The San Juan Islander.

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DOINGS OF THE WEEK

What Has Happened in the Civilized World.

GIVEN IN THE PRESS DISPATCHES

A Complete Review of the News of the Past Seven Days in This and All Foreign Lands.

Colonel John Hay, ambassador to England, has been offered and accepted the office of secretary of state.

Augustin's departure from Manila is said to have been due to his having been superseded by general Jaudemes as military governor.

Scores of dead bodies are still in the wrecks of the Spanish warships at Santiago. The Almirante Oquendo has broken in two and cannot possibly be saved.

The American bark C. C. Funk, Captain Nisson, bound from Tacoma for Melbourne, was wrecked off Flanders island, Tasmania, with the loss of 11 lives, including those of the captain, his wife and two children.

An order has been issued mustering out of service about 50,000 of the volunteer army force. The troops to be mustered out will include all the volunteer cavalry and volunteer artillery in the United States at the present time, and a large number of infantry regiments.

Uncle Sam has no intention of reducing his navy to a peace footing. The hired ships are to go, but those owned by the government, to the number of at least 100, will be retained in the service at least temporarily. The revenue cutters will be turned back to the treasury department.

At San Francisco, P. J. Corbett, father of James J. Corbett, the pugilist, shot and killed his wife and then turned the weapon upon himself with fatal effect. It is believed the murderer was demented. He has been in extremely poor health for some time. Death was instantaneous in both cases.

Captain John W. Phillip will be detached from the command of the battleship Texas and Captain Charles D. Sigsbee will succeed him in command. Captain Phillip's detachment is due to the fact that he will reach the flag rank, the grade of commodore, upon the retirement of Admiral Sicard on September 3.

The president has appointed two commissions to adjust the evacuation of Cuba and Porto Rico. They are made up as follows: For Cuba—Major-General James F. Wade, Rear-Admiral W. T. Sampson, Major-General Matthew C. Butler. For Porto Rico—Major-General John R. Brooke, Rear-Admiral Winfield Scott Schley, Brigadier-General William W. Gordon.

The fall of Manila has been confirmed by Admiral Dewey, who says in his report that the Philippines capital surrendered Sturday evening to the American forces. Seven thousand Spanish prisoners were taken. The capitulation was preceded by a combined land and sea attack upon the city. No American warships were damaged. Merritt's losses are about eight killed and 50 wounded. Manila is being held by virtue of the military occupation, and not by virtue of the protocol.

General Miles' troops will remain in Porto Rico until peace negotiations are concluded.

Miss Percy Wing, of Washougal, Wash., was drowned Monday in the surf at Clatsop beach.

Monday was the hottest day known in London in years. Up to 2 o'clock the prostrations numbered 150.

A new line of steamers to Honolulu from Seattle has been instituted. The first will start for the islands on the 25 inst.

During a terrific thunder storm, lightning struck Camp Hobson, Ga. Seven soldiers are in the hospital seriously hurt. The same company was in a wreck a week ago at Fort McPherson.

A tornado Sunday night struck near Canby, Minn., killed seven people, destroyed many buildings, and did great damage to crops. The entire family of Jos. Hutchinson, including his wife and four children, were killed. The storm was not wide in extent, but very violent. Seven people are missing, and some of them are supposed to be killed.

The coal Miner's lockout at Pana, Ill., reached a climax Monday. Several hundred union men congregated near the mine in an endeavor to induce the nonunionists not to go to work. Two non union men, rode upon horseback and emptied their revolvers into the crowd,. Three union men were seiously wounded. Further trouble may ensue.

A carload of lemons and other fruit obtained by the efforts of the Red Cross Society was on Monday forwarded from San Francisco to the sick soldiers of General Shafter's army. It is consigned to Colonel J. Morris Brown, U. S. A., Staten island military hospital. Besides lemons the car contains grape fruit, oranges and other fruits. The car is elaborately decorated with bunting and bears several patriotic placards.

Minor News Items.

Bismarck's personal estate, it is said, amounted to about $3,000,000.

The Pennsylvania alien tax law has been declared unconstitutional and void.

Twenty school yards in Boston were opened as play grounds for children during the summer months.

Cecil Rhodes is trying to get back at the polls in the South African republic the power he lost by the Jameson raid.

