

CRATER BLOWN OUT OF CAYO SMITH

MAKING READY TO INVADE PORTO RICO.

WASHINGTON, June 16.—The War Department expects to utilize approximately thirty-five transports in the expedition for the invasion of Porto Rico.

Army officials say that the reports which have been received from reliable sources show that the number of Spanish soldiers in that country is only 10,000 men, although other statements indicate that there is considerably less than that number.

It is stated positively that the embarkation point for the troops for Porto Rico has not been finally determined yet, and until Secretary Alger and the President have had an opportunity to confer with General Miles, who will return to the city to-morrow, it will not be determined.

For the purposes of the Porto Rican expedition, Secretary Meiklejohn said today that the department had now available eleven transports, some of which are already at Southern ports, and these will carry about 6000 men with their equipments.



THE BATTLE NEAR CAMP McCALLA, GUANTANAMO HILLS, ON TUESDAY LAST.

Our Marines, Advancing From Three Sides at Once, Drove the Spaniards, Though in Superior Force, in Utter Confusion From Their Camp and Water Supply.

SPANISH CAPTAIN EMULATES A PIRATE.

NEW YORK, June 16.—

John W. Masury, owner of the schooner yacht Brunhilde, has shared the troubles of many yacht owners who were abroad when the war started.

Captain Masury appealed to the American Consul and characterized the act of the torpedo boat captain as that of a pirate.

While in New York John W. Masury was known among sportsmen as "Doc" Masury. He is a member of the New York Yacht Club and other clubs in this neighborhood.

ON BOARD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH BOAT DAUNTLESS (off Santiago de Cuba), Thursday, Noon, June 16, via Kingston, Jamaica, June 16, 9 P. M.—Rear Admiral Sampson's fleet bombarded the batteries at Santiago de Cuba for the third time at daylight this morning.

The western batteries, against which the main assault was directed, were badly wrecked. One was utterly destroyed. In others many guns were dismounted.

At first the Spaniards replied furiously, but wildly and impotently. Then most of the guns were deserted. Not a ship was struck nor a man injured on the American side.

It is believed the enemy's loss of life was heavy.

As a preliminary to the hammering given the batteries, the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius last night, at midnight, was given another chance. Three 250-pound charges of guncotton were sent over the fortifications at the entrance.

Whether the destroyers were demolished is not known, but the destructive area of guncotton is large and it would not be surprising if one or both torpedo-boats were destroyed.

From where the fleet lay the entrance to the harbor looked, in the black night, like a door opening into the livid fire of a Titanic furnace.

A crater big enough to hold a church was blown out of the side of the Cayo Smith battery and was clearly seen from the ships this morning.

Admiral Sampson issued the orders for the bombardment last night. Coffee was served to the men at half past 3 this morning and with the first blush of dawn the men were called quietly to quarters.

The ships steamed at a five-knot speed to a 3000-yard range, when they closed up, broadside on, until a distance of three cable lengths separated them. They were strung out in the form of a crescent, the heavy fighting ships in the center, the flagship on the right and the Massachusetts on the left flank.

When the ships got into position it was still too dark for any firing.

The admiral signaled the ships not to fire until the muzzles of the enemy's guns in the embrasures could be seen by the gun captains.

Fifteen minutes later, at 5:25 a. m., the New York opened with a broadside from her main battery at the works on the east of the entrance to the harbor.

All the Forts but El Morro Wrecked and Severe Loss of Life Inflicted Upon the Dons.

kicked up dirt and masonry. It was a magnificent spectacle from where the Dauntless lay.

Though the gun captains had been cautioned not to waste ammunition, but to fire with deliberation, the fire was so rapid that there was an almost continuous report. The measured crash of the big 13-inch guns of the battle-ships sounded above the rattle of the guns of the secondary batteries like thunder claps above the din of a hurricane.

The Dons responded spiritedly at first, but their frenzied half-crazed fire could not match the cool nerve, trained eyes and skilled gunnery of the Americans.

The admiral's ordnance expert had given explicit directions to reduce the powder charges and to elevate the guns so as to shorten the trajectory and thus to secure a plunging fire.

Several times Admiral Sampson signaled the ships to temporarily cease firing, in order to allow the smoke to clear from the batteries. When the order came at 6:30 to cease firing every gun of the enemy had been silenced for ten minutes, but as the ships drew off some of the Spanish courage returned and a half

dozen shots were fired spitefully at the Massachusetts and Oregon, falling in their wakes.

