THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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BATTLE IN EARNEST

First Bloody Fight of the War Occurs on Turkish Soil.

GREEKS CROSS THE FRONTIER AT KARYA

Steady and Persistent Firing is Kept Up the Whole Day Long.

MANY SOLDIERS ARE KILLED OR WOUNDED

Turks Leave Their Dead Lying on the Field of Battle.

GENERAL ADVANCE OF SULTAN'S FORCES

Troops Are Eager for a General Engagement and a Great Battle is Expected to Be Fought Very Soon.

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ELASSONA (Headquarters of the Turkish army in Macedonia), April 17, 10 p. m.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The correspondent of the Associated Press has just returned from Karya, on the Greek frontier, north of Tyrnavos, and three hours' ride from here. A fierce battle between the Turks and Greeks is now raging at Karya. The fighting has been in progress all day.

The correspondent left the Turkish headquarters here on horseback this morning and arrived at Karya three hours later. The battle was then proceeding, and the correspondent was enabled to watch the fighting from a point near the tent of Hamdi Pasha, who is in command of the Sixth army corps, the Turkish force there engaged. Hamdi Pasha, surrounded by his staff, was watching the movements of the opposition forces. The combatants were posted on the faces of two hills overlooking a small valley, at a distance of about a mile.

GREEKS TO THE ATTACK.

It appeared that the Greek force, which was evidently composed of regular troops of Greece, crossed the frontier at 8 o'clock yesterday evening and advanced upon the valley referred to at an early hour this morning. The Greeks, later, were engaged by four battalions of Turkish infantry, and after some sharp fighting were driven back toward the frontier. The Greek force, however, then took up a position on the crest of several hills, and the combat was resumed at 10 o'clock.

Among the invaders are considerable numbers of Sicilian volunteers.

At intervals of about two hours the Greeks renewed their attack upon the Turkish position. The Turks remained calm and stood on the defensive, though suffering considerable loss.

The number of killed and wounded among the Turks could not be ascertained at that time, but the correspondent saw forty-eight Turkish wounded brought to the rear, with the bodies of five Turkish officers. Only the wounded Turks and the bodies of the officers were being brought from the front to the field hospitals, hence the number of men killed could not be learned. The dead were left where they fell. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when the correspondent left Karya, more Turkish wounded were being carried into camp.

HOLD THEIR POSITION.

The Greeks appeared to be contenting themselves with occupying the position which they had taken upon the crest of the hills and maintaining a heavy fire from it without advancing, but at the same time preventing the Turkish troops from crossing the frontier. The Turks returned the fire of the Greeks with persistent spirit.

While the correspondent of the Associated press was at Karya, Hamdi Pasha, the Turkish commander, received a dispatch from Edhem Pasha, the Turkish commander-in-chief, saying that a general advance of the Turkish forces had been ordered for tomorrow, war between Greece and Turkey having been declared. This news was received by the Turks with enthusiastic shouts, "Long live war."

At the same time that Hamdi Pasha received the news of the declaration of war he received news of a fresh attack by a Greek force in the direction of Eleuthochori, to the north and left of Zarkos.

During the correspondent's return journey here, he heard further firing, both rifle and artillery. This was after nightfall, though a full moon was shining.

Edhem Pasha at this hour is holding a council of war and it is expected that a great battle will be fought tomorrow. The Turkish troops are eager for a general engagement. The weather continues very cold.

THREE DAYS' FIGHTING.

ELASSONA, April 18.—The Greeks, from all their positions in the Karya district, began the advance toward the frontier at 7 o'clock on Friday evening. Fighting lasted all that night and extended on Saturday to within ten miles of the frontier. It is estimated that 15,000 Greeks were engaged. The battle continued with great vigor throughout Friday night and Saturday, when altogether 50,000 were engaged.

On Sunday morning the firing was concentrated toward the southeast of Milouni. About noon Sunday the Greeks began to give way, after the hottest fighting of the engagement. The Turks advanced only a little beyond the frontier into Greek territory. Considering the rapidity of the firing and the great expenditure of ammunition the number killed is comparatively small, probably under 200. Altogether the behavior of the Turkish troops was better than that of the Greeks. Their officers remained cool and collected.

