SPAIN'S FIGHTING MEN.

Types of the Soldiers Our Army of Invasion is Encountering.

NOMINALLY the army of Spain is divided into these classes: A permanent army of 9315 officers and 70,829 men, an active reserve of 184,972 men, and a second or sedentary reserve, which on January 1, 1898, was estimated at 1,083,595 men.

All Spaniards between the ages of nineteen and forty-five are numbered in the second reserve, and are liable to be called upon for active service at any time they may be needed. All of them are supposed to have served at least three years in the first, or active reserve, which corresponds to our militia. Every boy, upon attaining the age of nineteen, must enter either the permanent army or the first reserve, and serve three years. About 100,000 come within the provisions of that law annually, so that there is a constant change from the permanent army to the first reserve. Then, after six years, when the citizen has reached the age of twenty-five, he goes into the second reserve, and is subject to military duty only in time of war and after conscription. It may be said, therefore, that 250,000 men are constantly under arms in Spain and its colonies. The first reserves are used for coast guards, customs inspectors, and for police duty in the rural districts, and are likely to be detailed for

SPANISH OUTPOST IN CUBA.

service in the guarda civil, which corresponds to our city police and the gendarmes in France.

Voluntary service is accepted at eighteen years of age, but the pay is so small, only twenty cents a day, that very few Spaniards ever think of enlisting until they are compelled to do so. By the payment of $300 any person may purchase exemption from military duty.

The 210,000 soldiers who have been sent to Cuba during the last three years have been drawn mostly from the first reserve, although the permanent army has furnished the larger part of the skilled artillerists who have been handling the big guns upon the fortifications.

While it is impossible to get accurate statistics, the military journals at Madrid have published statements showing that ten Generals, 615 field and staff officers, 6222 regimental officers, and 180,435 soldiers have been sent to Cuba up to November 1, 1897. Since then reinforcements have been received twice, 12,000 at one time and 10,000 at another.

Up to March 1, 1898, 1 General, 7 field officers, 53 regimental officers and 1314 men had been killed in battle during the present insurrection, which began in April, 1895, and 1 General, 6 field officers, 55 regimental officers and 704 men have died of wounds received in battle, making casualties 2 Generals, 13 field officers, 108 regimental officers, and 2018 men.

Upward of 40,000 men had returned to Spain. The same statistics showed that 318 officers and 13,390 men have died of yellow fever and 127 officers and 4065 men of other diseases, making the total mortality on the Spanish side during the insurrection 56,638 officers and men.

On March 1, 1898, there were supposed to be 96,287 Spanish soldiers under arms, with 52,000 volunteers, which are the militia of Cuba, or a total of 148,000. Of these, when the last official reports were made, 28,000 were in the hospitals, leaving an effective fighting force on paper of 120,000 men.

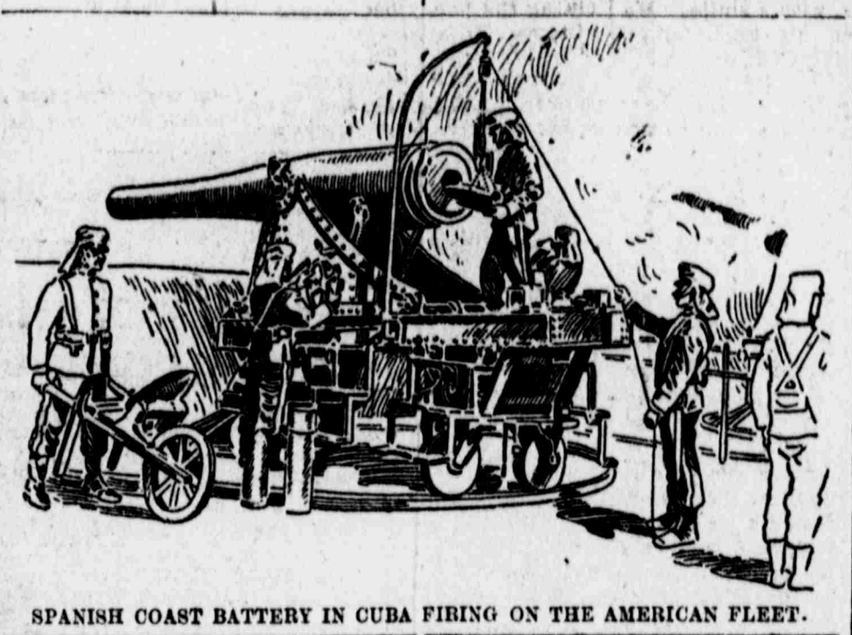
These statistics are made up from the official reports sent to the War Department in Madrid and published by the recognized organs of the Minister of War, which correspond to the Army and Navy Journal and the Army and Navy Register of the United States, and are accepted by General Miles and Secretary Alger as official.

