

# DRIVING THE DONS BACK UPON THE DOOMED CITY

## AMERICANS CLOSING IN ON SANTIAGO

### Spaniards Are Retreating Before Advancing Troops.

### Five Thousand Cubans Join Uncle Sam's Forces in the Siege of the City.

Special cable to The Call and New York Herald. Copyrighted, 1898, by James Gordon Bennett.

BAIQUIRI, Cuba, Thursday, 6 P. M. (by Herald-Call dispatch boat Somers N. Smith, to Port Antonio, Jamaica, June 24).—This was the situation as the Herald-Call dispatch boat Somers N. Smith left Baiquiri this evening:

The Cubans had driven the Spaniards back eight miles from the coast. A dozen Spanish blockhouses had been burned by the troops as they advanced. General Lawton had thrown out skirmishers and was reported to be engaging the enemy.

Roosevelt's rough riders with a dynamite gun were hurrying forward on foot to support General Lawton.

Three hundred Spaniards had been routed out of Altares and the Americans were in possession.

Five thousand Cubans under General Rabi and General Garcia had been loaded on transports at Aserradero, west of Santiago, and landed at Altares to join in the general movement on Santiago from the east.

Very picturesque was the landing of the Cubans under the protection of the fleet's guns, with the Spaniards falling back before them. The plan is to put the Cubans into possession of the city, when the city has been taken, and leave the American troops free for Porto Rico and other operations.

### STEADY ADVANCE OF THE AMERICAN FORCES UPON SANTIAGO CITY

ON BOARD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH BOAT DAUNTLESS, off Juragua, Province of Santiago de Cuba, Thursday night, June 23, via Port Antonio, Jamaica, June 24.—The advance of the American army has reached the edge of the tableland on which the harbor of Santiago de Cuba lies. Here, seven miles from Morro Castle as the crow flies, the main body of troops has united, and the Spaniards are in full retreat toward Santiago de Cuba. They may attempt a surprise, but a decisive engagement is not expected for several days.

General Lawton's brigade, which rested last night at Demajayabo, four miles west of Baiquiri, resumed its march at daylight. Before noon his brigade, consisting of the Twenty-second Infantry, the First Infantry, the Second Massachusetts Volunteers, with companies of the Eighth Cavalry, half of the Fourth Cavalry, and several companies of the Twenty-fifth colored cavalry, occupied Juragua, five miles beyond, and the American flag was hoisted there.

The Spaniards retired before the advance, which was covered by Cuban skirmishers, burning the blockhouses as they went.

Colonel Wagner, with a small reconnaissance party of about forty men, brushed against the flank of a retreating Spanish column 200 strong at Firmexa. A dozen shots were fired by the Spaniards as Colonel Wagner fell back. Before General Lawton could bring up the Twenty-second, the van regiment, the Spaniards had decamped westward.

Juragua was abandoned by General Linares and 1200 Spanish troops with such haste that they had no time to burn the town, though an ineffectual at-

tempt was made to destroy the locomotives of the railroad and the rolling stock. General Linares retreated to Sevilla, six miles west of Juragua by road and nine miles from Santiago de Cuba.

A detachment of 170 Cubans, under Colonel Aguirre, collided with the Spanish rear guard. The Cubans lost two men killed and had seven men wounded. The Spanish loss is not known. The Spaniards were mached.

General Chaffee, with the Ninth Cavalry, the remainder of the Eighth and Fourth, Seventh, Twelfth and Seventeenth Infantry, reached Juragua at dark. General Bates, with the reserve of the Twentieth Infantry and Colonel Woods' rough riders, dismounted, with a dynamite gun, hurried forward from Baiquiri at 3 o'clock, proceeding by forced marches.

Dispatches from General Linares which were captured indicated that the Spanish were ordered to retreat toward Santiago. The insurgents expect the first stand to be made at Sevilla, and they have proved good prophets in the past. General Lawton's men are badly fatigued by forced marches and the intense heat. Their rations are almost exhausted. They started with three days' supplies and further food could not be landed to-day. A pack train will be sent forward to-morrow.

Strong outposts are maintained to-night in order to prevent a surprise, and Juragua is also under the protection of the guns of the warships. Thus the flank of the American column is safe. The Spaniards, to attack our troops, must make a forced march through almost impenetrable underbrush.