LATER NEWS.

Captain Clark, of the battle-ship Oregon, is seriously ill, and cannot at present be removed from the auxiliary cruiser St. Paul.

The president has directed that the Twenty-third Kansas regiment, colored, be dispatched to Santiago, to form an army of occupaiton in Cuba.

Congressman James G. Maguire has been nominated for governor by the Democrats of California. The fusion plan carried almost unanimously.

Frank Gelding, an expert miner and mineralogist, of Benton, Wis., committed suicide by blowing himself to atoms with dynamite in a powder-house.

Gen. Merritt has prepared a proclamation to the Phlippine natives which provides a scheme of government for Manila and surrounding territory and other islands placed in our possession.

Governor-General Blanco's orders to his generals decree that property in Cuba must be fully protected. The authorities at the various towns are instructed to co-operate with the American military leaders for this purpose, and to prevent pillaging by insurgents.

A site has been chosen at the Presidio reservation, San Frncisco, for the Red Cross convalescent hospital, which will soon be erected. H. O. Low, Chinese consul, has forwarded to the San Francisco Red Cross Society $50, contributed by the Chinese cigar-makers' union.

The government intends to take vigorous measures to preserve peace and keep order at Santiago and the territory under United States control. The emphatic order issued to Lawton a few days ago will be followed by orders sending enough disciplined troops to enable him to carry out the instructions of the secretary.

A naval programme for presentaion to congress involving the immediate construction of 15 warships, has been adopted by the naval boards of experts, to which the subject has been referred by Secretary Long. It provides for three battle-ships, three first, three second-class and six protected cruisers, each to be the finest and most formidable of its class.

A Ponce special says: Reports are coming in from all directions of outrages committed within the Spanish lines. Doubtless many of these are exaggerated, but rumors of a massacre at Ciales are confirmed. Some of the natives took refuge in the belfry of a cathedral and fired on the Spanish troops, but they were overpowered and macheted to the number of 80.

The names of the men killed and wounded in the battle before Manila are John Dunsmore, First California; Edward O'Neil, First California; Augustus Thote, Twenty-third regulars; Clements Bauer, Twenty-third regulars; Archie Patterson, Thirteenth Minnesota; William Lewis, Nebraska regiment; Robert McCann, Fourteenth regulars; Samuel Howell, Fourteenth regulars.

It has been decided to conduct the final peace negotiations in Paris.

The Democrats of California met in state convention at Sacramento Wednesday. Governor Budd presided.

The London Times declares the carrying of Augustin to Hong Kong on a German cruiser an irregular act, and nearly a breach of neutrality.

Mrs. Olga Johnson has returned to civilization with $9,300 in Klondike gold. She is the only successful woman miner from the frozen north, so far as known.

The Madrid government has decided to reject the resignations of the governor-general of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. The cortes will reassemble September 15.

The Dominion customs department at Ottawa reports that a quarter of a million dollars was collected in duties during the fiscal year just closed upon miners' outfits at the boundary line on the White and Chilkoot passes, leading into the Yukon territory. The collections were chiefly made from Americans.

It is rumored in Hong Kong that the United States troops at Manila have had trouble with the rebel forces. According to one account, the insurgents, upon whom various restrictions had been placed by Merritt, mutinied at not being permitted to have any share in the surrender of the city. It is reported that they attacked the Americans in the trenches.

The apathy of the Sapnish people is condemned by the conservatives, who are enraged at Spain's placid acceptance of her defeat. A stirring appeal has been circulated by El Tiempo, warning the people that unless they rouse themselves Spain as a nation is doomed to complete extinction. Silvela, the conservative leader, is believed to be the author of the article.

A Ponce dispatch says the Porto Ricans are delighted at the change of government. The march of the American troops through the island was a triumphal tour, and they were accorded a hearty wlecome. Women bombarded the soldiers with flowers, men cheered them and alcaldes of the towns turned out to greet them. The populace evidently does not desire the indepndence of the island.

By the bursting of a waterspout at Madlana, Spain, 40 persons were drowned.

The tug Nimrod went down in a gale off Cape St. Blas and 12 of her crew were drowned.

The emperor of China has to fast 64 days in each year for the sake of religion.

Fire entirely wiped out the town of Center Ridge, Ark., with a population of 500.