The firing still continues, but it is expected to cease at nightfall, as the troops have been engaged for thirty hours without food or sleep.

It is said that several bands have entered Macedonia. There is no official news yet as to the reported capture of Menexa.

TURKISH FRONTIER WAS CROSSED.

Tewfik Pasha Informed the Envoys That Greece Had Offended.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 18.—Tewfik Pasha, the Turkish minister of foreign affairs, visited the foreign envoys yesterday and informed them that the Turkish frontier had been crossed on Friday night by fresh bands of Greeks, among whom were a number of Greek regulars. It was this news which led to the calling of a council of ministers and precipitated the decision to announce that war had broken out between Greece and Turkey. The Greek minister here, Prince Mavrocordato, was at the same time notified of the rupture of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Greece. His passports will be handed to him and he will leave Constantinople. At the same time, the archives of the Greek legation will be removed. In addition, all the Greek merchants in Turkey were informed that they were given a fortnight's notice to leave the Ottoman empire.

Requiem for M. Tricoupis.

ATHENS, April 18.—A great congregation crowded the cathedral today, when the requiem was sung for the late M. Tricoupis.

The Crown Princess Sophia still remains at Larissa.

Powers Are Notified of the War.

BRUSSELS, April 18.—The Independence Belge today announces that Turkey has officially declared war against Greece, and that a notification to this effect was sent to the powers this morning.

LAY ALL THE BLAME ON THE TURKS

Greeks Feel Glad That the Tension of the Past Few Weeks Is Over.

(Copyright, 1897, by the Associated Press.)

ATHENS, April 18.—11 a. m.—The Turkish batteries at Prevesa, on the northern shore of the entrance of the gulf of Arta where, according to the treaty of Berlin, the Turks had no right to erect fortifications, fired on and sank a Greek steamer, the Macedonia, this morning, while she was attempting to leave the gulf of Ambracia. The crew of the steamer was saved by boats from the shore, but the captain of the Macedonia was severely wounded. Upon receipt of this news, the Greek government sent orders to the Greek fleet in the gulf of Ambracia to bombard Prevesa. Consequently the bombardment of Prevesa commenced at 6 o'clock this morning and continues as this dispatch is sent. Prevesa, which is in Epirus and eighteen miles from Arta, is strongly fortified.

The Turkish minister here, Assim Bey, has asked for his passports; they have been handed him and he has left Athens for Constantinople. The German minister at Athens, Baron von Plessen, has undertaken to protect Turkish interests in Greece during the severance of diplomatic relations between the two countries. The Greek minister at Constantinople, Prince Mavrocordato, has been recalled.

Throughout the day there were scenes of extraordinary excitement here. The streets were crowded with people eagerly discussing the outbreak of war and the probable outcome. The general feeling was one of satisfaction at the relief from the irritating tension of the past few weeks, which had gradually become almost unendurable and which is ended at last by overt acts, it is contended here, on the part of Turkey. The Greeks hold that there was an attempt upon the part of the Turkish forces to occupy a strategic position near Mount Analypsis, not far from Nezeros in the neutral zone, which led to the encounter on Friday between the Greeks and the Turks. This, it is added, was used at Constantinople as a reason for ordering Edhem Pasha, the Turkish commander-in-chief, to assume the offensive and led to the rupture of diplomatic relations between the countries. The so-called outrage of Prevesa, this morning, when the Turkish batteries there sank the Greek steamer Macedonia, further justified Greece, in the minds of the Athenians, in waging war to the death against Turkey.

The Greek government, therefore, is warmly commended for recalling the Greek minister at Constantinople and not waiting, according to the Greek version, until Prince Mavrocordato was handed his passports.

It is stated in some quarters that Assim Bey, the Turkish minister to Greece, did not wait for his passports to be handed to him; but, as soon as he received the sum of 5,000 francs telegraphed to him from Constantinople, through the Athenian bank, for traveling expenses, etc., he hastily left this city.