The Spanish reports, however, are not to be relied upon. Their army is largely mythical. Nobody knows how many poor fellows have died in the field resisting insurgents, and the ravages of disease are still more difficult to ascertain; first, because Spanish statistics in all branches of the Government are notoriously incomplete and inaccurate; and, second, because it is for the pecuniary interest of the officers to conceal the mortality of their men. There is no regular pay department. The soldiers receive their miserable stipend of three or four silver dollars a month from their regimental officers. The colonel of the regiment sends in a requisition at the beginning of every month for compensation for so many men, and he makes the pay roll as long as possible. When the money comes he divides it among the captains of companies, and the captains divide it among the men. It is one of the easiest and most popular methods of robbing the Government for the officers to double the number of men on duty and divide the money that is forwarded for their pay. It is a favorite saying in Cuba that when an officer makes a report of a battle he represents that most of his troops have been shot while gallantly charging the enemy, but they all come alive again before he makes up his pay roll. It is well known that since the blockade began General Blanco has impressed in the army every able-bodied citizen within reach of his conscript office, and the insurgent sympathizers have enlisted in great numbers with the expectation of being able to serve their cause more effectively inside than outside of the trenches. This class of people, however, are not to be depended upon by either side.

SKETCHES OF SPANISH SOLDIER LIFE IN CUBA.

The abundance of the physical resources of Spain and the soldierlike qualities of the men, even when they have received brief military training, have been a surprise to many.

Pre-eminent are the Albarderos, who take their name from the halberd, a picturesque old weapon they carry, no longer of any fighting (offensive or defensive) value, but used as an arm of ceremony, composed largely of the aristocracy and including picked men from the whole army. This force is organized in two companies, with a total of forty officers and 250 men, as the personal guard of the King and for interior service in the palace. A Colonel is appointed as Captain, a Lieutenant-Colonel as First Lieutenant, and so the grades continue, a First Lieutenant serving as "caporal." All officers of the Spanish army are eligible for the Albardero Corps, one-half of the vacancies being filled by candidates selected for their special qualifications and the remainder by promotion on seniority within the corps. The men (privates) must be sergeants of good character and the best qualifications. In other words, it is a battalion without a private soldier in the ranks.



SPANISH COAST BATTERY IN CUBA FIRING ON THE AMERICAN FLEET.

The group of hussars at Madrid is a representative body. The Spanish cavalry includes two hussar regiments, designated as the Princesa and the Pavia, which are regarded by their officers as the most distinguished of the mounted regiments. The cavalry officers enter through the college at Valladolid by competition, and after a course of three years are appointed to their regiments as Second Lieutenants.

THE TROCHA.

The artillery of the Spanish army, like that of the English royal artillery, includes the horse, field, mountain and garrison branches, and the gun factories and other establishments are in relation with it. It has charge of stores of guns, arms, ammunition and "material," and is provided with field ranges, gunnery schools, a scientific and practical museum and other necessary adjuncts. The actual formation of the artillery is thirteen regiments of the field branch, each of four six-gun batteries, a regiment of horse artillery and three belonging to the mountain branch, all these having the same number of batteries and guns as the field artillery. There are additionally ten battalions of garrison gunners and four companies of artificers. At the present time the Spanish army has guns of two kinds—the Krupp and the placencia, of bronze or steel, with 3.5 inch and 3.1 inch caliber.