AMERICAN LOSSES

Only Six Killed at the Bombardment of Manila.

THIRTY-NINE WERE WOUNDED

Spanish Soldiers Guarding the Gates Against the Insurgents—California Troops Went Through the Fight With Band Playing National Airs.

London, Aug. 19.—The Manila correspondent of the Times, telegraphing August 14, says:

"The insurgents made a vigorous but unsuccessful effort to break the Spanish line at San Paloc last night. The curious situation remains unchanged. Although the Spanish army has surrendered and is laying down its arms, it still continues to hold the gates of the citadel and other remote positions against the insurgents. The latter have been informed that they will not be permitted to enter the town under any circumstances.

"The latest reports show that six Americans were killed, and 39 wounded. The Astor battery, under Captain March, did excellent service on the right of the line yesterday, shelling the blockhouse with its Hotchkiss mountain guns, and all charging the position with revolvers. It lost three men killed."

Inspired by the Music of the Band.

London, Aug. 19.—The Manila correspondent of the Times telegraphs under date of August 13:

"The capture of the town today was not without melodramatic events. Nor has it been a well-kept secret that the captain-general personally suggested the manner in which American troops should advance to prevent loss of life on both sides. At first it was not intended to attack the trenches, but quietly to advance after the bombardment had ceased. At the last moment, however, the programme was changed and orders were issued for the land battery to open fire simultaneously with the fleet, and for an advance to be made as soon as it was considered practicable to assault the Spanish trenches.

"The reason for this change of plan is not yet apparent, but considerable loss of life resulted. General Anderson placed his division according to directions from General Merritt. There were eight battalions of the First brigade under General McArthur in the fighting line on the right, with three battalions in reserve, while seven battalions of the Second brigade, under General Greene, were in the trenches across the road from the seashore, three others forming a reserve.

"The troops left the camp at 6:30 in a heavy thunder storm. They carried 300 rounds of ammunition per man and two days' cooked rations. Shortly after 8:45 the fleet got away with flags mastheaded. At 9 o'clock the Olympia led the way, attended by the Raleigh and the Petrel, while the Callao, under Lieutenant Tappan, and the launch Barcolo crept close in shore in the heavy breakers.

"Perfect quiet prevailed in the lines on both sides as the great ships cleared for action and silently advanced sometimes hidden by rain squalls. The Monterey, with the Baltimore, Charleston and Boston, formed the reserve.

"At 9:35 a sudden cloud of smoke, green and white, against the stormy sky, completely hid the Olympia, a shell flew screaming across two miles of turbulent water and burst near the Spanish fort at Malate, San Antonia de Abad. Then the Petrel and Raleigh, and the active little Callao opened a rapid fire directed towards the shore and of the entrenchments. In the heavy rain it was difficult to judge the range, and the shots at first fell short, but the fire soon became accurate and shells rendered the forts untenable, while the four guns of the Utah battery made excellent practice of the earthworks and swamp to the east of the fort. The Spanish replied feebly with a few shells.

"Less than half an hour after the bombardment began, General Greene decided that it was possible to advance, although the signals to cease firing were disregarded by the fleet, being probably invisible on account of the rain. Thereupon, six companies of the Colorado regiment leaped over their breastworks, dashed into the swamp and began volley firing from the partial shelter of the low hedges within 300 yards of the Spanish lines. A few moments later the remaining six companies moved along the seashore, somewhat covered by a sand ridge formed by an inlet under the outer works of the fort, and at 11 o'clock occupied this formidable stronghold without loss. McCoy hauled down the Spanish flag and raised the Stars and Stripes, amid wild cheers along the line.

"Meanwhile, the fleet, observing the movement of the troops along the beach, withheld its fire. The bombardment had lasted exactly an hour and a half. An hour later, General Greene and his staff proceeded along the beach, still under a hot infantry fire from the right, where the Eighteenth regulars and the Third regular artillery were engaging the enemy, and directed the movement for an advance into Malate. The vicinity of the forts was uncomfortable on account of a number of sharpshooters in the buildings on both sides, 200 yards distant. The forward movement was, therefore, hastened, and in a few minutes the outskirts of the suburbs were well occupied and the sharpshooters were driven away.