Little news of a reliable nature has been received here or is allowed to leak out regarding what has really transpired on the frontier.

It is known, however, that the whole frontier of Thessaly has been blazing with murderous firing since early this morning, and that the Greeks have captured a fortified position at Menexe, in Macedonia.

According to the general understanding here the Turkish plan of campaign is a concentration of the Turks near the important Greek frontier town of Tyrnavos, with a view of forcing the mountain passes leading toward Larissa. One report, which is generally credited, has it that Edhem Pasha, at the head of 12,000 men, has already begun this movement, and rumors in this respect are flowing, the substance of them being that the battle which is expected to be fought at or near Tyrnavos has already commenced.

The Greek plan of campaign, so far as it is understood by the Athenians, is found in the defense of Larissa, in the first instance, an attack upon that place having been anticipated and prepared for by occupying and taking every possible advantage of all strategic points. The country there is admirably suited for defense, and, while this defense is undertaken, the Greek fleet is relied upon to destroy the coast ports of Epirus and Macedonia. The Greek belief in ultimate success is based on the expectation of a universal rising of the Macedonians, and Epirotes, so soon as the Greeks succeed in winning a brilliant victory anywhere over the Turks.

GREECE SENDS HER ACCEPTANCE.

Delyannis Announces to Legislature That War is Declared.

ATHENS, April 18.—A special sitting of the legislative assembly was held this evening. The public galleries were crowded. Amid intense excitement M. Delyannis, the premier, announced that the Turkish government had today notified Greece of the rupture of diplomatic relations on the ground of the aggressive attitude of the Greek government. In a cool, but deliberate speech, he reviewed the recent events to show, on the contrary, that Turkey had been the aggressor; that her troops had attacked the Greeks and attempted to occupy neutral positions, and that her batteries at Prevesa had sunk the Greek ship Macedonia.

"Turkey," said M. Delyannis, "declares war against us. We accept it."

This statement was received with prolonged cheers from the galleries and the floor of the Chamber. The premier then read dispatches reciting the events which had happened on the frontier, and, with reference to the reported capture of Menexa, he said that the batteries at that important position had been brought into action, but he knew nothing as to its alleged capture. He added that the Turks, after repeated attempts to force a passage at Reveni, which commands the road to Larissa, had been driven back.

The leader of the opposition, amid renewed cheers, from all parts of the Chamber and from the galleries, eloquently endorsed the patriotic declaration of M. Delyannis.

The government addressed a note to Assim Bey, expressing surprise at the allegations contained in his note to M. Skouzes and pointing out facts proving that Turkey is the aggressor. The government disclaims all responsibility for any events that may now occur.

The Metropolitan of Athens has ordered prayers in all the churches for the success of the Greek arms.

GIVEN TWO WEEKS TO GO HOME.

Greeks in Turkey and Turks in Greece Invited to Get Out.

ATHENS, April 18.—Assim Bey has handed to M. Skouzes, the Greek minister of foreign affairs, the following note: "In consequence of the aggressive attitude of Greece, diplomatic relations between the king of the Hellenes and his imperial majesty, the sultan of Turkey, and their respective governments, are hereby broken off.

"The Greek minister at Constantinople and the Greek consuls have been ordered to quit Turkish territory. For the same reason the Turkish consuls in Greece have been recalled to Constantinople. Within a fortnight from the date of this announcement all Greek subjects must leave Turkish territory. Ottoman subjects now on Greek territory have been invited to leave it within the same period."

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 18.—The Porte has handed his passports to Prince Mavrocordato, the Greek minister to Turkey, together with a note announcing the breaking off of diplomatic relations between the two governments, and the recall of Assim Bey and the Turkish consuls. It invites Prince Mavrocordato and all Greek consuls on Turkish territory to quit the confines of the empire, giving the Greek subjects fifteen days' notice. Prince Mavrocordato will leave on Tuesday by the Austrian mail boat.

