

TO GUARD THE PRESIDENT FROM BEING POISONED

Washington Police Watch the Spring That Supplies Water to the White House.

NEW YORK, May 1.—A Washington special to the Herald says: The President's drinking water is guarded closely. The water supply of Washington is taken from the Upper Potomac at Great Falls, eighteen miles above the city. The water is piped to a distributing reservoir directly beyond the city limits, whence it is served to inhabitants. President McKinley does not drink this water. He uses spring water, and the spring is under police guard. This water has been used in the White House ever since that building was put up. The spring bubbled in Colonial times, and its water was renowned in the surrounding country for its purity and clearness. When the city was surveyed and laid out a splendid public park was reserved around this spring. The pool was arched over with rough stones, and a line of pipes was laid to the White House, and this spring has been bubbling ever since. Later an overflow pipe was laid to one of the old-time hotels, and this hostility is still independent of the Potomac. Even in the driest weather this spring flows lavishly. The park around the spring is Franklin Square, bounded by I and K, Thirtieth and Fourteenth streets. The underground fountain is in the northeast corner, opposite Franklin School building, and at the foot of a giant elm tree. It would be possible by puncturing the sod and breaking through the stone covering to poison this spring and assassinate the President and his household. This contingency has been foreseen, and the eye of a park policeman rarely wanders from the spot.

vessel was completely burned.

In the interval between the two engagements Commodore Montijo moved his flag from the Cristina to the smaller cruiser Isla de Cuba. To the fact that he made this change he doubtless owes his life.

The cruiser Castilla, next to the flagship the largest and most powerful of the Spanish squadron, was also burned. The cruiser Don Antonio de Ulloa and the Mindanao were also badly damaged in the encounter.

That the American squadron received severe damage in the encounter cannot be doubted. Early reports had it that five of Commodore Dewey's fleet had been sunk. Later advices from Madrid put the number at two. I

news received here that Spanish fleet was completely defeated off Cavite.

SUFFERED A CRUSHING DEFEAT AT SEA.

LONDON, May 1.—While it is quite clear that the Spanish squadron has suffered a crushing defeat, the dispatches leave unclear the intensely interesting question whether the American squadron has suffered material damage.