"As the Californians, under Colonel Smith, came up the beach, their band played the national air, accompanied by the whistlings of Mauser bullets, and, during the sharpshooting, continued to encourage the men with inspiring music. Each regiment carried its colors into action. There was considerable street fighting in the suburbs of Malate and Ermita, but the battalion of Californians pushed into the Luneta, a popular promenade, within 200 yards of the moat of the citadel. Then the white flag was hoisted, at the southwest corner of the walled town. General Greene with a few members of his staff galloped along the Luneta under a sharp scattering fire from the houses near the beach, and parleying with an officer, who directed him along to the gate, further east.

"At this moment, the Spanish forces, retreating from Santa Ana, came into view, fully 2,000 strong, followed by insurgents, who had eluded General McArthur's troops, and now opened fire for a brief period. The situation was awkward, if not critical, both sides being slightly suspicious of treachery. The Spanish troops lining the citadel ramparts, observing the insurgents' action, opened fire on the Californians, killing one and wounding three. The confusion, however, soon ceased by the advance of the retreating Spanish to the esplanade, when General Greene ordered them to enter the citadel. Soon a long letter was brought from the captain-general, requesting the commander of the troops to meet him for consultation. General Greene immediately entered with Adjutant-General Bates.

"Meanwhile, according to arrangements, the moment the white flag was shown, General Merritt, who occupied the steamer Zafiro, as temporary headquarters, sent General Whittier, with Flag Lieutenant Brumby, ashore to meet the captain-general and discuss a plan of capitulation.

"General Whittier found the officers much startled by the news that the attack was vigorously continuing along the whole line, the American troops even threatening the citadel. All available Spanish troops were immediately massed in the vicinity of the palace, awaiting the succession of events, concerning which a certain degree of anxiety was evident. General Merritt entered with his staff at 3 o'clock. The situation then was better understood and a conference with General Jaudenes was held. The terms agreed on may be outlined as follows:

"An agreement for the capitulation of the Philippines.

"A provision for disarming the men who remain organized, under the command of their officers, no parole being exacted.

"Necessary supplies to be furnished from the captured treasury funds, any possible deficiency being made good by the Americans.

"The safety of life and property of the Spanish soldiers and citizens to be guaranteed as far as possible.

"The question of transporting the troops to Spain to be referred to the decision of the Washington government, and that of returning their arms to the soldiers to be left to the discretion of General Merritt.

"Perfect order prevails tonight on both sides of the Pasig, the civil guard remaining armed and on duty, co-operating with the American sentries to preserve quiet. About 2,000 soldiers laid down their arms tonight in the palace vestibule. The stories of starvation in the town are exaggerated. The Spanish troops appear to be in excellent condition, and there are only 176 sick. Great credit must be given to General Merritt for his plan of attack, which was successfully carried out in every detail under unusually complicated conditions."

The Mustering Out.

Washington, Aug. 19.—At midnight the president announced his determination to muster out of the service 75,000 to 100,000 volunteers. Those to be discharged include three branches of the service, infantry, artillery and cavalry. The question of the mustering out of volunteers has been under consideration for some days. From a prominent official of the administration, it is understood to be the desire to obtain the wishes of the volunteer troops themselves as to remaining in the service.

Train Plunged Through Trestle.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 19.—News was received here today of an accident on the Union Colliery railway line, resulting in the death of at least six persons. The wires to Union City are down, and full details have not been received. As far as can be learned, the regular work train, with a passenger coach attached, plunged through the trestle which spans the Trenth river, about midway between Union wharf and Union City. It was about 125 feet high and 500 feet long.

A Fatal Train Wreck.

St. Louis, Aug. 19.—A Post-Dispatch special from Fort Worth says: In a freight-train wreck on the Texas & Pacific railroad, near this city, this morning, two tramps were killed, three seriously injured, and the engineer fatally and the fireman badly hurt. No names are given.

Plague Again in Bombay.

Bombay, Aug. 19.—The bubonic plague is again epidemic. There were 103 deaths officially reported last week.

Body Found in a Reservoir.

Salt Lake, Utah, Aug. 19.—A special to the Tribune from Lander, Wyo., says a message has been brought in from the Arapahoe agency saying that a body has been found floating in the reservoir, east of the agency. The body is supposed to be that of W. P. Noble, of Salt Lake, who left here for Casper last Tuesday in company with R. N. Harvey, a traveling man from St. Paul. Nothing has been heard from them since they left.

