

THE MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.

An Able Document Treating on Affairs of the Nation.

Interesting Review of Events Leading Up to and During the Late War With Spain.

Approves the Recommendation for an Increase of the Standing Army, and Urges Congressional Action Looking to Building the Nicaragua Canal.

The "Record-Union" presents to its readers this morning the full text of the message sent to Congress yesterday by President McKinley. The President reviews at length the causes of the war with Spain; calls the attention of Congress to the necessity of taking some definite action at this session looking to the building of the Nicaraguan Canal; refers to the annexation of Hawaii, and the arrangements made for its government; advises a large appropriation for an exhibition of American products and manufactures at the Paris Exposition; approves the recommendation for an increase of the standing army to 100,000 men, and the construction of more ships for the navy; alludes to the Eastern question and the action taken by this Government to protect American interests and her citizens residing in the Orient; commends the Bureau of American Republics as a most efficient instrument in promoting the countries of the Western Hemisphere; renews his recommendation of last year relating to the redemption of United States notes, and gives a general review of our relations with foreign Powers and the internal conditions of the country.

The message contains a full and detailed review of our military and naval operations during the war with Spain, and a full and complete statement of the condition of the Republic at this time. It is a document which should be read by every citizen of this Republic, and by every citizen of every nation of the world.

THE MESSAGE. Full Text of the Paper Sent to Congress by the President.

To the Senate and House of Representatives: Notwithstanding the added burdens rendered necessary by the war, our people rejoice in a very satisfactory and steadily increasing degree of prosperity, evidenced by the largest volume of business ever recorded. Every manufacturing branch has been productive; agricultural pursuits have yielded abundant returns; labor in the fields of industry is better rewarded, revenue legislation passed by the present Congress has increased the treasury's receipts to the amounts estimated by its authorities. The finances of the Government have been successfully administered and its credit advanced to the first rank; while its currency has been maintained at the world's highest standard. Military service under a common flag and for a righteous cause has strengthened the national spirit and served to cement more closely than ever the fraternal bonds between every section of the country. A review of the relation of the United States to other Powers, always appropriate, is this year of primary importance in view of the momentous issues which have arisen, demanding in one instance the ultimate determination by arms and involved far-reaching consequences which require the earnest attention of Congress.

In my last annual message very full consideration was given to the question of the duty of the United States toward Cuba and the Cuban insurgents, as being by far the most important problem with which we were called upon to deal. The considerations then advanced, and the exposition of the views therein expressed, disclosed my sense of the extreme gravity of the situation, and the necessity of a policy, untried and untried, and practically inadmissible, the recognition of the Cuban insurgents as belligerents, the recognition of the independence of Cuba, neutral intervention to end the war by imposing a ratified compromise between the contending parties, and the annexation of one or the other party and the forcible annexation of the island, I concluded it was honestly due to our friendly relations with Spain that she should be given a reasonable chance to realize her expectations of reform, to which she had become justly entitled.

Within a few weeks previously she had announced comprehensive plans, which it was confidently asserted would be efficacious to remedy the evils so deeply affecting our own country, so injurious to the true interests of the mother country, as well as to those of Cuba, and so repugnant to the universal sentiment of humanity.

SPAIN'S INCAPACITY. The ensuing months brought little sign of real progress toward the pacification of Cuba. The autonomist administrations set up in the capital and some of the principal cities appeared not to gain the favor of the inhabitants nor to be able to extend their influence to the large extent of territory held by the insurgents, while the military arm, obviously unable to cope with the still active rebellion, continued many of the most objectionable and offensive policies of the former Government.

FRIGHTFUL MORTALITY. By the end of December the mortality among them had frightfully increased. Conservative estimates from Spanish sources placed the deaths among these distressed people at over 400,000. The Spanish Government, under Weyler's decree of reconcentration was enforced. With the acquiescence of the Spanish authorities a scheme was adopted for relief by charitable contributions raised in this country and distributed under the direction of the Consul General in Havana. Generals, by noble and earnest individual effort through the organized agencies of the Red Cross.

