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HOUSTON DAILY POST.

FOURTEENTH YEAR—NO. 87.

HOUSTON, TEXAS, TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 1898.

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 lowest rate; hence are in a posi-
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Means	91.7	74.1	.09

*Not included in means.

Cotton Belt Bulletin.

Central	No. Sta.	Max. Min.	Rain- fall.
Atlanta	11	96 72	.18
Augusta	11	96 72	.18
Charleston	25	94 74	.08
Galveston	25	94 74	.08
Little Rock	13	94 72	.18
Memphis	16	92 72	.04
Mobile	8	94 72	.02
Montgomery	8	96 72	.08
New Orleans	11	92 72	.06
Savannah	10	98 72	.19
Vicksburg	8	94 70	.26
Wilmington	9	96 72	.22

MAY BE COURT MARTIALED.

**Officers to Be Held Responsible If
 Orders Were Disregarded.**
 (Special Dispatch to The Post.)

Washington, June 27.—Chairman Hull
 of the house committee on military affairs
 was vehement today in his denunciation
 of the methods pursued by the officers of
 the Rough Riders when they permitted
 their men to be led into an ambush.
 "If an investigation shows," said Mr. Hull,
 "that statements are half true concerning
 this ambush, some official action will fol-
 low. It seems to me that Colonel Wood
 and Roosevelt's conduct led their men
 into danger and took no precautions.
 It looks like a case of thoughtless, reckless
 and impetuous disregard of orders and the
 sacrifice of good men. Colonel Wood and
 Roosevelt are brave men, but orders are
 orders."

SHAFTER ADMIRED.
**His Self-Reliance Praised—Ordered
 to Use His Discretion.**
 (Special Dispatch to The Post.)

Washington, June 27.—General Shafter
 aroused the admiration of the president
 by declaring that he "needs nothing" in
 the way of reinforcements or supplies in
 order to fight General Linares. He has
 hinted that he desires to commence the
 battle before it shall be possible for Gen-
 eral Pando to reinforce General Linares.
 He has been advised that if he feels sure
 of winning to go ahead, but Secretary Al-
 ger would feel safer if he would wait for
 General Coppinger, who is now making
 ready to sail from Tampa with 18,000 men.

FERNANDINA UNAVAILABLE.
**Can Not Be Used as a Point for the Em-
 barkation of Troops.**
 (Special Dispatch to The Post.)

Washington, June 27.—It is stated posi-
 tively at the war department that Fernan-
 dina can not be used as a point of embark-
 ation for troops. A board of engineers has
 made a report stating that a shifting sand
 bar at mouth of the harbor makes it im-
 possible for transports to pass over with
 safety. This was a great surprise to the
 war department as it had been decided to
 embark the larger part of the troops from
 Fernandina. Great quantities of supplies
 have been shipped to that point and it will
 be necessary to reshelve them to Tam-
 pa and Miami. All orders for troops to
 proceed to Fernandina have been counter-
 mande.

Pope Asked to Intervene.
 New York, June 27.—A special cable-
 gram to the Journal from Rome says: The
 papal nuncio at Madrid telegraphs to the
 pope that the queen regent of Spain de-
 sires the mediation of his holiness when
 the opportune moment arrives with the
 object of concluding peace with the United
 States. The nuncio declares, however, that
 at present the queen regent is convinced
 that Spain is bound to continue the war.

Camara's Sailing Only a Bluff.
 New York, June 27.—The Journal's cor-
 respondent at Rome cables that Senator Del
 Camara, the Spanish ambassador to Italy,
 Masso, the Spanish ambassador to Italy,
 said today that the cruise of Admiral Ca-
 mara's fleet in the Mediterranean is only
 a ruse de guerre. After a short stay at
 Suez, Senator Del Camara is alleged to have
 said the fleet, apparently awaiting orders,
 will again set sail, but for Cadiz,
 not the Philippines.

A CRUSHING BLOW.

A Powerful American Squadron to Attack the Coast of Spain.

CAMARA'S FOLLY IS RESPONSIBLE.

The War Department Is Doing It to Check the Spanish Admiral's
 Eastward Movement Towards Manila and to Strike a De-
 cisive Blow at Spain, Made Possible by Camara
 Leaving His Home Ports Unprotected.

