of the first detachment of the expeditionary force for the Philippines, no move has as yet been made upon Manila, and the prospects are that none will be made until both the naval and military forces have been reinforced. Meantime the city continues in a state of siege, all communication by land being cut off by the insurgent forces and a strict blockade being maintained by Rear Admiral Dewey on sea. From the most reliable information obtainable the situation of the besieged Manillans is, indeed, deplorable, provisions being scarce, and the water supply being entirely cut off by the enemy. This being the wet season, however, sufficient water is caught from the roofs of the buildings for the immediate wants of the inhabitants of the beleaguered city after each shower, but little or no provision can be made for the future by these means, and even this temporary relief cannot be depended upon for more than a few weeks longer.

The exact strength of the Spanish forces in Manila is not known, but from the best information obtainable it is not believed to exceed 7,000. The city, proper being protected by two forts armed with modern guns, and a wall of sufficient strength to defy attack, even though the invaders should succeed in storming the trenches thrown up some two miles away, a force of 1,200 is ample to repel the insurgents, who, while superior in numbers, are decidedly inferior in discipline, arms and ammunition.

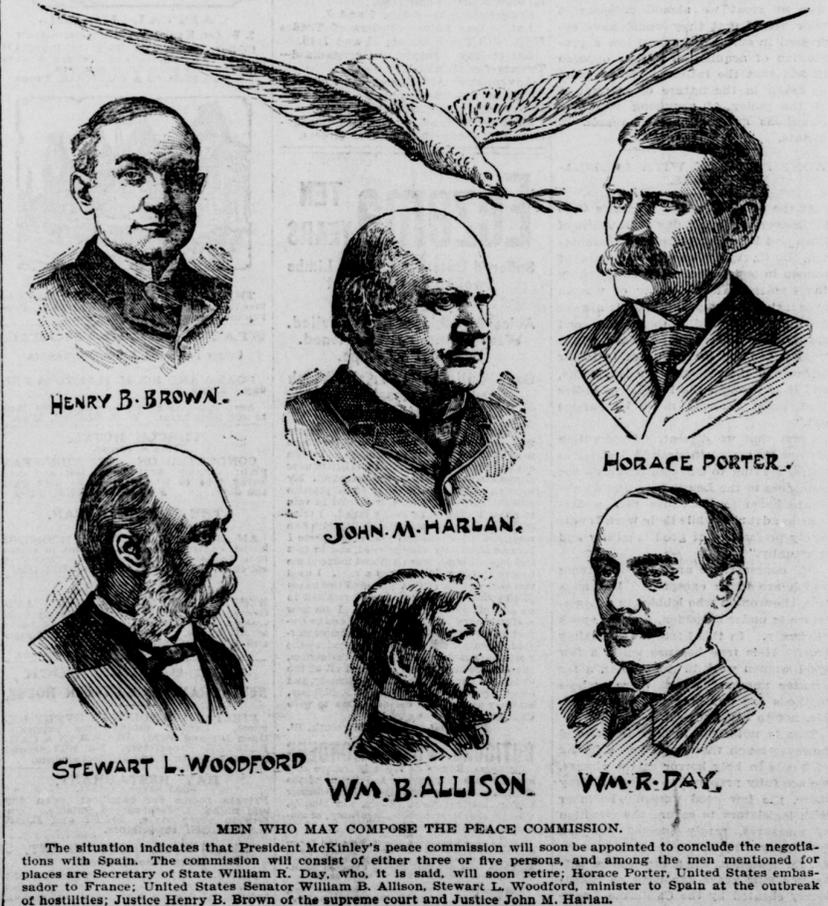
Almost every day and night an engagement of some sort occurs between the rebel and Spanish outposts, but without any apparent damage to either side. The Spanish waste the most ammunition of the two, because they fire in companies, while the insurgents fire singly. Although their trenches are parallel to each other and not over 300 yards apart, no attempt has as yet been made by either side to carry the other's position by storm, nor do they seem to think it essential, when firing, to take any aim of the enemy. The insurgents are now moving forward with two smooth-bore guns with which they expect to exterminate the Spanish, and they confidently announce every night that they will take Manila the following morning.

That Manila can be taken by the American forces already on the ground no one for a moment doubts, but it is extremely doubtful whether it is adequate to police so large a city, guard the prisoners and hold the insurgents in check after it has been taken. There is another element to be considered, moreover, and that is the presence of a fleet of German men-of-war in this harbor.

While it has been currently reported for some time past that the Germans were in communication with the Spanish, and had virtually promised to prevent the bombardment of Manila by the Americans, their first open display of hostility against the insurgents was not made until last Wednesday, when the commander of a German gunboat in Subig Bay, refused to allow a party of insurgents who had just captured a Spanish coaster, to attack that harbor with her, and also notified them that they must not fire upon a Spanish force ashore.

The matter was promptly reported to Admiral Dewey, who immediately dispatched the cruisers Raleigh and Concord to Subig Bay to investigate. Upon reaching that place the Raleigh opened fire upon the forts and Spanish forces on shore, whereupon the German gunboat slipped her cable and put to sea in great haste through the upper channel.

The effect of the Raleigh's guns upon the Spaniards was the immediate hoisting of numerous flags of truce, the whole force, consisting of about 500 soldiers surrendering unconditionally. Before turning the prisoners over to the insurgents the Captain of the Raleigh asked the insurgent leader what he proposed to do with them, and upon learning that he wished to cut all their throats, sent the Concord back to Cavite for instructions. She returned next day with a letter from General Aguinaldo.



MEN WHO MAY COMPOSE THE PEACE COMMISSION.

The situation indicates that President McKinley's peace commission will soon be appointed to conclude the negotiations with Spain. The commission will consist of either three or five persons, and among the men mentioned are Secretary of State William R. Day, who it is said, will soon retire; Horace Porter, United States ambassador to France; United States Senator William B. Allison, Stewart L. Woodford, minister to Spain at the outbreak of hostilities; Justice Henry B. Brown of the supreme court and Justice John M. Harlan.

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