Thousands of lives were thus saved, but many thousands more were inaccessible to such forms of aid. The war continued on the old footing, developing only the same spasmodic encounters, barren of strategic result, that had marked the courses of the

might be put in a way to support themselves and, by orderly resolution of the well high destroyed productive energies of the island, contribute to the restoration of its tranquillity and well being. Negotiations continued for some little time at Madrid, resulting in offers by the Spanish Government which could not be regarded as inadequate. It was proposed to confide the preparation of peace to the insular parliament, yet to be convened under the autonomous decrees of November, 1897, but without impairment in any wise of the constitutional powers of the Madrid Government, which, to that end, would grant an armistice, if solicited by the insurgents, for such time as the General in Chief might see fit to fix. How and with what scope of discretionary powers the insular parliament was expected to set about the "preparation" of peace, did not appear. It was to be by negotiation with the insurgents, the issue seemed to rest on the one side with the body chosen by that faction of the electors in the districts under Spanish control, and on the other with the insurgent population holding the interior country, unrepresented in the so-called parliament of the insular Government.

A BARREN OUTCOME. Grieved and disappointed at this barren outcome of my sincere endeavors to reach a practicable solution, I felt it my duty to remit the whole question to Congress. In the message of April 11, 1898, I announced that with this last outbreak in the direction of immediate peace in Cuba and its disappointing reception by Spain, the effort of the Executive was brought to an end. I again reviewed the alternative course of action which I had prepared, concluding that the only thing consonant with international policy and compatible with our firm set historical traditions was intervention as a neutral to stop the war and check the hopeless sacrifice of life even though that resort involved "hostile constraint upon both the parties to the contract as well as to enforce a truce to guide the eventual settlement."

OUR DUTY CLEAR. The grounds justifying that step were the interests of humanity, to protect life and property of our citizens in Cuba; the right to protect our commerce, and, most important, the need of removing at once and forever the constant menace and the burdens incident upon our Government by the uncertainty of the situation, and the danger to the insular population caused by the unendurable disturbance in Cuba. I said:

"The long trial has proved that the object for which Spain has waged the war cannot be attained. The fire of insurrection may flame or may smolder with varying intensity, but it has not been and it is plain it cannot be extinguished by present methods. The only hope of relief and repose from a condition which can no longer be endured in the enforced pacification of Cuba. In the name of humanity, in the name of our common interests, and in the name of our duty, I urge that we should be free to speak and to act, in the name of our duty and the welfare of the people of Cuba, must stop."

In view of all this, the Congress was asked to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a final termination of hostilities between Spain and the United States, and to secure in the island the establishment of a stable Government, capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, insuring peace and tranquility and treatment of its citizens as well as our own, and for the accomplishment of which it was authorized to employ the military and naval forces of the United States, as might be necessary, with added authority to continue generous relief to the starving people of Cuba.

RESPONSE OF CONGRESS. The response of Congress, after nine days of earnest deliberation, which the almost unanimous sentiment of your body was developed on every point save as to the expediency of coupling the proposed action with a formal recognition of the republic of Cuba as the true and lawful government of that island—a recognition which, in my opinion, would be tantamount to adoption—Congress, after conference, on the 19th of April, by a vote of 42 to 35 in the Senate and 311 to 6 in the House of Representatives, passed the memorable joint resolution, saying: "First—That the people of the island of Cuba, in the exercise of their right, ought to be free and independent.

"Second—That it is the duty of the United States, and the Government of the United States hereby demand that the Government of Spain at once relinquish its authority in the island of Cuba, and the right of its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban territory."

THIRD—That the President of the United States be, and is hereby directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States, and the militia of the several States, and such contingent as may be necessary to carry these resolutions into effect.

FOURTH—That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said island, except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination, which is hereby acknowledged, to leave the government and control of the islands to its people. SPAIN NOTIFIED. This resolution was approved by the Executive on April 20th. A copy was at once communicated by the Acting Minister at this capital, who forthwith announced that his continuance in Washington had thereby become impossible and asked for his passports, which were given him. He thereupon withdrew from Washington, leaving the protection of Spanish interests in the United States to the French Envoy and the Austro-Hungarian Minister. Simultaneously with its communication to the Spanish Minister, General Woodford, the American Minister at Madrid, was telegraphed confirmation of the text of the joint resolution and directed to communicate it to the Government of Spain, with the formal demand that it at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its forces therefrom, coupling in the demand the stipulation that the intentions of this Government as to the future of the island, in conformity with the fourth clause of the resolution, and giving Spain until noon of April 23d to reply.