There were only two casualties during the landing of the troops at Baiquiri. Corporal Cobb and Private English of Troop D, Tenth Cavalry (colored), fell between a lighter and the pier. Captain O'Neill, of Woods' rough



### THE INVESTMENT OF SANTIAGO.

Birdseye view, showing the scene of yesterday's deadly battle near Juragua, the advance of the American troops on Santiago and the positions of the divisions of the Cuban forces co-operating with them. General Lawton, with the advance guard of General Shafter's army, has occupied Juragua, the Spaniards having retreated to Sevilla, about eight miles from Santiago.

## FIERCE FIGHTING AROUND TRINIDAD

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HAVANA, June 24.—At 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon two American ships threw a hundred missiles at the defenses of Trinidad. The garrison repelled them. Spanish troops went out from the city later and defeated rebel parties in several places, killing thirty-seven and wounding many. Several prisoners were taken and goods and important documents were seized. The Spanish troops had ten killed and some wounded. Tuerto Rodriguez, a celebrated rebel chief, who was formerly a bandit and who was active around Sancti Spiritus, was killed by his own men. His execution was ordered by General Maximo Gomez.

riders, plunged into the sea at the risk of his life, but the men were crushed before he reached them. O'Neill is a former Mayor of Tucson, A. T. Several horses and mules were drowned while swimming ashore through the surf.

The movement to-day almost amounts to a change of base. A brisk musketry fire was heard in the direction of Savilla as the Dauntless left at dark.

### SPANIARDS REALIZE CERVERA'S FLEET AND SANTIAGO ARE LOST

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MADRID, June 24.—Never since the commencement of the war has the anxiety been so intense to hear news from Santiago. It is recognized that the successful landing of American troops is most serious. The Epoca to-night talks sadly of the certain destruction of Cervera's fleet.

No official report confirms the rumor of the surrender of Manila. The Cabinet council meets to-morrow morning. Its results, it is anticipated, will be of the highest importance. It is remarked that the session of Congress suspended without any usual loyal demonstrations.

### SANTIAGO MUST BE TAKEN BEFORE MORE SPANIARDS ARRIVE

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Notwithstanding the official Spanish reports of heavy fighting between the American invading army and the Spanish troops near Santiago, army officials here are confident that no engagement of any moment has occurred between these troops. Part of the landing project was a movement in force by the Cubans across the country to prevent the Spanish forces concentrating upon the beach to oppose the landing of the American troops. Taken in connection

with Sampson's plan of blinding the Spanish to the real landing place by an indiscriminate shelling of the coast for twenty miles east and west, this scheme worked admirably so far as the American troops are concerned, as was evident by their landing without the loss of a man. It is suspected, however, that the Cubans have had to pay for this exemption on the part of the Americans, and the engagement described in the Spanish dispatches was really between the Cubans and the Spaniards, far back in the rear, instead of between the Americans and Spaniards. Seeing that the Cubans, who were almost without clothing, have been liberally supplied by Sampson and Shafter, it is conceivable that the Spaniards might easily mistake them for American soldiers at a little distance. The news coming from Jamaica that General Pando is sending heavy re-enforcements to the Spanish General Linares, in Santiago, is likely to have the effect of hastening the campaign against that town by the Americans. Pando has 10,000 soldiers at Holguin, less than 100 miles from Santiago. They are the pick of the Spanish army in Cuba, and their commander is known as the fighting general. Were they to combine with the Spanish force in Santiago the American campaign would be very much prolonged and the task set for our troops would be much heavier. Two factors have been relied upon to prevent this combination. The first is the very rough nature of the country between Holguin and Santiago, which would be exceedingly difficult for troops to cover in less than four or five days at the earliest.

The second is the active efforts of the Cubans to harass the Spaniards on the march and retard their movements. With the force they now have in that country the Cubans could do this very effectively, but they could scarcely undertake to absolutely check the whole Spanish force of 10,000 men. The reports from Santiago indicate that the Spanish admiral is using his squadron exactly as was anticipated, to defend the town from attack by soldiers in the rear. This only emphasizes in the mind of army officers the necessity for speedy action on the part of the invaders, for with Pando's men to re-enforce the garrison and Cervera's squadron in full play the Spanish would be, from a military point of view, much stronger than the combined force of Americans under Shafter and Cubans under Garcia and Rabi.