The officers of the force enter through the college at Segovia, the admission being by competitive examination between civilian candidates and young officers from other corps. The studies cover a period of six years, and promotion is always by seniority, but on reaching the fourth year of their educational course these artillery cadets become second lieutenants and are promoted to the full lieutenancy on appointment to the corps at the close of their scholastic term at Segovia. The arrangements for the training and maintenance of the effective condition of the artillery seem to be excellent. That they know the art of war there is no doubt; that they can practice it successfully is a question for discussion.

The general impression of the men both in the Spanish army and navy is that they have good fighting qualities, though they are not capable of any extended exertion and can never compare favorably with the Anglo-Saxon element. But while the file has always received commendation it is the concensus of unprejudiced opinion that they are "badly officered." Many explanations can be offered, but there is much luxurious ease about the don's life, and even in the army he will not forget the first consideration for his personal benefit even if discipline must suffer. The best soldiers, the flower of the Spanish army, have been sent to the Philippines, those rushed out to Cuba having largely been conscripts and rude youths taken from the farms to shatter their health in the fever laden districts of the "Ever Faithful Isle."

The peasant boys that Spain has driven across the Atlantic Ocean are representatives of her most ignorant class, and their own utter lack of knowledge of hygienic conditions helps the lurking disease to find ready and hapless victims. Some of them naturally become imbued with the military spirit and make passably effective soldiers, but the majority have no liking for their enforced profession of arms, and, controlled by a home-sick feeling, ill clad and half paid, perhaps not for months, they very frequently welcome death as a relief to their desperate environment. The home guard of Havana, called Guarda Civiles, native born and consequently inured to the climate, is the prominent armed force of Cuba. They have been thoroughly drilled, are vicious fighters and thoroughly hated by the insurgents, who recognize them as the dreaded genuine enemies of all liberty-loving progress.

In fact, the loyalty of the Guarda Civiles to the Spanish crown is one of the inexplicable conditions in Cuba. Their own kindred and relatives in many cases are in the ranks of the revolutionary forces, but they seem animated by a ferocity that is as wicked as inexplicable. All the Captains-General have depended upon them principally for support, and the civiles have returned their appreciation of this confidence by their brutalities and demoniac actions whenever an opportunity occurred for massacre and unjustifiable killing.

They are not well "set up," do not present the martial bearing of a British or an American soldier and invite the contempt of the Anglo-Saxon by their lack of many military characteristics. Still, it does not require much strength to pull a trigger, and by practice they may become as good marksmen as any habitant of a more northern latitude.

A MONUMENT FOR LAFAYETTE.

Movement on Foot to Erect a Memorial Over His Grave in Paris.

In a deserted corner of the cemetery of the Convent of Little Picpus, in Paris, lie the remains of the Frenchman who was America's best friend in the time of her sorest need—Lafayette. His grave is decorated only by a plain slab, and seems as deserted as was Victor Hugo's immortal hero, Jean Valjean, when he fled into these grounds with his little Cosette in his arms to escape the persecutions of Inspector Javert.

A movement is now on foot to erect a fitting monument to this brave Frenchman who sacrificed his all for us. It is purposed that it shall be paid for by the school children of the United States, in contributions of small amounts and that it shall be unveiled as the great event of United States day in the Paris Exposition in 1900.

When first built the tomb was two or three feet above the ground; now the foundation stones have crumbled and the top has fallen almost to the earth. Rain and time have dealt cruelly with it.

President McKinley has consented to be the honorary chairman of the commission in charge of the raising of the funds, the construction of the monument and its transportation and erection in Paris, and himself assisted to draw the resolution which has already unanimously passed the Senate of the United States providing for an honorary commission and an acting commission to take charge of the work.