WAR DECLARED. Spain, having thus defied the demand of our States and intimated that complete form of rupture of relations which attends a state of war, the executive powers authorized by the resolution were used by me to meet the enlarged contingency of actual war between Spain and the United States. On April 23d, I proclaimed a blockade of the northern coast of Cuba, including ports on said coast between Cardenas and Bahia Honda, and the port of Cienfuegos on the south coast of Cuba; and on the 23d I called for volunteers to execute the purpose of the resolution. By my message of April 25th, the Congress was informed of the situation, and I recommended formal declaration of the existence of a state of war between the United States and Spain. The Congress accordingly voted on the same day to declare a state of war, and to declare the existence of such war, from and including the 21st of April, and to include the 21st of April in the act to carry the Act into effect. Due notification of the resolution was as aforesaid given April 25th by telegraph to all the Governments with which the United States maintained relations, in order that their neutrality might be assured during the war.

Various Governments responded, with proclamations of neutrality, each after its own methods. It is among the most gratifying incidents of the struggle that the obligations were impartially discharged by all, often under delicate and difficult circumstances. In further fulfillment of international law, I issued on April 28th a proclamation announcing the treatment proposed to be accorded to vessels and their cargoes as to blockade, contraband, the exercise of the right of subjects and the immunity of neutral flags and neutral goods under the enemy's flag. A similar proclamation was made by the Spanish Government. In the conduct of hostilities the rules of the declaration of Paris, including abstention from resort to privateering, have accordingly been observed by both belligerents, although neither was a party to that convention.

AN INSTANT RESPONSE. Our country, thus, after an interval of half a century of peace with all nations, found itself engaged in deadly conflict with a foreign enemy. Every nerve was strained to meet the emergency. The response to the initial call for 125,000 volunteers was instant and complete. The ranks of the regular army were increased to the limits provided by the Act of April 23d. The enlisted force of the navy, on the 15th of August, when it reached its maximum number, numbered 123,000 men and apprentices. One hundred and three vessels were added to the navy by purchase, one leased, and the four vessels of the International Navigation Company—the St. Paul, St. Louis, New York and Essex—were chartered. In addition to this, the revenue cutters and lighthouse tenders were turned over to the navy.

NAVY'S FIGHTING FORCE. The maximum effective fighting force of the navy during the war, separated into its divisions, was as follows: Four battleships of the class, 1 battleship of the second class, 2 armored cruisers, 6 coast-defense monitors, 1 armored ram, 12 protected cruisers, 3 unprotected cruisers, 18 gunboats, 14 dynamite cruisers, 11 torpedo boats, 14 old vessels of the old navy, including 16 monitors, 26 converted yachts, 27 converted cutters, 4 lighthouse tenders and 19 miscellaneous vessels.

PRECAUTIONS TAKEN. Much alarm was felt along the entire Atlantic seaboard lest an attack might be made upon the coast. Every precaution was taken to prevent possible injury to our great cities lying along the coast. Temporary garrisons were provided, drawn from the State militia, infantry and light batteries were drawn from the volunteer force. About 12,000 men were employed by the Coast Signal Service as coast batteries, serving the approach of an enemy's ship to the coast of the United States and the lighthouse service co-operated, which enabled the Navy Department to have all portions of the Atlantic Coast, from Maine to Texas, under observation.

The auxiliary navy was created under the authority of Congress and was officered and manned by the naval militia of the several States. This organization patrolled the coast and performed the duty of a second arm of defense. Under the direction of Chief Engineer submarine mines were placed at the most exposed points. Before the war permanent mining casemates and cable galleries had been constructed at all important harbors. Most of the torpedo material was not to be found in the United States and had to be specially manufactured.

Under date of April 19th, district officers were directed to take all preliminary measures, short of the actual attacking of the loaded mines to the cable, and on April 23d, telegraphic orders were issued to place the loaded mines in position for their use. The aggregate number of mines placed was 1,355 at the principal harbors from Maine to California. Preparations were also made for the planting of mines at certain other harbors, and for the destruction of the Spanish fleet, these mines were not placed.