MUSTERING OUT

The Volunteers Will Soon Be Marching Home.

A HUNDRED THOUSAND MEN

To Be Retired Within the Next Thirty Days—Philippine Soldiers May Return—Their Places Will Be Taken by the Regulars.

Washington, Aug. 18.—The mustering out of the volunteers of the army practically began at the war department today and will be continued until the army has been placed on a basis consistent with our present relations to the nations of the earth. Orders were prepared today for the mustering out of about 35000 volunters including 25 regiments of infantry and about eight troops of cavalry and five or six batteries of artillery. The details of the order bearing on this subject have not yet been fully perfected and the officials confine themselves to general statements in regard thereto.

It was admitted that the First regiment of Vermont volunteers attached to the Third army corps encamped at Chickamagua, Ga., has been ordered to proceed to Fort Ethan Allen, Vt. That post is the nearest one to the homes of the members of the regiment, and was selected with a view to their mustering out soon after they arrive there. Adjutant-General Corbin said that a similar course would be followed in the case of the other volunteer regiments selected for mustering out. They would, he said, be ordered to their state capitals as soon as it could be done without danger to the interests of the government, and mustered out of the military service as rapidly as possible. In response to a direct inquiry on the subject, General Corbin said this course will be followed with the First regiment, District of Columbia volunteer infantry, which is now about to embark at Santiago for Montauk Point.

Unless there is a decided change in the present plans of the war department, about 100,000 volunteers will be mustered out within the next 30 days.

Formal announcement of the purposes of the department is being deferred, pending the receipt of certain desired information from Major-General Merritt, commanding the military forces in the Philippines. There is a large number of volunteers in the Philippines, and it is possible that it may be deemed advisable to bring them home, and, if necessary, to replace them with regulars. The proposed reduction of the army to the extent of 100,000 men will leave a military force of about 116,000 men, regulars and volunteers, available for all military purposes. It is believed to be the purpose of the administration to maintain an army of 100,000 until all the pending complications with Spain are finally disposed of.

Oregon Battery Included.

Washington, Aug. 18.—The details of the order mustering out troops cannot be obtained, but it is understood that the Oregon battery is included. It is not believed that the Washington regiment is included. In case Merritt should ask for more troops, it is possible no Pacific coast troops will be included in the order.

Cuban Thief Shot.

Santiago, Aug. 18.—This morning a Cuban was shot by a sentry, who caught him stealing commissary stores at the dock. Yesterday it was discovered enough goods had been stolen to make three carloads, which had been taken out surreptitiously to the Cubans in the field. The man under suspicion returned to the wharf last night, evidently with the intention of continuing his thefts, but he was warned off. Early this morning he was again found there. When the sentry challenged him he ran, refusing to obey the order to halt. As he was likely to escape, the sentry fired and killed him.

The occurrence is regretted by General Wood and the American officers generally, but it probably will have a salutary effect, as raids on the commissary and the medical and Red Cross stores have been altogether too frequent to be tolerated any longer.

Spanish Brutality.

Ponce, Porto Rico, Aug. 18.—White flags flutter at the Spanish and American outposts, and all is quiet. The first report of outrages by the Spaniards within their lines were brought to the headquarters of General Wilson today by a priest, who headed a deputation from Ciales, 20 miles northwest of Utuado. The inhabitants of the place raised an American flag after the Spanish troops had left. The troops returned, tore down the flag and machseted 90 of the inhabitants. This occurred on Saturday. The priest appealed to the Americans for protection, but the latter are powerless to interfer under the present circumstances, even though a reign of terror be inaugurated.

Tragedy at Camp Barrett.

Oakland, Cal., Aug. 18.—Privates James M. Meadoers and Jonas Ury, of company C, Eighth California volunteers, today engaged in a fight at Camp Barrett, which culminated in a tragedy. Ury lies at the verge of death in the Red Cross hospital, with his throat slashed from ear to ear. The affair was the result of a long standing feud, which developed over a monetary matter. Meadoers on two previous occasions had tried to stab his victim.

CUBAN STOCKS BOOMING.

Peace Negotiations Had an Electrical Effect on the Market.