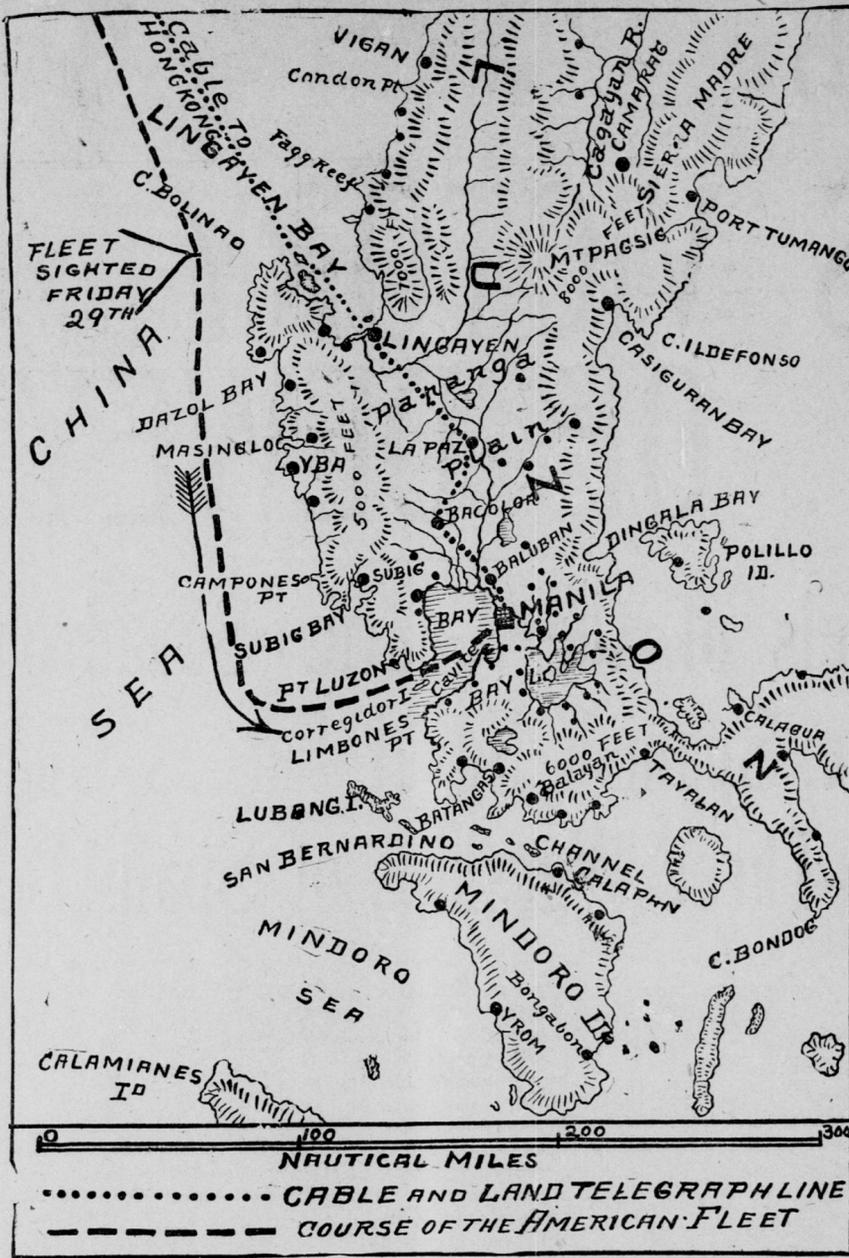
All news thus far comes from Spanish sources, but it seems evident that Commodore Dewey has not captured Manila. Unless he is able to make another attack and capture the town he will be in an awkward position, having no base upon which to retire and to refit.

Probably, therefore, the United States squadron will be obliged to make for San Francisco, as the entrance to Manila Bay was heavily mined with torpedoes.

Commodore Dewey exhibited great pluck and daring in making for the inner harbor. According to private advices received from Madrid, the United States cruisers Olympia, Raleigh and two other vessels, the names of which are not given, entered the harbor.

No dispatches give details as to the vessels actually engaged on either side. It appears to be incorrect that the ships anchored behind the merchantmen on the east side of the bay. It should be the west side. The probabilities point in the direction of the second engagement having occurred, through the Spaniards trying to prevent the landing of the American vanguard.

Reliable details cannot be had until Commodore Dewey's squadron is able



Map of the central part of the Island of Luzon (Philippines) showing Manila Bay, the City of Manila, Cavite and other important points, with the course of the American fleet from Cape Bolinas, where it was first seen approaching the island, to Manila Bay, where the battle was fought. Also the telegraph line from Manila via Bacolor and La Paz to Lingayen, whence a cable runs to Hongkong.

Dewey will use them as a base of supplies. At Manila there is a large coal pier and docks and repairs as the fleet will be able to make such repairs as the battle which occurred to-day may necessitate.

AS REPORTED BY A SPANISH OFFICIAL

MADRID, May 1, 8 p. m.—The following is the text of the official dispatch from the Governor General of the Philippines to the Minister of War, General Correa, as to the engagement off Manila:

"Last night, April 30, the batteries at the entrance to the fort announced the arrival of the enemy, forcing a passage under the obscurity of the night. At daybreak the enemy took up positions, opening with a strong fire against Fort Cavite and the arsenal. Our fleet engaged the enemy in a brilliant combat, protected by the Cavite and Manila forts. They obliged the enemy, with heavy loss, to maneuver repeatedly. At 9 o'clock the Americans took refuge behind the foreign merchant shipping on the east side of the bay. Our fleet, considering the enemy's superiority, naturally suffered a severe loss. The Maria Cristina is on fire and another ship, believed to be the Don Juan de Austria, was blown up. There was considerable loss of life. Captain Cadarzo, commanding the Maria Cristina, is among the killed. I can not now give further details. The spirit of the army, navy and volunteers is excellent."