LINE OF COMMUNICATION. The Signal Corps was promptly organized and performed service of the most difficult and important character. Its operations during the war covered the electrical connection of all coast fortifications, the establishment of telephonic and telegraphic facilities for the camps at Manila, Santiago and in Porto Rico. There were constructed 300 miles of lines at ten great camps, thus facilitating military movements from those points in a manner heretofore unknown in military administration. Telegraphic lines were established throughout the island, and later on the Manila-Hong Kong cable was reopened. In Porto Rico cable communication was opened over a discontinued route, and on land the headquarters of the commanding officer was kept in telephonic and telephonic communication with the division on four different lines of operations.

RELACTIONS BROKEN OFF. The demand, although as above shown, officially made known to the Spanish Envoy here, was not delivered at Madrid. After the instructions reached General Woodford, on the morning of April 21st, but before he could present it, the Spanish Minister of State notified him that upon the President's approval of the joint resolution and directed to communicate the act as "equivalent to an evident declaration of war," had ordered its Minister in Washington to withdraw, thereby breaking off diplomatic relations between the two countries and ceasing all official communication between their respective countries. General Woodford thereupon de-

manded his passports and quitted Madrid the same day. This service was invaluable to the executive in directing the operations of the war that the State was then engaged in.

HOW IT WAS SPENT. The national defense, under the \$50,000,000 fund, was expended in large part by the army and navy and the objects for which it was used are fully shown in reports of the several Secretaries. It was a most timely appropriation, enabling the Government to strengthen its defense and make preparations greatly needed in case of war. This fund being inadequate to the requirements of equipment and for the conduct of the war, the patriotism of the Congress provided the means in the revenue Act of June 13th by authorizing a popular loan not to exceed four hundred million dollars and by levying additional imports and taxes. Of the authorized loan, two hundred millions were offered and promptly taken from the subscriptions so far exceeding the call as to prevent any times over, while the preference being given to the bidders, no single allotment exceeded fifty thousand dollars. This was a most encouraging and significant result, showing the vast resources of the nation and the determination of the people to uphold their country's honor.

IT IS NOT WITHIN THE PROVINCE of this message to narrate the history of extraordinary war which followed the Spanish declaration of April 21st, but a brief recital of its more salient features is appropriate. The first encounter of the war, in point of date, took place April 27th, when a detachment of the blockading squadron made a reconnoissance in force at Matanzas, shelled the harbor forts and destroyed several new works in construction.

DEWEY'S VICTORY. The next engagement was destined to mark a memorable epoch in maritime warfare. The Pacific fleet under Commodore George Dewey, had lain for some weeks at Hongkong. Upon the colonial proclamation of neutrality being issued and the customary twenty-four hours' notice being given, it repaired to Manila Bay, near Hongkong, whence it proceeded to the Philippine Islands under telegraphic orders to capture or destroy the formidable Spanish fleet then assembled at Manila. At daybreak on the 1st of May, the American fleet entered Manila Bay and after a few hours' engagement, effected the total destruction of the Spanish fleet, consisting of ten warships and a transport, besides capturing the naval station and forts at Cavite, thus annihilating the Spanish naval power in the Pacific Ocean and completely controlling the bay of Manila, with the ability to take the city at will. Not a life was lost on our ships, the only vessel numbered seven, while not a vessel was materially injured. For this gallant achievement the Congress, upon my recommendation, fitly bestowed upon the actors preference and substantial reward.

THE EFFECT of this remarkable victory upon the spirit of our people and upon the fortunes of war was instant. The prestige of invincibility thereby attached to our arms, which continued throughout the struggle. Reinforcements were hurried to Manila, under the command of Major General Merritt, and many established with sight of the capital, which lay before us. On the 7th day of May the Government was advised officially of the victory at Manila and at once inquired of the commander of our fleet what troops were required. The information was received on the 15th day of May, and the first army expedition sailed May 25th and arrived at Manila June 30th. Other expeditions soon followed, the total force consisting of 441 officers and 15,058 men. Only reluctance to cause needless loss of life and property prevented the early storming and capture of the city and therewith the absolute military occupancy of the whole group. The insurgents meanwhile had resumed the active hostilities suspended by the uncompleted truce of December, 1897. Their forces invested Manila from the northern and eastern side but were constrained by Admiral Dewey and General Merritt from attempting an assault. It was fitting that whatever was done in the way of decisive operations in that quarter, should be accomplished by the strong arm of the United States alone. Obeying the stern precept of war, which enjoins the overcoming of the adversary and the extinction of his power wherever ascertainable, the speedy and sure means to win a peace, divided by no partition permissible, for no partition of the rights and responsibilities attending the enforcement of a just and advantageous peace could be thought of. Following the coming of the comprehensive scheme of general attack, powerful forces were assembled at various points on our coast to invade the island of Rico. Meanwhile, naval demonstrations were made at several exposed points. On May 11th, the cruiser Wilmington and the torpedo boat Winslow were unsuccessful in an attempt to silence the batteries at Cardenas, against Matanzas, Worth Bagley and four sea forts falling. These errors, however, were strangely enough among the very few which occurred during our naval operations in this extraordinary conflict.