Washington, June 27.—The administration finally came to a decision to send
 an American squadron to the Spanish coast and into the Mediterranean Sea.
 Several times since the war broke out rumors to this effect have been cir-
 culated, but the project had not matured.

It required the Spanish movement toward the Philippines by Camara's fleet
 to decide the navy department to adopt this bold stroke.

The first announcement today through a bulletin posted at the war depart-
 ment of the government's intention was received with incredulity. There was a
 suspicion that the story was being floated to deceive the Spanish government.

However, when later in the day the detail of the vessels selected to consti-
 tute Commander Watson's Eastern Squadron was announced and official orders
 were given to provision the fleet for four months it became apparent to the last
 doubter that the government was in earnest in this purpose to dispatch the fleet
 to Europe.

The three vessels selected as colliers have started on their way to Newport
 News to take on a large supply of coal. It will require about a week to get this
 down to Sampson's fleet, so if the start is to be made from that point it will
 be impossible for Commodore Watson to get away before the fourth of July.

This would seem to be an auspicious date for the beginning of an expedition
 that will, for the first time in the world's history, start from the new world to
 attack continental Europe.

No attempt is made to deny that the government is influenced in ordering
 this movement by a desire to check the progress eastward of the Camara
 squadron.

It was not believed the Spanish admiral could be found guilty of the folly of
 uncovering his own home ports in this fashion, but inasmuch as he seems deter-
 mined to do so, the naval strategists could not do less than take advantage of the
 magnificent opportunity thus offered to strike a crushing blow at Spain and
 thereby perhaps save much time and loss of life and money in the conduct of the
 tedious campaign in Cuba.

The determination to send this squadron against Spain was the outcome of
 direct official advice reaching the state and navy departments as to the progress
 of Admiral Camara's squadron.

These advices give a list of the Spanish ships now nearing the Suez canal
 which differs somewhat from the list now given in the press dispatches and
 by Lloyds.

The official list is as follows: Pelayo, Carlos V, Audaz, Osada, Prosperina,
 Patriota, Rapido, Buenos Ayres, Isla de Panay, Colon, Covadonga and San
 Francisco.

The additional information comes from official sources that this squadron is
 at Port Said and expects to take on board
 10,000 tons of coal before entering the
 Suez canal. Such coaling will take some
 time.

It discloses also that the admiral expects
 to make a long sail and is doubtless headed
 for the Philippines, a point which the offi-
 cials here at first doubted. The squadron
 is the most formidable one Spain has afloat,
 in total tonnage, strength of individual
 ships, armor and guns.

The Pelayo is the strongest of the ships
 and is the only battleship in the Spanish
 navy. She is 9900 tons, with a speed of
 16.7 knots. She carries thirty-five guns of
 various caliber, and has seven torpedo
 tubes. The largest guns are the 12-inch
 Honoria, one forward and one aft, and
 eleven inch Honoria, one on each beam.

The Carlos V is 9090 tons, with a
 speed of 19 knots. She has twenty-eight
 guns, the largest being a 11-inch Hono-
 ria, worked electrically, one forward and
 one aft. She has also six torpedo tubes.

The Audaz and Osada are torpedo boat
 destroyers and were recently finished in
 England just before the war began. They
 are of forty tons each and are thirty knots
 fast. Each carries six guns and two tor-
 pedo tubes.

The Buenos Ayres belongs to the Trans-
 Atlantic company of Cadiz and was trans-
 formed into a cruiser. She is 5200 tons,
 with fourteen knots speed.

The Prosperina, Patriota and Rapido are
 merchant vessels, recently constructed and
 armed.

The Colon, Covadonga and San Francis-
 co are colliers.

It is apparent from this that the main
 reliance of this fleet is in the battleship
 Pelayo, the armored cruiser Carlos V and
 the two torpedo boat destroyers Audaz and
 Osada. The others are auxiliaries and col-
 liers.

As there are only two armored ships in
 the lot, Dewey's fleet of protected but un-
 armored ships probably will take care of
 the squadron. With the Monterey, added,
 he could certainly do so.

The Eastern Squadron, which the United
 States will now send against Spain, far
 outranks the Spanish squadron, the Iowa
 and Oregon exceeding the Pelayo and Car-
 los V at every point, while the other
 United States vessels are far superior, ship
 for ship, to those of the Spanish squad-
 ron, with the single exception of the two Span-
 ish torpedo boat destroyers.