Havana, Aug. 18.—The reports put in circulation some days since with respect to the progress of the peace negotiations between Spain and the United States have had the effect of stimulating orders sent from Europe and other countries by cable to buy Cuban public stock. So far back as August 10, the rise in all securities of this class began, and silver rose from 40 per cent discount to 22 per cent discount, while railway stocks rose from 25 to 30 points in some instances, although the rumors that the peace articles had already been signed were believed by many to be tricks of speculators to manipulate the stock market. When the facts were known, the rise was maintained.

The news that Blanco had dispatches from M. Cambon, the French ambassador at Washington, definitely declaring that the peace preliminaries were settled and signed, spread with lightning rapidity through the city, and there was general relief at the prospect of a treaty of peace that would put an end to the spilling of blood, and the long era of desolation and ruin from which the island had suffered, as there is scarcely a Cuban or Spanish family which has not felt the terrible depression of the war. There has also been a complete paralysis of business for nearly four months.

Despite the rumors of the signing of the protocol were confirmed news came almost simultaneously that an American boat flying a flag of truce carried an officer from the American warships off Manzanillo with a formal demand for the surrender of the town on the same terms as at the capitulation of Santiago de Cuba. On the demand being refused a bombardment was begun at 3 o'clock in the afternoon by three warships which resulted in the destruction of 65 houses and the wounding of 15 Spaniards, one seriously.

This intelligence for the time seemed to discredit peace rumors which had caused the rise in the public stock and there was a slight reaction.

An additional cause of depression was a statement made on Saturday afternoon by General Blanco presiding at a council extraordinary of all the members of the colonial government. The captain-general declared that the exact conditions entered into between Spain and the United States could not be learned until official news was received from Madrid. But it was doubtful if the agreement reached observed all the conditions stipulated on the part of Spain.

General Blanco also announced that orders had been given by the United States government to its military and naval forces for an immediate suspension of hostilities. In view of these announcements, the colonial council adopted important resolutions which thus far have been kept secret.

CREMATING THE DEAD.

Terrible Scenes in the Vicinity of the Spanish Camp at Santiago.

Santiago de Cuba Aug. 18.—The Eighth Illinois arrived this afternoon and will garrison and police the city.

The bodies of the dead Spanish are to be cremated. Over 700 have been burned so far. This afternoon 70 were to be burned. Over two rails a dozen bodies are stretched and across them another dozen and about 30 corpses are stacked in an immense funeral pile 10 feet high. The pile is then saturated with kerosene and the torch applied. A fall of rain put out the fire causing the bodies to be only half burned. Around the pile lay 22 coffins containing corpses in a state of decomposition.

Several naked bodies were strewn on the ground in a condition of putrefaction. Altogether about 70 unburied and unconsumed bodies were there. The stench was terrible. This happened at a cemetery within the city limits. The authorities and the cemetery officials say it is impossible to get men to work at the cremation. Wages of a dollar a day prove no inducement to the natives to work at this gruesome toil.

The unconsumed bodies will be left on the earth until tomorrow when fine weather may help the work of cremation. These 70 corpses represent two days' dead from the Spanish camp. The danger to the population from the stench, the presence of the buzzards vultures and flies in incalculable.

In the Detention Camp.

New York Aug. 18.—Ten of the rough riders commanded by Roosevelt and Wheeler who were landed at Montauk Point yesterday from the transport Miami are in the detention camp where they will be kept for at least three days. Nearly all are dysentery cases, a few in a critical condition. In the yellow fever hospitals are three suspects from the St. Louis.

Gold Still Shrinking.

Philadelphia, Aug. 18.—Within the past few days gold bars valued at nearly $80,000 have been received at the United States mint in this city from the government assay officer at Seattle. The gold is light in color and came entirely from the Klondike. It was stated at the mint that about $1,800,000 in gold bars will come here from Seattle within the next few days.

Murder and Suicide.

Rockford, Ill., Aug. 18.—George Ennet, son of a prominent contractor, this afternoon shot and instantly killed his sister Anna, aged 35, and then blew off his own head with a shotgun. He is thought to have been temporarily insane.

Copenhagen, Aug. 18.—The expedition to explore the east coast of Greenland under Lieutenant Amdrup sailed this morning on board the steamer Godthaab.