THE SPANISH FLEET. Meanwhile the Spanish naval preparations had been pushed with great vigor. A powerful squadron under Admiral Cervera, which had been ordered to the Cape Verde Islands before the outbreak of hostilities, had crossed the ocean and by its erratic movements in the Caribbean Sea, delayed our military operations while baffling the pursuit of our fleets. For a time fears were felt lest the Oregon and Marietta, then nearing home after their long voyage from San Francisco of over 15,000 miles, might be surprised by Admiral Cervera's fleet, but their fortunate arrival dispelled the apprehensions and left us free to take reinforcements. Not until Admiral Cervera took refuge in the harbor at Santiago de Cuba about May 9th, was it practicable to plan a systematic military attack upon the Spanish possessions of Spain.

Several demonstrations occurred on the coast of Cuba and Porto Rico in preparation for the latter event. On May 13th, the North Atlantic squadron sighted San Juan de Porto Rico. On May 20th, Commodore Schley's squadron bombarded the forts guarding the mouth of Santiago harbor. Neither attack had any material result. It was evident that further and more operations were indispensable to achieve a decided advantage.

HOBBSON'S HEROISM. The next act in the war thrilled not alone the hearts of our countrymen but the world by its exceptional heroism. On the night of June 3d, Lieutenant Hobson, backed by seven volunteers, in the narrow outlet from Santiago harbor by which the collier Merrimac in the channel, under a severe fire from the shore batteries, escaping with their lives as by a miracle,

but falling into the hands of the Spaniards. It is a most gratifying incident of the war that the bravery of this little band of heroes was cordially appreciated by the Spaniards, who sent a flag of truce to notify Admiral Sampson of their safety and to compliment them upon their daring act. They were subsequently exchanged July 7th.

GUANTANAMO TAKEN. By June 7th, the cutting of the last Cuban cable isolated the island. Thereafter the invasion was vigorously prosecuted. On June 10th, under a heavy protecting fire, a landing force of 600 marines from the Oregon, Marblehead and Yanke was effected on Guantanamo Bay, where it had been determined to establish a naval station. This important and essential port was taken from the enemy after severe fighting by the marines, who were the first organized force of the United States to land in Cuba.

THE ADVANCE ON SANTIAGO. The position so won was held, despite the separate and great odds of the forces. By June 16th additional forces were landed and strongly entrenched. On June 23d, the advance of the invading army under Major General Shafter landed at Daiquiri, about fifteen miles east of Santiago. This was accomplished under great difficulties, but with marvelous success. On June 23d the movement against Santiago was begun. On the 24th the first serious engagement took place, in which the First and Tenth Cavalry and the First Volunteer Cavalry, General Young's brigade and General Wheeler's brigade participated, losing heavily. By nightfall, however, ground within five miles of Santiago was won. The advantage was steadily increased. On July 1st a severe battle took place, our forces gaining the outer works of Santiago and El Caney and San Juan. After a desperate struggle, the investment of the city was completed. The navy co-operated by shelling the town and the coast forts.

CERVERA'S FLEET DESTROYED. On the day following this brilliant achievement of our land forces, July 3d, occurred the decisive naval encounter. The Spanish fleet, attempting to leave the harbor, was met by the American squadron under command of Commodore Sampson. In less than three hours all the Spanish fleet was destroyed, the two torpedo boats sunk and the Manila Trece, Admiral's Oquendo, Vizcaya and Cristobal Colon driven ashore. The Spanish Admiral and over 1,300 men were taken prisoners, while the enemy's loss of life was deplorably large, some 900 perishing. On our side one man was killed and one man seriously injured.