When the American fleet sails for Spain
 it will take with it complete information as
 to the entire strength of Spain's entire
 coast, with detailed maps of every harbor
 and its fortifications.

The war board had a mass of this in-
 formation here it today and spent a good
 part of the day studying Spanish charts

Ferrol is protected on the north by a se-
 ries of three batteries and two chateaus,
 the points commanding the passages from
 the sea. The town is enclosed by bastions
 and redoubts of ancient batteries but re-
 cently remodeled.

The defenses of Cadiz consist of a circle
 of eleven powerful forts. The other harbors
 are similarly fortified with detailed infor-
 mation as to the approaches, channels, depth
 of water, batteries, etc. With this full in-
 formation at hand the nature of assault
 upon the coast of Spain will be pretty well
 outlined before the American squadron
 sails. At the same time much will be left
 to the commander in chief of the squadron.

Some naval authorities believe that the
 Canary islands will be the first point of
 attack and the next move will be made to
 establish a naval defense at Ceuta, a point
 on the African coast, owned by Spain and
 opposite Gibraltar.

With this base our ships will be within
 easy striking distance for the long stretch
 of Spanish coast.

One short telegram received by General
 Greely from one of his signal corps offi-
 cers with the army under Shafter was all
 that came to the war department last night
 or today. That related entirely to the
 movements of the militia.

Therefore it is assumed at the depart-
 ment that General Shafter is carrying for-
 ward his plans of bringing forward his
 troops from the southeast and concentrat-
 ing them at points on heights surrounding
 Santiago. His army is moving cautiously.

NIPPERS ARE NEEDED.
**Barbed Wire Fences Around San-
 tiago a Serious Obstacle.**
 (Special Dispatch to the New York Herald,
 London Times and The Houston Post.
 Copyright, 1898, by James Gordon Ben-
 nett.)

Washington, June 27.—There is one
 feature of Santiago's defenses which does
 not seem to have been considered," said
 an army official to the Herald, "and that is
 the twelve lines of barbed wire entangle-
 ment which surround the city."

This officer has explored the whole of
 Cuba and speaks from personal experience.
 "To attempt to clear these barriers with
 guns," he continued, "results only in
 throwing them down in a way to harass
 the men going over them. The Cuban
 junta furnished their troops with nippers

SANTIAGO DOOMED.

American Forces Encamped Within Four Miles of the City.

FIELD GUNS BEING BROUGHT FORWARD

The American Flag Is Floating Within Sight of Santiago—General
 Linares Offering No Opposition to the Concentration of the
 Troops—His Surrender of Sevilla Without Resist-
 ance a Surprise—Spanish Force Large.

(Cable Dispatch to the New York Her-
 ald, London Times and The Houston Post.
 Copyright, 1898, by James Gordon Ben-
 nett.)

With the United States Army, near San-
 tiago, Sunday, by the New York Herald's
 Dispatch Boat Mindoro to Port Antonio,
 Jamaica, Monday, June 27.—Although only
 three or four miles of territory now sepa-
 rates General Shafter's advance column
 and the Spanish forces about Santiago, it
 is likely to be several days before the
 assault upon the city is made.

Owing to the bad condition of the roads
 the machine and field guns can be hauled
 to the front only with the greatest diffi-
 culty. Much of this day has been devoted
 to this work and the guns now are well
 on the way to the advance position held
 by General Wheeler.

The work can hardly be completed for
 two or three days, however, and the at-
 tack can not be made before then.

Seven thousand American troops and 3000
 of General Garcia's forces are encamped
 within sight of Santiago and the American
 flag is still floating all the way from Bal-
 con to the outskirts of the beleaguered
 city.

It is apparent now that General Linares
 will make no serious opposition to the con-
 centration of the entire American and
 Cuban forces about the city. He abandoned
 his last opportunity for making serious
 trouble when he ordered his troops to
 withdraw from Sevilla yesterday. Gen-
 eral Linares, the American officers believe,
 is devoting all of his energies to strength-
 ening the defenses of Santiago, both by land
 and sea.