ALL IS NOW LOST TO SPAIN "SAVE HONOR"

Copyrighted, 1898, by James Gordon Bennett. MADRID, May 1.—The people here

find it impossible to believe that the Spanish squadron off Cavite has sustained if not a defeat at least a severe check, and yet it is easy to see every one believed some such news is concealed behind the guarded dispatches received this afternoon by the Minister of War from Captain-General Augusti. It needs little experience of telegrams to arrive at the same conclusion. No one doubts that the Spanish fought heroically. As said, the dispatch affirms that they fell like heroes at Trafalgar, but there is a growing impression that now as then all is lost save honor.

It was late this afternoon that the news began to go around that the two fleets had at last engaged in battle. At first it was said Spain had won a decided victory. On every side and on every corner small groups formed discussing these reports with a satisfaction easily comprehensible. Then doubts began to creep into the minds of the people as the papers brought out supplementary fly-sheets, each later one giving a few more details, meager enough in all conscience, but still enough to show that victory, if victory it was, had indeed been dearly bought. Then the official cablegram to the Minister of War became generally known. It says that the American squadron deployed before Cavite at daybreak, that the Spanish ships maintained a brilliant fight with the enemy which suffered serious damage, and finally had withdrawn to a western point of the bay, where it anchored behind foreign merchant vessels.

From the conversations with a great many people and Deputies it would appear to be this last detail that caused a fear in the Spanish minds that in reality the American force had been left master of the situation. It hardly appears probable that the enemy would have been allowed to take up a position quietly in the bay, had the Spanish ships been able to make any opposition. The details that followed in a telegram only confirmed these fears. It says the Spanish squadron being heavily overmatched, suffered heavily, two

vessels being lost, one of them, the Cristina, the flagship, whose commanding officer, Captain Luis Cadarzo, was killed.

MOUNTED GUARDS ARE PATROLLING MADRID'S STREETS

LONDON, May 2.—Dispatches from Madrid dated 2:30 a. m., say the city is now tranquil, although the mounted guards are patrolling all the main streets. At the theaters, cafes and in front of the newspaper offices last evening the people loudly lamented the unpreparedness of Manila to resist the American warships, whose attack had long been expected. The Madrid authorities are determined vigorously to suppress all street demonstrations.

MADRID, May 1, 11:30 p. m.—The town is greatly excited by the serious news from the Philippines, and there is an immense crowd gathering in the Calle de Sevilla. The civil guards on horseback were called out to preserve order and all precautions have been taken. There is much muttering, but up to the present nothing more serious has occurred.

STORY OF THE DEFEAT AS TOLD BY MONTIJO.

MADRID (via Paris), May 1.—The time of the retreat of the American merchantmen was 11:30 a. m. The naval bureau at Manila sends the following report, signed "Montijo, Admiral": "In the middle of the night the American squadron forced the forts and before daybreak appeared off Cavite. The night was completely dark. At half-

SCHLEY WILL SCORE THE NEXT GREAT VICTORY

When the Spanish Fleet Arrives From the Cape Verde Islands It Will Be Conquered.

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KEY WEST, Fla., May 1.—Announcement that the Spanish fleet has started on a direct course from Cape Verde to Porto Rico caused no surprise among naval officers at Key West. It is what they have expected. Only a few naval officers are now here. Most of them are those commanding the prize crews that have recently been brought into port and have not yet rejoined the ships. None of them can be quoted by name, but a senior lieutenant expressed the views of a group of five officers, and told me the views also of all the officers of the fleet when he said: "I have no doubt that the Spanish fleet is bound for Porto Rican waters, and it seems reasonable to suppose, that Commodore Schley's flying squadron is held at Hampton Roads for the express purpose of meeting the Cape Verde fleet just as soon as the latter's destination is established beyond a doubt. On the arrival of the Spanish fleet in Porto Rican waters it will be handicapped by being short of coal. It would seem to be a good strategy to encounter and dispose of it before giving it time to recoup. It is generally believed that the Columbia and Minneapolis will either join Schley's command in time to sail with it, or will meet it at sea, and proceed in company. Many officers believe, moreover, that Commodore Schley will be reinforced from Admiral Sampson's fleet at the proper time."

fact explains the statement sent from Madrid that the Spaniards forced Commodore Dewey's fleet to keep constantly maneuvering.