THE GRAVE OF LAFAYETTE IN PARIS.

Portable Towers.

Experiments are being made in the Russian army with tall observation towers, which may be readily unjointed and distributed among the men during a march. In their drills with these, squads of sixty men can erect complete structures in twenty minutes.

Buffalo in the Northwest.

According to the reports of a Canadian traveler who has lived two years in the Far Northwest, there are still in that country, near Peace river, at least four herds of buffalo, numbering 2000 in all.

APPREHENSION IS SUBSIDING

REGARDING THE MOVEMENTS OF CAMARA'S FLEET.

DONS MAY YET TURN BACK.

Valuable Assistance Rendered By Our Consuls In Preventing the Spanish Admiral From Obtaining Coal.

A Washington special of Thursday says: While not abating its close watch over the Cadiz fleet, the navy department does not feel the same degree of apprehension respecting the movements of those ships it did when the start was made for Port Said. The government has done everything possible within fair lines to prevent this fleet from reaching the Philippines and the agents of the state department have been particularly successful in this work. United States Consular Agent Broadbent has just made a master stroke which he reports to the department.

While the Spanish ships were seeking permission of the Egyptian government to coal at Port Said the consular officers succeeded in quietly buying up all the coal available at the port. This amounted to 20,000 tons and it is in a good place to be shipped to Dewey; to serve as a base of supplies for Commodore Watson's eastern squadron when it enters the Mediterranean; or to coal any American vessels that may pass through the Suez canal bound for the Asiatic station if it should be decided that it is possible for warships to take on coal at Port Said.

The news that reached the department through the press reports that Admiral Camara is about to leave his torpedo boat destroyers at Port Said because they would be unable to weather the monsoons in the Indian ocean at this season, is believed at the navy department to presage the dissolution of the squadron and the abandonment of the cruise to the Philippines.

As these torpedo destroyers have proved their ability to cross the Atlantic in bad weather, it is conjectured at the department that the real reason for turning back is one that is almost chronic in the Spanish navy, namely, a breaking down or a breakage of the machinery of the craft.

Egyptian Goverment Firm.

The following official announcement was made at Cairo, Egypt, Thursday afternoon:

"The Spanish ships at Port Said began coaling from their own colliers which arrived from Spain. The Egyptian government notified them that they could not allow this; that it must stop forthwith, and that they must also leave Port Said, as the twenty-four hours' limit had been greatly exceeded. The Spaniards then stated that their ships wanted repairs and began discharging coal and other material in order to repair."

FLANAGAN TURNED DOWN.

Judge Candler Refuses to Grant Murderer a New Trial.

Judge John S. Candler formulated his decision on the motion for a new trial in the celebrated Flanagan murder case Thursday. The new trial was refused.

The points raised by the defendant's counsel were given long and careful consideration. In writing out his decision the judge did not make an extensive review of the case, but merely held there was no legal ground for another trial.

The fact that Judge Candler had written a letter to the pardon board recommending that the case be disposed of by commuting Flanagan's sentence to life imprisonment had given rise in some quarters to the opinion that he would grant the application for a new trial.

SHIPPERS MUST PAY.

Express Companies Will Not Assume Burden of Revenue Tax.

Officials of the various express companies, with headquarters in New York, have decided that they cannot assume the burden of the new revenue tax. The shippers will be required to pay this tax plus the regular express companies' rates.

FACING THE FORTIFICATIONS.

Sevilla Has Been Captured and All is Ready For Santiago.

Advices of Tuesday state that Seville has been captured, and the soldiers of Major General Shafter's army are facing the fortifications in Santiogo de Cuba. The American troops in the van of the invaders are under the command of Major General Joe Wheeler, the gallant ex-Confederate leader of cavalry; Brigadier General Henry W. Lawton, Brigadier General Adna R. Chaffee and Brigadier General S. B. M. Young, regular army officers, who have seen considerable hard fighting in their time. The Spanish troops are led by General Linares.