There all so conspicuously distinguished themselves, from the commanders to the gunners and the unnamed heroes in the boiler-rooms, each and all contributing toward the achievement of this astonishing victory, for which neither ancient nor modern history affords a parallel in the completeness of the event and the marvelous disproportion of casualties, it would be invidious to single out any special honor. Deserved promotion has rewarded the more conspicuous actions—the nation's profoundest gratitude has been bestowed upon the heroes, by their skill and devotion, in a few short hours crushed the sea power of Spain and wrought a triumph whose decisiveness and far-reaching effects can scarcely be measured. Nor can we be unmindful of the achievements of our brave mechanics, who, by the construction of their skill in the construction of our warships.

With the catastrophe of Santiago, Spain's effort upon the ocean virtually ceased. SANTIAGO SURRENDERS. A spasmodic effort toward the end of June to send her Mediterranean fleet under Admiral Camara to relieve Manila was abandoned, the expedition being recalled after it had passed through the Suez Canal. The capitulation of Santiago followed. The city was closely besieged by land, while the entrance of our ships to the harbor cut off supplies on that side. After a truce to allow of the removal of the non-combatants, protracted negotiations continued from July 3d until July 15th, when under menace of immediate assault, the preliminaries of surrender were agreed upon and on July 17th General Shafter occupied the city. The capitulation embraced the entire eastern end of Cuba. The number of Spanish soldiers surrendered was 22,000, all of whom were subsequently conveyed to Spain at the charge of the United States and the United States Marine Corps. Campaign is told in the report of the Secretary of War, which will be laid before you. The individual valor of officers and soldiers was never more strikingly shown than in the several engagements leading to the surrender of Santiago, while the enthusiastic cooperation and successive victories won instant and universal applause. To those who gained this complete triumph, which established the ascendancy of the United States on land, as the flight off Santiago had fixed our supremacy on the sea, the gratitude and loving gratitude of the nation is unending.

PORTO RICO FALLS. With the fall of Santiago the occupation of Porto Rico became the next strategic necessity. General Miles had previously been assigned to organize an expedition for that purpose. Fortunately, he was already at Santiago, where he arrived on the 11th of July, with reinforcements for General Shafter's army. With these troops, consisting of 3,415 infantry and artillery, two companies of engineers and one company of the Signal Corps, General Miles left Guantanamo on July 21st, having nine transports conveyed by the fleet under Captain Higginson, the Massachusetts (flagship), Dixie, Gloucester, Columbia and Yale, the two latter carrying troops. The expedition landed at Guanica July 25th, which port was entered with little opposition. Here the fleet was joined by the Annapolis and Wasp, while the Puritan and Amphitrite went to San Juan and joined the New Orleans, which was engaged in blockading that port. The Major General commanding was subsequently reinforced by General Sherman's brigade of the Third Army Corps, by General Wilson with a part of his division and by General Brooke with a part of his corps, numbering in all 16,973 officers and men. On July 27th he entered Ponce, one of the most important ports in the island, from which he thereafter directed operations of the capture of the island.

With the exception of encounters with the enemy at Guanamao, Coamo and Yauco and an attack on a force landed at Cape San Juan, there was no serious resistance. The campaign was prosecuted with great vigor and on the 12th of August most of the island was in our possession and the acquisition of the remainder was only a matter of a short time. At most of the points in