Corregidor, the principal island, lies only two miles from the north shore of the mainland. As the water is very deep—about forty fathoms—the tides run pretty strong. The southern entrance, between Caballo Island and the mainland, is five miles across and about twenty fathoms deep. The channel between the two islands is about 2400 feet wide and more than seven fathoms deep. In them all the tide is strong, so our squadron probably was not bothered by submarine mines.

Corregidor is 640 feet high and Caballo 420 feet. Neither place, however, nor the salient points on the mainland opposite, had any modern fortifications. At least two or three miles, perhaps four, have been mounted on Corregidor and Caballo. After forcing the entrance to the bay the squadron had its hard work before it. Cavite must be taken.

Manila is now at the mercy of our fleet. While the entrance of the bay is high and covered with vegetation, the shores at its head are low, marshy and intersected by numerous small rivers. The city lies about twenty-five miles from the entrance, Cavite being on the southeast side. Admiral Dewey's fleet steamed slowly so as to reach the fighting grounds in condition to carry on the contest for a couple of weeks. Upon the arrival on Saturday night it made a reconnaissance and was ready to begin the attack this morning.

OBSTACLES WHICH DEWEY'S SQUADRON HAD TO OVERCOME.

Commodore Dewey found the Spanish Asiatic squadron inside the bay of Manila under the guns of Cavite. This fortress is situated on the eastern shore of Manila Bay. It was the military post and marine arsenal of Manila and of the Spanish Orient, and it was the objective of our squadron. Vessels were built and repaired there. There is a slip with a cradle 270 feet long and hydraulic power capable of drawing 2000 tons, also workshops containing appliances of all kinds for repairs. There is a dock for gunboats and a large private dock. The town is well fortified and stands on a low piece of ground which forms a good harbor.

Cavite was a regularly constructed fortress, mounting many guns, mostly of an ancient type. A few pieces had recently been replaced—at least four—some of them taken from armaments of the Spanish fleet. There were also some mortar batteries, mounting, perhaps, twenty of these guns. These defensive works caused our ships little apprehension. From a distance of four miles shots could be dropped into Cavite, and our squadron under way was a target difficult to hit.

Manila lies about seven miles distant from Cavite by water and fifteen by land. It is surrounded by a cordon of land batteries to prevent attacks by insurgent forces, which have been ordered near, ready to capture the city when the opportunity offered. The fleet of Spain mounted altogether thirty guns of a caliber greater than four and a half inches, if no pieces had been removed, and the largest of these guns was of six inches caliber. There were thirteen of them. The largest caliber mounted on board the United States ships was eight inches, and there were ten of them, and there were besides forty-seven other pieces of four and six inch caliber. The battery power of our ships greatly outclassed that of the Spanish ships. Further, only two of the Spanish ships were protected—the Isla de Cuba and the Isla de Luzon. All of ours were, again, our ships have all been built since 1888, of steel. Some of Spain's ships, the Castilla, for instance, were launched in 1881, and were built of wood and of iron.

There are two islands at the entrance of the Bay of Manila—Corregidor, or Meriveles, and Caballo—dividing the entrance into two channels, known respectively as the north and south channels. The wings of the entrance of the bay are fresh and the water very deep and free of dangers. To blockade the bay or to bombard the forts at the entrance the squadron would have to keep under way. This

On his last visit to this harbor Rear Admiral Dewey was discussing with friends the subject of the modern battleship. "The construction of naval fighting machines has reached this point," said the admiral, "You have got to annihilate the enemy or go to the bottom." In the light of the news from Manila Bay it would seem that Admiral Dewey was not very far astray in his convictions.