From several sources the infor-
 mation comes that the Spanish general has
 a larger force at his command than has
 been supposed.

The health of all the troops is excellent.
 All of the wounded are doing well.

General Shafter and his subordinate offi-
 cers are unshaken in their praise of both
 volunteers and regulars while under fire.
 Our troops have shown themselves to be
 brave, cool and eager, and the examples
 set by the officers have been worthy of
 the highest praise.

As I write this dispatch the band of the
 Seventeenth infantry is playing Souza's
 march on the heights of Sevilla, in full
 view of Santiago.

The next fighting will be directly before

SECOND LIEUT. HAMILTON FISH, JR.

with which to force their way through the
 trenches. The American army today needs
 nippers more than guns."

I ascertained that no nippers have been
 furnished to our army, and under present
 conditions, my informant says, it will be
 difficult for the United States army to
 make its way over this outer defense.

It is the opinion of many experienced
 army men that the United States
 army will not be in a position to attack
 before Sunday or Monday next.

An officer, old in the navy, expressed the
 opinion today that if Santiago were
 stormed the so-called defenses would be
 shattered like a bubble and the Spaniards
 would take to the brush to the west. But,
 on the other hand, said an army officer,
 it is more likely that General Shafter will
 lay siege and try the starvation process.



OF LITTLE ACCOUNT.
**Only One Modern Vessel in the Third
 Spanish Squadron.**

Gibraltar, June 27.—The third Spanish
 squadron as announced here, consisting of
 the Cardinal Cisneros, Lepanto, Numancia,
 Victoria, the monitor Puigcerda, three tor-
 pedo boats and the auxiliary steamers Me-
 teor, Leon XIII and Montserrat, command-
 ed by Admiral Barros, have been ordered
 to assemble at Cadiz as early as possible.

Some of the vessels mentioned as com-
 posing the third Spanish squadron are very
 much behind the age. The Numancia is an
 iron vessel, built in 1863. The Victoria is
 a training ship of the broadside frigate
 class, built in 1865. The monitor Puigcerda
 is the Spanish torpedo training ship. Her
 coal supply is so small that she would be of
 little use outside of a harbor.

The Cardinal Cisneros is a first-class ar-
 mored cruiser of the most modern type,
 built in 1896 at a cost of \$3,000,000. The
 Lepanto was built in 1892. She is a pro-
 tected cruiser of 4825 tons displacement.

INVITING DEFEAT.
**Spain Is Said to Be Willing to Lose Battles in
 Order to Sue Direct for Peace.**

(Special Dispatch to The Post.)

Washington, June 27.—In diplomatic circles there is an impression that
 Spain is deliberately inviting defeat so that she can end the war without putting
 the United States to any more trouble than appearances necessitate and that as
 soon as she can reasonably do so she will ask for an armistice. All the surface
 indications are that Sagasta is preparing to surrender. There is a tendency
 to arouse Spanish sentiment against the powers and create the feeling that better
 terms can be made by treating directly with the United States.

IMPORTANT ARMY ORDERS.
**Several High Grade Officers Have
 Been Shifted About Considerably.**

Washington, June 27.—Several impor-
 tant army orders were issued today. Brig-
 adier General R. T. Frank, who succeeded
 Major General Wesley Merritt, in com-
 mand of the department of the East, with
 headquarters at New York, is relieved of
 the command and ordered to report in per-
 son to the secretary of war for assignment
 to duty.

General C. L. Gillespie, colonel of en-
 gineers, who was recently appointed brig-
 adier general of volunteers, is ordered to
 take command of the department of the
 East. Brigadier General A. C. Penning-
 ton has been relieved from command of
 Camp Black, Hempstead, L. I., and prob-
 ably will be assigned to duty with the
 Fourth army corps in Florida.

Brigadier General Roe has been assigned
 to duty in the First army corps at Chick-
 mauga, Ga.

COLORED TROOPS.
**A Regiment to Be Mustered In from
 Different States.**

Washington, June 27.—Representative
 McDonald of Maryland today introduced a
 joint resolution authorizing the president
 to muster into the United States service as
 volunteers one regiment of colored troops
 composed of the following independent
 companies:

Two companies from Virginia, one from

Santiago. Our troops have swept all be-
 fore them. They took Sevilla sooner than
 they had expected to and without a struggle.
 The American flag was raised over
 Sevilla during Saturday night.

