

LOCAL AND GENERAL NEWS.

Sugar 44.

The health of Judge Widemann is reported to be very precarious.

The Zealandia it is expected will also carry troops to Manila.

Mrs. Charles S. Lewis who arrived this morning is a daughter of the late Dr. Wetmore of Hilo.

H. A. Goddard, representative of the Cleveland bicycle is on the Mariposa bound for Melbourne.

A. F. Knudsen, who arrived in the Mariposa, has announced his engagement to Miss Russell of Oakland.

The program of the Hawaiian Jockey Club is published in this issue. Hurrah for the 11th of June!

A certain doctor "wanted" in Australia for a heinous offense is a passenger by the Mariposa for the Colonies.

The war news is merely a collection of suspense items and paradoxes. Excellent space killers but of little real interest.

Rev. William M. Kinesid, D. D., of Minneapolis, has been selected to succeed Rev. D. P. Birnie as pastor of Central Union Church.

Remeanyi, the violinist, died suddenly on the stage of the Orpheum theatre, San Francisco, May 15. He visited Honolulu in 1885.

Rev. Charles R. Brown and wife arrived this morning on a five weeks vacation. He is the pastor of the First Congregational Church, Oakland, California.

Mr. Wray Taylor arrived by the Mariposa. He is thoroughly healthy and as bright and cheerful as ever. He has our warmest thanks for kindly news favors.

Through the courtesy of Dr. C. B. Cooper the meeting of the Medical Association of Hawaii will be held on the lanai at the home of Dr. McGrew, Hotel street, at 8 o'clock to-night.

Mr. and Mrs. Mana are giving a big luau at their home in Pauoa valley to-day in honor of the double wedding of their sons, which takes place at St. Andrew's Cathedral this afternoon.

Henry Vierra, Jack Maguire, Toyo Jackson and others will give a variety entertainment in the Opera House on the night of June 11th. Sketches in Chinese and Irish will be given, as well as negro melodies and Hawaiian airs by the Kawaihau Club.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Caroline Hapai which occurred yesterday morning. The young lady was the wife of H. Hapai an employee in the Finance Office, and a daughter of H. Gruba. She was only 22 years of age and was highly esteemed by all who knew her amiable character. The funeral took place from the residence of the deceased yesterday afternoon and the remains were interred at the Kawaihau cemetery, the Rev. V. H. Kiteat officiating. She was formerly a pupil of St. Andrew's Priory.

At Willison's Circus.

In the big Circus tent to-night at the Esplanade, near the new Fish Market, Mr. Bert Willison has kindly offered a benefit for F. L. Y. Martyn and Frank Sanders. The latter met with an accident some five weeks ago by having his left shoulder dislocated, but is slowly improving and may not be able to use his arm again as heretofore.

There will be a tug-o-war. Also a boxing contest between Tommy Matthews and Tommy Hope. The band of the U. S. S. Bennington has kindly volunteered to play for the benefit and will be there to-night. Some local amateurs will also participate.

Mariposa Arrives.

The S. S. Mariposa, Capt. H. M. Hayward, arrived early this morning 6 days 10 hours from San Francisco, en route to Australia.

The following passengers dropped off at his port:

Rev Charles R Brown and wife, C M Cooke, wife, child and maid, Richard Cooke, Miss Alice Cooke, C W Daason, Col W Evans, G D Fresh, E A Kiley, A F Knudsen, Mrs V Knudsen, Mrs Chas S Lewis, E B McClanahan wife and child, Louis Reiche, Miss E Swickard, Wray Taylor, Miss M Walters, John Waterhouse, Dr T C Whitehead wife and infant, W Woon, W R Farrington.

The Mail steamer sailed at noon to-day for the Colonies

A TIRED PRESIDENT

He Becomes Impatient and Weary of Delay.

Cuba to Be Promptly Invaded in Force no Matter Where the Phantom Spanish Fleets May Be.

CALL OFFICE, RIGGS HOUSE, WASHINGTON, May 18.

At last the administration has decided on a vigorous prosecution of the war. The President, tired of the dilatory tactics of the so-called Naval Strategy Board, and the failure to definitely locate or overtake the Spanish "vanishing squadron," has instructed Secretary of War Alger to prepare for the immediate invasion of Cuba without waiting for the Spanish fleet to show itself.

Great activity was apparent at the War Department to-day. The members of General Miles' staff were again ordered to hold themselves in readiness to go south on short notice.

It is understood that this sudden change in policy was brought about by the President himself, who since Sunday last has been very much disturbed over reports from Havana that only a remnant of the reconcentrados survived and that these were on the verge of starvation. Inasmuch as the relief of these wretched people was the very reason for our armed intervention in Cuban affairs, the President is keenly sensitive to the criticism which points out that the very object of the war with Spain is being defeated by the present dilatory tactics of both army and navy.

While President McKinley was at first anxious to avoid shelling Cuba's capital, attended as it will be by the destruction of innocent lives to say nothing of the sacrifice of many of our soldiers, who are to invade Cuba, he now realizes that the longer it is delayed the more difficult will be the capture of Havana. Blanco is not only taking advantage of our delay to throw up serviceable earthworks along the north coast, but there appears to be a fair prospect that Admiral Cervera's fleet on this side of the Atlantic will soon be reinforced by the powerful battleship Pelayo, the cruisers Emperador Carlos V, Alfonso XIII and several mere torpedo-boats.