Turks Capture the Heights.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 18.—The Porte has received a dispatch from Edhem Pasha, the Turkish commander-in-chief at Elassona, dated Saturday, saying that in consequence of an invasion of Turkish territory by the Greeks his troops have seized the heights of Pernas and Velachko. The fourth division from Elassona, under Haida Pasha, and a full brigade under Nam Pasha, have entered Greek territory.

TURKS SEEM TO HAVE GAINED

Results of the First Conflicts Are a Little Indecisive.

EDHEM PASHA PLANS TO ATTACK LARISSA

Move on Nezeros a Feint to Draw Attention from Milouni—Blockhouses in the Pass Change Hands Four Times.

LONDON, April 19.—The Elassona correspondent of the Times says: The position of affairs seems to be that the Turkish move on Nezeros is a feint to draw attention from Milouni, where it is evident Edhem Pasha intends to advance in force on Larissa. This attempt will lead to severe fighting. The results of even Saturday's fighting are indecisive. Accounts of it are biased, according as they come from Greek or Turkish sources. It appears, however, pretty certain that the Turks had the advantage. The Greeks were partially successful in their movement at Karya, which was aimed at cutting off the Turkish communications with Salonica, where the Greek fleet is expected almost immediately. There is no news yet of land fighting from Epirus, as the raiders failed to hold Krania. Edhem Pasha is still in communication with Janina, but the Greek forces in Epirus are believed to be superior to the Turkish.

The Times correspondent at Elassona further says: "I visited the hospital today (Sunday) and found all admirably conducted. But the scene was most distressing, the wounded screaming in their agony and feverishly tearing the bedding in their delirium.

"In Saturday's hill fighting the Turks had the advantage. They were judiciously ambushed behind the rocks and from their sheltered positions maintained an incessant fire.

Today's (Sunday's) fighting at Milouni pass took place around three outlying blockhouses, which were captured, retaken, captured again, and again retaken. The Greek positions suffered severely from the splendid shrapnel practice of the Turkish batteries at a range of 3,800 meters. Columns of smoke could be seen rising in every direction from the Greek positions, caused by the Turkish shell fire. The Greeks defended with the greatest courage, but were not able to stand against the slow but steady advance of the Turks. As evening came on three of the Greek outworks surrendered and asked the Turks to cease the shell fire. The latter now hold the advanced line, except at one spot. The principle fighting done by the Turkish infantry was at Skumba and Dumenie, to the right of the pass.

TURKISH BATTERY IS DESTROYED.

Greeks Bombard Skafidiki and Capture It in Five Hours.

ATHENS, April 18.—The Greek commander at Actium, opposite Prevesa, telegraphs that the Greek steamer Macedonia, which was fired upon this morning by the Turkish batteries while leaving the Gulf of Ambracia, did not sink in deep water, but was able to run ashore near the entrance of the gulf.

It appears that the bombardment of Prevesa only began at 11:30 a. m., whereas the Turkish forces there opened a hot fire upon Actium at 5:30 a. m. A column was formed at the telegraph station, but the building was converted into a fort and was garrisoned by 500 men. The Turkish fire completely destroyed it, several of the garrison being killed and wounded, although the Turkish aim was often wild.

The Greek commander requested instructions by telegraph, and the minister of war ordered him to bombard Prevesa immediately.

At 10 o'clock a. m. the Shafidiki fort fired a few shots on a Greek gunboat, which replied, effectually silencing the Turkish battery. At 11 o'clock the Greeks began to attack the Turkish forts outside the entrance of the gulf, partly to divert the enemy's attention and partly in order to prevent the massacre of the Greeks at Prevesa.

The Greek ironclad Spetzai has arrived to assist in bombarding Prevesa and the gunboats continue to bombard from inside the gulf.

According to the latest telegrams from Actium, 2,000 Greeks have crossed the gulf of Arta from Vonitza to Salagora and are now marching on Prevesa. Various reports are current as to the landing of the insurgent bands on the Chalkis peninsula.