It was the last defense between Santiago
 and the American troops. Despite its
 strategic importance, however, the Span-
 iards offered little opposition. Our troops,
 after making Sevilla a temporary head-
 quarters, pressed on to a point two miles
 beyond and established themselves within
 four miles of Santiago. The Spaniards hal-
 ted in their flight at Caney, a small set-
 tlement to the northwest of Santiago and
 on the right of our line.

Colonel Wagner, who took his men two
 miles beyond Sevilla, there found extreme
 outposts of the Cubans on the bank of Seco
 river. He then learned that the main body
 of the Spanish army is within the lines
 only one mile outside of Santiago.

General Shafter's next order will be
 to attack the enemy's trenches. These are
 in regular trench form. The brush had
 been cleared for a distance of one thousand
 yards from the lines which consist of a
 series of small forts connected by deep
 trenches and barbed wire.

Officers from Admiral Sampson's
 dynamite cruiser Vesuvius continue to
 hurl shells at Santiago, but the Spaniards
 are devoting themselves assiduously to re-
 pair work, and the Soapa battery on the
 western side of the harbor seems to be as
 strong as ever.

Edward Marshall, the newspaper corre-
 spondent who pluckily detailed the story
 of the fight at Siboney while suffering from
 two bullet wounds, is rallying somewhat.
 He stood an operation well, and now has
 a slight chance of recovery.

With full military honors Sergeant Ham-
 iltion Fish, Jr., and his fallen companions,
 were buried in the beautiful glade from
 which the Rough Riders drove the Spanish
 on Friday. Colonel Roosevelt, after care-
 fully investigating the matter, emphatic-
 ally denied a report that forty Americans
 were killed in Friday's fighting. He placed
 the number of our dead at sixteen, of whom
 eight were Rough Riders. Lieutenant
 Colonel Roosevelt, who led the way and
 seemed like a lion in action, is most en-
 thusiastic in his praises of his men's dash-
 ing courage.

the District of Columbia, four from Mary-
 land, two from Mississippi, one from Ala-
 bama and two from West Virginia. The
 subaltern officers are to be selected by the
 captains and the field staff and captains are
 under the rules of the war department.

**ROYAL
 BAKING
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The Royal is the highest grade baking powder
 known. Actual tests show it goes con-
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 We have just unloaded a
 carload of

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 Kansas
 Eggs**
 which we can offer
 to the trade at very
 low prices.

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 our wagons and wagon-
 ers with good, safe horses
 and drivers from

Houston Transfer Line.

WEATHER INFORMATION.
 Last Night's Readings.
 of low pressure continues over
 Texas, with the lowest baromet-
 er 29.80

of high pressure overlies the South
 and East Gulf States, with the high-
 est baromet-er 30.12 inches—at Jacksonville.
 weather is clear over the Eastern Rocky
 slope and Missouri valley and partly
 cloudy elsewhere. Light showers
 are general through the districts re-
 gion.

Probabilities.
 Houston, June 27.—Eastern Texas—Fair;
 showers in eastern portions; warmer in
 western; southerly winds.

—Partly cloudy; south winds.

—Partly cloudy; south winds.

—Partly cloudy; south winds.

—Partly cloudy; south winds.

Cotton Region Bulletin.
 Summary for the twenty-four hours end-
 ing at 8 p. m., 75th meridian time:

Temp.	Max.	Min.	Rain- fall.
80	90	74	.04
81	91	75	.01
82	92	76	.00
83	93	77	.00
84	94	78	.00
85	95	79	.00
86	96	80	.00
87	97	81	.00
88	98	82	.00
89	99	83	.00
90	100	84	.00
91	101	85	.00
92	102	86	.00
93	103	87	.00
94	104	88	.00
95	105	89	.00
96	106	90	.00
97	107	91	.00
98	108	92	.00
99	109	93	.00
100	110	94	.00

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 Nashville, Tenn., and Return..... \$19.40
 Tickets on sale July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Washington, D. C., and Return..... \$38.30
 Tickets on sale July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

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 Tickets on sale July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Tickets on sale July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

The Cool Northern Route. The L. & N. "Fast Mail" Train
 gives the quickest and best service.

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