the island our troops were enthusiastically welcomed. Protestations of loyalty to the flag and gratitude for delivery from Spanish rule met our commanders everywhere. The potent influence toward peace, the outcome of the Porto Rican expedition was of great consequence and generous commendations are due to those who participated in it. THE LAST SCENE. The last scene of the war was enacted at Manila, its starting place. On August 13th after a brief assault upon the works by the land forces, in which the squadron assisted, the capital surrendered conditionally. The casualties were comparatively few. By this the conquest of the Philippine Islands, virtually accomplished when the Spanish capacity for resistance was destroyed by Admiral Dewey's victory on the 1st of May, was formally sealed. The General Merritt, his officers and men for the uncomplaining and devoted services, for their gallantry in action, the nation is sincerely grateful. Their long voyage was made with singular success and the soldierly conduct of the men of whom many were without previous experience in the military service, deserves unmeasured praise. The total casualties in killed and wounded in the army during the war was as follows: Officers killed 23, enlisted men killed 257, total 280; officers wounded 113, enlisted men wounded 1,464; of the navy, killed 17, wounded 67; died as result of wounds 1, invalided from service 6; total 91. It will be observed that while our navy was engaged in two great battles and in numerous perilous undertakings in the blockades and bombardments, and more than 50,000 of our troops were transported to distant lands, and engaged in assault and siege and battle and many skirmishes in unfamiliar territory, we lost in both arms of the service a total of 1,668 killed and wounded; and in the entire campaign by land and sea we did not lose a gun or a flag or a transport or a ship, and with the exception of the Merrimac, not a soldier or sailor was taken prisoner. On August 7th, forty-six days from the date of landing of General Shafter's army in Cuba and twenty-one days from the surrender of Santiago the United States troops commenced embarkation for the home of our own country as early as August 24th. They were absent from the United States only two months. DID THEIR WHOLE DUTY. It is fitting that I should testify to the patriotism and devotion of that large portion of our army which, although with limited resources, in our entire exposure, fortunately, our entire force was returned to the United States as early as August 24th. They were absent from the United States only two months. IT IS FITTING that I should testify to the patriotism and devotion of that large portion of our army which, although with limited resources, in our entire exposure, fortunately, our entire force was returned to the United States as early as August 24th. They were absent from the United States only two months.

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IN this connection it is a pleasure for me to mention in terms of cordial approbation the timely and useful work of the American National Red Cross, both in relief measures preparatory to the campaigns, in sanitary assistance at several of the camps of assembly, and later, under the able and experienced leadership of the President of the society, Miss Clara Barton, on the fields of battle and in the hospitals at the front in Cuba. Working in conjunction with the Government authorities and under their sanction and approval and with the enthusiastic cooperation of many patriotic women and societies in the various States, the Red Cross has fully maintained its already high reputation for intense earnestness and ability to exercise the noble purposes of its organization, thus justifying the confidence and support which it has rendered to the United States American people. To the members and officers of this society and all who aided them in their philanthropic work, the sincere and lasting gratitude of the soldiers and the public is due and is freely accorded. In tracing these events we are constantly reminded of the gallant and patriotic heroism of our men for whose watchful care over us and His safe guidance, for which the nation makes reverent acknowledgment and offers humble prayer for the continuance of His favor.

OVERTURES FOR PEACE. The annihilation of Admiral Cervera's fleet, followed by the capitulation of Santiago, had brought to the Spanish Government the realization of the hopelessness of continuing a struggle now becoming wholly unequal, it made overtures of peace through the French Ambassador, who, with the assent of his Government, had acted as the friendly representative of Spain's overtures during the war. On the 26th of July M. Cambon presented a communication signed by the Duke of Almodovar, the Spanish Minister of State, inviting the United States to state the terms upon which it would be willing to negotiate. On July 30th, a communication addressed to the Duke of Almodovar and handed to M. Cambon, the terms of this Government were announced, substantially in the protocol, afterward signed. On August 10th the Spanish reply, dated August 7th, was handed to M. Cambon, the Secretary of State. It accepted unconditionally the terms imposed as to Cuba, Porto Rico and an island of the Ladrone group, but appeared to seek to introduce inadmissible reservations in regard to our demand as to the Philippine Islands. It was on this point that our demand as to the Philippine Islands could not be practically or profitably, I directed that in order to avoid misunderstanding the matter should be forthwith closed by proposing the embodiment in a formal protocol of the terms in which the negotiations for peace were being conducted. The vague and inexplicit suggestions of the Spanish note could not be accepted, the only reply being to present as a virtual ultimatum a draft of the protocol, embodying the precise terms tendered to Spain in our note of July 30th, with added stipulations of detail as to the appointment of Commissioners to arrange for the evacuation of the Spanish Antilles.

THE PROTOCOL SIGNED. On August 12th M. Cambon announced his receipt of full powers to sign the protocol for peace, which, accordingly, on the afternoon of August 12th, M. Cambon as the plenipotentiary of Spain and the Secretary of State as the plenipotentiary of the United States the protocol, providing: Article 1—Spain will relinquish all title of sovereignty over and title to Cuba.

Article 2—Spain will cede to the United States the island of Porto Rico and other islands now under Spanish