It is believed that considerable reliance must be placed upon the American siege train, for as soon as the heavy guns are in place on the crest of the hills it is expected the position of the Spaniards below will be exposed to a

heavy fire and they will be obliged to either surrender or make a desperate attempt to escape from Santiago harbor.

No official news came to the War Department during office hours from our army near Santiago. This was a cause for mild surprise at the department, as General Shafter has a cable at his command and it was expected he would report the measure of success he has attained in the debarkation of his army on Cuban soil and the beginning of operations against Santiago.

Not hearing from him, the officials were obliged to rely for information entirely upon press reports. They found these highly satisfactory. Secretary Alger expressed particular gratification at the news that the troops had reached a point within seven miles of Morro Castle without encountering serious resistance. The direction taken by the troops after their landing at Baiquiri—trending generally westward—is taken in some quarters here to indicate a purpose to unite with Sampson's fleet in an attack on Morro Castle and the other forts at the entrance of Santiago harbor before turning their attention to the town itself. Once the forts are captured Sampson with small boats could reach the mines, and if, as reported, the Merrimac does not completely obstruct the channel some of the battle-ships may be sent in to deal with Cervera's squadron in its last resort. Something of this kind is believed to be necessary in order to relieve our troops from the fire of the Spanish fleet when they attack the city directly. One or two of the big battleships, supplemented by a few torpedo boats, could be relied upon to keep Cervera's squadron so fully occupied that he would have no time to get to the troops attacking Santiago from the rear.

With great satisfaction the Navy Department to-day publishes Sampson's statement that Hobson and his men are well and not in the line of fire. It was also noted that Sampson finds no difficulty in having his flag of truce respected, which is gratifying, in view of the statement coming from Havana some days ago that there was to be a lapse into barbarism through the refusal of the Spaniards to recognize flags of truce.

### AMERICAN FORCES WILL BE IN FRONT OF SANTIAGO BY SUNDAY

FROM THE HERALD-CALL SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT WITH THE ARMY, near Santiago, Thursday, via Port Antonio, Jamaica, June 24.—The advance troops of General Shafter's army are now skirmishing to the westward of Baiquiri and it is expected the entire American force will be in front of Santiago by Sunday. Officers of the advance troops believe the city will have been taken within forty-eight hours after that.

Major La Motte, Color Sergeant Wright and Trumpeter Platt of Roosevelt's rough riders planted the American flag on Wednesday evening on the summit of Mount Lositres in full view of the American fleet. It was a magnificent spectacle as the Americans and Cubans cheered the colors while vessels of the fleet joined in with joyous blasts from their whistles.

Grand Birdseye View. Camp Merritt, on plate paper, 25x9 inches. Worth framing. With S. F. News Letter to-day.

The Reichstag Elections. BERLIN, June 24.—The results of 17 second ballots in the Reichstag elections show a return of 13 Conservatives, 6 Imperialists, 10 Centrists, 3 candidates of the Reform party, 21 National Liberals, 7 Freisinnige candidates, 2 Radicals, 7 candidates of the German Folkparty, 1 Agrarian League, 13 Socialists, 3 Catholics and four Independents.

"Saving the Sacramento Valley From Drought," in next Sunday's Call.

## ORDERED TO STOP AT THE LADRONES

### Charleston Has Probably Dismantled San Juan de Guahan's Batteries.

### But There Is No Intention to Land Troops From the Peking and Other Transports.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—It became known to-day through naval sources that the cruiser Charleston, with the troopships Peking and three others of the first expedition to the Philippines, had been ordered to stop at the island of Guahan, in the Ladrones, and dismantle the Spanish fortifications at San Juan de Guahan, the principal place on the islands.

The naval authorities have heretofore declined to confirm the report that the Charleston was to stop at Guahan, but as it is understood that the cruiser has accomplished her mission there by this time the policy of secrecy was withdrawn.

It is said that about 2000 Spanish troops are on the island. There was no

intention to land United States forces from the Peking and other transports to engage them.

The forts have batteries of old smooth-bored, and the Charleston's instructions were merely to knock these out of position and destroy the fortifications, so that on the arrival of the Monterey the latter would coal in the harbor without molestation from the enemy's guns.

On account of the stop at Guahan the Navy Department does not expect to hear of the Charleston's arrival at Manila for several days yet. She is probably with Dewey now, or nearing Manila. The general belief that she would arrive there about June 20 is said at the Navy Department to be erroneous.

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