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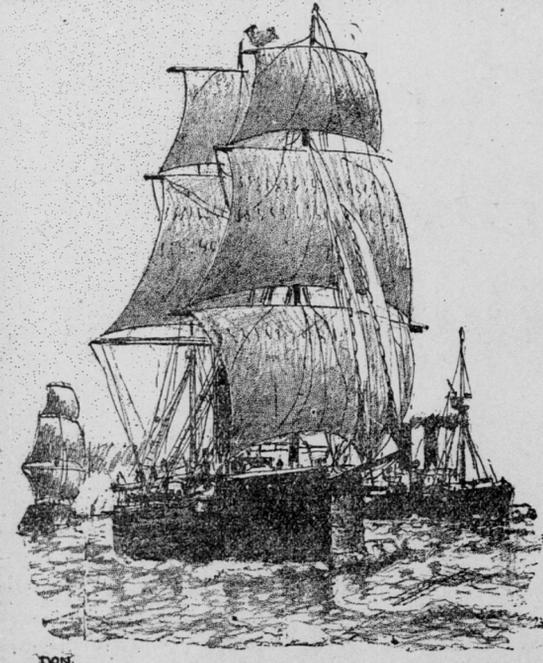
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Three of the Spanish Ships Destroyed by Dewey's Fleet.

have been able to ascertain nothing more definite than this, but I consider it highly significant that the latest advices I have received from Madrid and Lisbon make no mention of an American being destroyed. There were, undoubtedly, heavy losses in men on both sides.

One apparently trustworthy report states that the Spanish had 200 killed and 400 wounded.

Trustworthy details of the American loss of life will hardly be obtainable until Commodore Dewey has taken Manila or has sent a vessel with dispatches to Hongkong.

Completely Defeated. LISBON, May 1, 11 p. m.—Reliable

to communicate with Hongkong. There is, however, a suspicious frankness in the Spanish dispatches that savors of the intention to break unwelcome news to the Spaniards. It is not likely, however, that Commodore Dewey will renew the attack.

WILL SOON SEIZE THE PHILIPPINES

WASHINGTON, May 1.—So confident are the officials of the seizure of the Philippines by Commodore Dewey's squadron that they are talking tonight of the disposition to be made of the islands.

There is no desire on the part of the administration to permanently retain the islands, but it is appreciated that they will be valuable as a base of supplies for the American ships, at least until the close of the war.

It is possible that when a treaty of peace is signed the Philippines will be an excellent thing to trade for some other concession. The insurgents in the islands would naturally object to again being governed by Spain. The withdrawal by the United States from the Philippines would mean their immediate seizure by Japan or one of the great European powers, and it is possible that the insurgents may prefer to live under the stars and stripes.

The final disposition of the Philippines, however, has not been determined. For the present Commodore

COMPLETE TRIUMPH FOR AMERICAN TARS

WASHINGTON, May 1.—The news from Manila, which is rendered even more significant of a conclusive American victory because it came from Madrid, created the greatest excitement here to-night. Crowds surrounded the bulletin boards, and foreign Embassadors and ladies in evening dress jostled negro cab-drivers and street arabs in their eagerness to learn the full particulars of the first engagements of the war. At the White House the President and Secretary Alger read the news as it came in short bulletins over the private executive wire, taken off by the skillful hand of veteran Operator Montgomery, who performed a similar service for President Lincoln during the War of the Rebellion. Secretary Long received the news at his house over the telephone and bulletins sent from the newspaper offices. At 11 o'clock the President retired, and Secretary Alger, after a call at the State, War and Navy building, went to his home. Up to midnight no official confirmation of the Madrid dispatch had been received, but this is not looked for under forty-eight hours unless Admiral Dewey secures control of the cable at Manila, which is supposed to be still in the hands of the Spanish. No doubt is expressed as to the accuracy of the reports via Madrid, however, and it is thought that when official advices are received the American victory will appear even more complete than now stated.