He realizes that a mistake was made in not following up the Manila victory with the reduction of Havana's batteries and a bombardment of the city instead of sending Sampson on a wild goose chase to San Juan, where little was accomplished beyond damaging its principal fortifications. But it is not yet too late to recover from this lost opportunity, and it was said to-day that the President had determined to send 100,000 men to Cuba if necessary.

Secretary Long gave out the welcome information to-day that the battleship Oregon, the second largest craft in the American navy, had successfully completed her long trip from San Francisco, making the entire circle of South America, and was now safe. Whether or not she has joined Admiral Sampson's fleet the Secretary would not say. The rigid secrecy of the Navy Department was relaxed only enough to make known the best news the Navy Department had received since the battle of Manila, as it meant not only that the Oregon was out of harm's way from a concerted attack on this one ship by the whole Spanish squadron now in southern waters, but also that her great fighting strength would be added to Admiral Sampson's force in the near future, if, indeed, it had not already augmented the admiral's strength.

In all the trip covered more than 13,000 miles. The last stretch, from Bahia to the Windward Islands, has been followed with anxiety to naval officials, for, by a strange coin-

idence, the formidable Spanish squadron of armored cruisers and torpedo-boats approached the Windward Islands at the very time when the Oregon was due there. It had been suspected that the Spanish admiral would try to intercept the battleship with his superior force, and before leaving Bahia Captain Clark of the Oregon was warned to keep a close lookout for the Spanish fleet.

In reply Captain Clark expressed his confidence in being able to hold his own single-handed against all the Spanish cruisers. The only apprehension he felt was as to torpedo-boats under the Spanish admiral's command, for these are a new and practically untried element against the modern battleship, and Captain Clark, while confident of holding out against these also, said a chance blow might be struck by them.

Notwithstanding Captain Clark's assurances, the Navy Department continued to feel that a meeting between the Spanish squadron and the American battleship on such unequal terms was far from desirable and might bring serious results. For this reason the official information reaching the authorities to-day was the source of most hearty congratulation. Where the report came from was not made known, but the mere fact that Secretary Long regards the Oregon as safe makes it possible that she has passed to northward of the Windward Islands.

The cruiser Charleston, which started to-day on her long journey to meet Admiral Dewey at Manila, should arrive there in about twenty-four days, allowing a couple of days at Honolulu for coal.

The stock of ammunition which the Charleston carries is believed to be the great essential just now, the fierce engagement at Cavite having consumed a large part of the American admiral's shot and shell.

There is a good deal of talk at the War Department to-day of the possibility of an issue by the President of another call for volunteers, but careful inquiry tends to warrant the statement that this is at least premature and that no further call is likely to issue until the aggregate number of soldiers already called for have responded and have been duly equipped for service. This last matter, the equipment of the new troops, is the main source of delay and promises to become even worse in the near future.

The Kearsarge and Kentucky will soon be ready for service; likewise the Newark, and it is believed the cruisers Columbia and San Francisco, which have been stationed off the New England coast, are also under orders to proceed south and join either Sampson or Schley. The auxiliary cruiser St. Paul, Captain Sigbee, arrived at Key West to-day. The addition of these war vessels will greatly strengthen the fighting and flying squadrons. There will be a sufficient force not only to effectually maintain the blockade of Cuba's south coast, but for the siege of Havana. Blanco's forces will be attacked by our land forces before relief can reach him from Admiral Cervera.

Meanwhile the Board of Strategy, facetiously known here as the "Board of Lethargy," is without any information as to the present whereabouts of the Spaniards or their probable destination. All it appears to know is that the fleet sailed northwesterly from Curacao. No confirmation of the report that the squadron is now in the harbor of San Juan has been received either through the press or official dispatches. If the Spaniards are at San Juan no further strategy will be required. They will either be fought to a finish in their own harbor or else its mouth will be blockaded, and the Porto Ricans starved into submission, while the siege of Havana is progressing.

If the Spaniards kept on their northwesterly course they should, by this time, be very near Cienfuegos, where there are only a few small American vessels or else in the Yucatan Channel, with the idea of descending upon Havana and raising the blockade.

Burglars Break Billy's Back Floor.

A daring burglary was perpetrated last night at the Favorite Saloon and \$9.25 were abstracted from the till.

The burglar gained admittance by boring through the door in the rear of the building, and very clumsy work was done.

Mr. Cunningham is not worrying so much over the loss of his coin and a damaged door as he is of the fact, that he had guaranteed the Marshal, that no "back door" business will be done on his premises.

He requests the burglars, who desire in the future to patronize his establishment at night, to walk in through the front entrance and not lay him open to trouble with the police.

It is believed that a Chinaman is the guilty party, as a suspicious character was seen hanging around the premises during the day. If the burglar was a "haole," he surely would have helped himself to some stimulants, but none of the "favorite" fluid is missing.

The police have a clue and that is all they will have. The burglar has the coin.

They Will Come.

The transport ships and the U. S. S. Charleston will probably touch at Honolulu on or about the 29th inst. The transport ships chartered for service in the Pacific are the City of Peking, the City of Sydney and the Australia. On board the Charleston is Mr. Sheridan, the war correspondent of the S. F. Call.

Ring up 841, if you have anything to say to THE INDEPENDENT.

Rapidly Disappearing.

The supply of the "Celebrated Seattle-Book Beer" is rapidly disappearing in town. The lovers of this nutritious spring beverage can obtain it for a limited time at the Criterion Saloon.

Ex-Zealandia, the California Fruit Market received in Camarinos' refrigerator all seasonable fruits, fish and fresh California block butter. Call and inspect them.

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