Bugles are sounding in various quarters of the city. Soldiers are hastening to their barracks and bodies of troops, hastily equipped, are being dispatched to the front amid enthusiastic ovations from the crowds that fill the streets. Numerous conferences have taken place today between the king and the cabinet, and, as a result of them, the two last classes of 1896 reserves have been called out.

A telegram just received from Actium states that the Greek flotilla in the gulf of Ambracia is now (4 p. m.) successfully bombarding the Skafidiki battery. Four gunboats are attacking Salagora. The firing opened at long range about 2:30 p. m. The first shot was sent by the Greek war ship Basilius Georgios, the cruiser Nauarchos Miaulis taking up the fire. The Hamidieh and Pantokatoros batteries returned the fire, but their practice was not good. At 3:25 p. m. a shell from the Nauarchos Miaulis fell fairly in the Hamidieh battery.

9 p. m.—A dispatch just received here says that the Skafidiki batteries, which were attacked by the Greek war ships shortly before 3 o'clock this afternoon, have been completely destroyed. The Greek battery at Kefalipanaghia co-operated effectively with the flotilla in the bombardment.

A telegram from Trikhala, sent at 8 o'clock this evening, says that the Greek brigade defending Revein, has advanced into Damazi plain and occupied Viglia, which commands the plain, after capturing the Turkish battery there.

The Asty says the Greek troops have occupied the citadel at Prevesa, and it is believed the Turks are bombarding Vonitza.

All the forts except one, which is the strongest, have been destroyed at Prevesa by the bombardment of the Greek fleet.

TURKS HAVE TWO FRONTIER POSTS.

Greeks Hold Everything Now Except Ana and Milouni.

LONDON, April 18.—A dispatch to the Daily Chronicle from Athens, dated midnight, says the Greeks have captured Meneza after severe fighting. The Turkish losses were very heavy, the Greek comparatively light. The correspondent adds: "The Greek fleet has destroyed half the fortresses at Prevesa and silenced the guns. I am assured that the bombarding will be continued tomorrow (Monday) morning. The latest news received here tonight is that the Greeks have captured and held all the positions except Ana and Milouni along the Thessalian line.

"I have had access to an important document from a European capital showing that the powers have done nothing for several weeks, because they have hoped that Greece would be either financially ruined or soundly beaten by Turkey. If Turkey gets Larissa she will remain there until Greece evacuates Crete.

"It was Germany that urged Turkey to declare war."

Greeks March on Goysan.

SALONICA, April 18.—Greek bands have landed at Elevetheropoli, west of Tavala, and are marching on Goysan. Their design is evidently to cut the railway line to Salonica. Turkish troops have been sent in pursuit, and there has been fighting, but the result is not known here.

American Guns for Turkey.

LONDON, April 18.—A dispatch to the Standard from Constantinople says that a battery of American machine guns of the latest pattern arrived there recently and was secretly conveyed to the Yildiz Kiosk, where it has been placed in position.

FIERCE BATTLE IN MILOUNI PASS.

Turks Capture the Greek Blockhouse, but Greeks Go on Fighting.

FOOT OF MILOUNI PASS, April 18.—(10 a. m.)—A fierce battle raged in the pass at Nilong. The Greeks, who entered and descended toward the valley, encountered four battalions of Turkish troops, who drove them back and at the point of the bayonet rescued the force garrisoning the Turkish blockhouse, which the Greeks had encircled before entering the pass.

Neshad Pasha, commanding the Fifth division, occupied Mount Harasia with a great force, while Hairi Pasha, commanding the Sixth division, prepared to enter the Tehaishan pass, and Haidar Pasha, with the Fourth division, occupied the Milouni pass.

Before dawn Edhem Pasha rode out to direct the disposition of the divisions. A general engagement ensued. The battle still continues along the entire pass, over 20,000 men being engaged. The combat turned on the possession of the Greek blockhouse, which was most obstinately defended. Several vigorous attacks were made by the Turks, but finally, about 9 o'clock, by a magnificent dash, they took the blockhouse at the point of the bayonet.