A PARTING SHOT

The Havana Batteries Opened Fire on the Fleet.

SAN FRANCISCO WAS STRUCK

Large Hole Torn in the Cruiser's Stern—No One Aboard Ship Was Hurt—American Vessels Steamed Out of Range as Rapidly as Possible.

Key West, Fla., Aug. 16.—The flagship San Francisco, the monitor Miantonomoh, and the auxiliary yacht Silvia, were fired upon by the Havana batteries shortly before 5 o'clock yesterday morning. One 10 and two 12-inch shells struck the San Francisco's stern as she turned to get away out of range, and tore a hole about a foot in diameter, completely wrecking Commodore Howell's quarters and smashing his bookcases into fragments. No one was injured, and, being under orders not to attack the batteries, the ships departed as fast as their engines would carry them.

The flagship and the Silvia lay parallel to each other, not more than a mile from Morro castle, and separated from each other by three-eighths of a mile. The Miantonomoh lay about three-quarters of a mile to the rear of the others. All were within range of the Spanish batteries, and the temptation was too strong for the Spanish to resist.

The first glimmer of dawn was breaking through the eastern skies when, without an instant's warning, the lookout on the flagship saw a jet of smoke puff from one of Morro's big guns. Almost before he could pull himself together sufficiently to make a report of the incident, 10 and 12-inch shells were screaming all around. The Spaniards had the range, and apparently were grimly in earnest in their last efforts to wreck injury on their too mighty enemy. Shells fell between the San Francisco and the Silvia. Some fell short, a few went over them. The flagship signalled the Silvia to get out of range without delay, and both ships swung around and made for the sea.

It was then that the shell struck the San Francisco's stern. Commodore Howell was on deck with Captain Leary when the shell struck. With the utmost speed the fleet moved out about three miles. Here the men on the flagship patched up the ragged hole in the vessel's stern. All the shells fired at the vessel fell around the ships. One of the Silvia's men stood calmly on the deck of the yacht, watch in hand, and counted them.

Morro castle fired several of the missiles, but how many is not known. The others came from two sand batteries near Morro. The firing lasted 20 minutes.

The one-sided engagement had scarcely ended when the men of the Silvia were treated to another surprise. The little yacht gunboat is manned by the New York naval militia. Her crew had barely recovered from the excitement when the flagship called the vessel over, and Captain Bellers was given a packet of private documents, which he was ordered to take into Havana under a flag of truce. The white flag was hoisted over the Silvia, and she started towards the guns which had just given her such noisy greeting. As the Silvia approached to within a mile of Morro, the character of the flag floating from her foremast was discerned and the castle signalled:

"What is your purpose?"

To this the Silvia answered: "We have papers to deliver."

Morro did not resume the conversation and for some little time the gunboat rocked on the waters almost under the still-smoking cannon of the enemy. Presently, however, a Spanish gunboat drew out of the harbor and came close to the Silvia. It was the Martin y Pinzon, and carried a much stronger battery than the American ship. The customary formal salutations were exchanged, and Lieutenant William G. Ford, the executive officer of the Silvia, boarded the Pinzon and delivered the documents.

The ceremony occupied no more time than the physical act involved. The American officer returned to his ship, and the vessels went on their respective ways.

Ran Into a Washout.

Chicago, Aug. 16.—Battery A, Colorado light artillery, passed through Chicago today on the way to Fort Hancock, N. Y. The troops arrived over the Santa Fe road just too late to make connection with an eastbound train. They were delayed by an accident. A washout occurred near Nemo, Ill., and to the speed of the train the men owe their lives. As the last tourist car passed over a small cowpit, the roadbed collapsed and the car plunged from the rails. Every man on the train was awakened, but before it came to a stop, a guard rail caught the rear truck of the sleeper and threw it on the track.

Collided With a Yacht.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 16.—The sloop yacht Leona, with 17 men aboard, while anchored outside of Boston light, was run into by a barge in tow of the tug Honeybrook and five men were swept from the deck by the heavy tow line. Two of the number, C. W. Sellman and A. Nordell, were drowned; another, A. Casperson, was killed by being jammed between the tow line and the deck, while the two others, Peter Nelson and J. Harkinson, although sustaining injuries, were rescued.