Throughout the bombardment the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius and the Porter, by direction of the admiral, lay outside of the right flank. The steam launch of the flagship scurried among the ships carrying messages.

At the close of the action a stream of multi-colored flags floated from the New York, greatly complimenting the ships and especially commending the work of the Texas and New Orleans.

The men of the New Orleans raised a cheer which was passed quickly on from ship to ship until every jackie in the fleet was howling himself hoarse.

The destruction and death at the western batteries must have been appalling.

Many of the guns had been mounted during the last two days. From this it is inferred that Admiral Cervera had given up all hope of extricating himself from the trap in which he is caught and had removed the guns from some of his ships to strengthen the land defenses.

Admiral Sampson is highly gratified at the results of the bombardment. He thinks the western batteries are practically demolished. As some of the guns on the eastern batteries did not

fire he thinks it possible they were only dummies.

The only regret expressed is that Lieutenant Hobson and his companions by their presence in El Morro made it sacred.

Otherwise it would now be a pile of ruins. The number of shots fired was not known when this dispatch was sent. Judging from a position near the flagship which, during the bombardment, with several interruptions, fired 208 shots—35 from her 8-inch guns, 134 from her 4-inch guns and 39 from her 6-pounders—probably no fewer than 5000 projectiles were fired, of a total weight of half a million pounds.

THREE BLOCKHOUSES AT CARDENAS BOMBARDED

Shells Burst Among Spaniards, Causing a Heavy Loss of Life.

NEW YORK, June 16.—A Key West special to the Sun says: Spaniards have recently been at work on three blockhouses inside the harbor of Cardenas. A gunboat arriving to-day from the blockade reported that early this morning the flagship approached the forts and began bombarding them.

Several other vessels joined in the fight. The forts replied. The fight was just beginning when the gunboat left the scene to come here.

A dispatch to another morning paper says several shells were seen to burst among the Spaniards and it is certain the loss of life was heavy.

ARMY HORSES AND MULES STAMPEDE AT NIGHT

Three Thousand Frenzied Animals Strike Terror to Soldiers in Camp at Tampa.

among the men was terrible. Officers tried to get their companies into line, but the army of wild horses made that impossible.

It seems impossible to stop the stampede to-night. The horses seemed to be attracted by the tents and they rushed through the brigade of three regiments and then back again, taking a different course each time. They have already destroyed many tents, kitchen and camping paraphernalia.

It is not known what started the horses on their wild rush. Taps had just sounded in all the camps and the bands had played their good nights. The men were hardly asleep when a loud cracking, like the firing of Gatling guns, started them. It was the breaking down of the corral fence, a high wooden affair. In the next moment the infuriated and panting horses rushed into the New York camp, which was nearest the break in the fence.

CUBANS TELL OF SPANISH BUTCHERIES

Immediately After War Was Declared Men, Women and Children Were Slain.

KEY WEST, Fla., June 16.—Lieutenant Colonel August Arana, Major Salo and two privates of the Cuban army arrived here to-day from Pinar del Rio with dispatches for the Cuban Junta. They report that the health of the Cubans in the field is excellent, but that the food is scarce. The Spaniards, they say, are 16,000 strong in that province, but Spain is withdrawing her soldiers to Havana.

Colonel Arana, who is the chief of staff of General Diaz, says the Cuban forces in the province of Pinar del Rio number about 5000 men. The insurgents hold the north coast of the province from Bahia Honda to Cape Antonio. They also hold the entire south coast, and their mounted fortresses have never been wrested from them.

A Powerful Poisonous Shell. PARIS, June 16.—A dispatch to the Figaro from Madrid says: "Captain Annon's visit to Cadiz was with a view to experimenting at sea with a new and powerful explosive shell which liberates poisonous gas."

Will Not Exchange Prisoners. MADRID, June 16.—The report that Spain proposes to exchange prisoners is absolutely unfounded. In the presence of the Queen to-day the Ministers denied it.

Arrival of the Buffalo. NEW YORK, June 16.—The United States cruiser Buffalo, formerly the Nietheroy of the Brazilian navy, has arrived in port and anchored off Stapleton, S. I.