The Greeks are still defending their positions on the summit of the hill. At the present moment four battalions of Mendukh Pasha's division are advancing to the frontier positions already taken. The Turks are fighting like demons, the Turkish artillery doing splendid execution under the command of Risa Pasha.

The correspondent of the Associated Press says: "I regret to have to announce the death of Hafiz Pasha, at Milouni. The battle is still undecided, but the Turks, without calling up the reserves, have taken almost the whole pass. It is impossible to give details as to losses. I saw many groups of wounded men, but they were mostly on the heights. Ambulances have been sent to bring them in. I cannot say whether the Turks intend to advance on Larissa."

ATHENS, April 18.—9 p. m.—In the fighting on the frontier the Turks have occupied Ana and Milouni, but they have not succeeded in taking Kata. The engagement at Milouni pass was of the fiercest character and the losses were heavy on both sides. The Greeks captured an entire battery from the Turks. Three Greek officers of high rank were killed. A large body of Greek troops is now marching against Menecse, and brisk firing is going on along the whole line as far west as Arta.

TWO POWERS BACKING TURKEY.

Indications That Russia and Germany Urged Declaration of War.

LONDON, April 18.—The Athens correspondent of the Times says: The key to the Milouni pass is Menexa, a position of the greatest importance, where the Turks are strongly entrenched. The latest news tonight (Sunday, 11 p. m.) is that the Turks still hold their ground at that point.

All the volunteers of the foreign legion and a portion of the garrison started for Volo today. It is noted that the communication of Assim Bey to M. Skouzes does not specify the particular act of aggression upon which the Turkish government professes to rely. It is now certain, however, that Edhem Pasha received orders to advance to Larissa on the 10th inst., but these orders were canceled three hours later.

On the 15th Prince Mavrocordato warned his government that the porte was preparing to order an advance, without a previous declaration of war. It is inferred from these facts and alleged in responsible quarters that two of the great powers have urged Turkey to begin hostilities and the presence of Russian and German officers with the Turkish troops is bitterly commented on in Athens.

TURKEY WAS ANXIOUS FOR PEACE.

War Was Only Declared When Greece Made It Necessary.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 18.—An official communication to the newspapers states that the imperial government has spared no pains to preserve the peace, but that Greece, having sent troops to Crete in defiance of the wish of the powers, and having begun hostilities on the frontier, has compelled Turkey to defend her integrity and to retaliate by an act of war. The minister of war has given explicit orders to Edhem Pasha, in accordance with an imperial decree approving the decision of the council and adopting the plan of operations formulated by the military commission. The Porte throws the entire responsibility for the war upon Greece. Edhem Pasha is authorized to take immediate action, defensive or offensive, in accordance with this plan and in the exercise of his best judgment.

CONSIDERS THE GREEKS INFERIOR.

German Officer Says They Lack in Armament and Stamina.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 18.—The general sent by Emperor William to inspect the armies on the frontier has returned from Elassona. He reports favorably as to the Turkish army, except in the matter of transport service. The Greeks he considers inferior in armament and less capable of standing fatigue and exposure. In the event of complications in the Balkans he advises that Turkey should act on the defensive against Servia, Bulgaria and Montenegro, but on the offensive against Greece. An trade has been issued, authorizing him to continue his inspection, particularly in the commissary department of the Turkish army.

DISPOSITION OF TURKISH TROOPS.

Greeks Are Repelled from the District of Mount Godomun.

ELASSONA (Headquarters of the Turkish Army in Macedonia), April 18.—The First division of the troops is at Dodmik, the Second at Elassona, the Fifth at Skompa and the Sixth at Karya (or Koskuy). The last two are engaged in defensive operations.

The Greeks who have invaded the district of Mount Godoman have been repulsed. Battalions from the divisions at Apium and Karahissar are arriving at Ismudi en route for Rodosto and Muratlis, in order to reinforce the troops in that district.

Rifle for Every Male in Arta.

ARTA, April 18.—The mayor of Arta has distributed rifles to all male inhabitants of the town. The transfer of all public offices and official records from Arta to Konipote is now proceeding. The town is almost deserted. A dispatch from Trikhala says that a sharp fusillade was heard this morning beyond Koutra, which is now occupied by the Greeks. A band of insurgents has entered Macedonia and is now advancing in the direction of Koniskos.

Greek Consuls Leave Elassona.

LONDON, April 18.—A dispatch to the Times from Elassona says that the Greek consuls are leaving the town this evening under escort. There is no news as yet from Metzovo, but from Sarkos to Kalaterino all the troops are engaged except the reserves. Hafiz Pasha, who was killed at Miloni, served in the Crimean war and the war of 1877.

Lose Their Gunboat.

MONTEVIDEO, April 18.—The insurgents have succeeded in capturing a gunboat. General Artigas took her to Serate for the purpose of embarking with an expedition, but the Argentine officials retained the vessel, and will retain the gunboat until peace is restored.

Orders to Stop Fighting.

LARISSA, April 18.—When the Crown Prince Constantine received news of the capture of the Turkish positions between Nezeros and Rapsani he wired to the Greek commanders there to stop fighting immediately.

Rumor That Menexa Is Captured.

CORFU, April 18.—Furious fighting has been in progress on the frontier today near Arta, and it is rumored that the Greeks have taken Menexa by assault.

RUSHING OVER THE LEVEES

Water from the Mississippi Flooding More Valuable Lands.

RISING A FOOT AN HOUR AT TALLULAH

Eight Thousand Persons Who Will Need Relief for the Next Thirty Days—Lieutenant Crowley Distributing Supplies.

VICKSBURG, Miss., April 18.—At 6 p. m. the river was 51.8 feet, a fall of three-tenths in the past twenty-four hours, and a total of six-tenths since the crevasse at Bigg's levee.

The situation in Madison Parish, La., is growing hourly worse. The flood of water going through the Biggs break in the levee is fast covering the lowlands and is flooding Bayvidal and the greater part of the land in the southern portion of the parish. The water has reached Tallulah, some eighteen miles west of Delta. The water had risen seven feet in the bayou at Tallulah and was rising a foot an hour at noon today. Delta is about depopulated, only enough persons remaining to look after the houses. Many of them have two or three feet of water in them. The backwater is fast covering lands north of Delta, and at Young's point much land is already covered. At Omega the floods are coming fast. Relief boats are running to Davis island and Kellogg's section. Planters in Entail and the north part of Madison are placing their stock in reach of boats on the river front, or at stations on the line of the Vicksburg & Shreveport railroad, so they can be moved in the event of another break in the upper portion of the parish, which is now severely threatened. The Milliken's Bend and Duckport levees are both caving. Reports from Madison parish state that the water began rising in Brushby bayou at Tallulah at 7 o'clock this morning, and up to about 2 p. m. it had risen seven to eight feet. About three miles below Tallulah the water is getting over the levees and is overflowing everything two miles below. It will not be up on the higher lands until tomorrow, as there is seven feet of bank left in the bayou. Richland, La., was heard from today and reports the water going all over everything, overflowing the Kings and Kels places, also the villages of Trinidad and Ashwood, eight miles below Richland. The telegraph line is down some distance below Richland and communication was shut off from there up to noon today.

It is now estimated that not less than 8,000 persons will want relief in this county for the next thirty days at least. Lieutenant Crowley of the United States army reported here from Washington by the noon train, having been detailed to duty here to purchase and distribute relief. He has gone actively to work and will purchase meal, meat and molasses for distribution through the gentlemen named by the governor.

John M. Coulton, one of the leading planters of Issaquena county, is in the city and makes the following statement: "I have just returned from Issaquena county. The present indications are that the overflow will break all former records as to duration and destruction of property in the line of plantation improvements and loss of cattle, leaving little prospect of planting a crop in 1897."

EMBANKMENTS ARE VERY WEAK.

More Breaks May Occur in the Levees at Any Hour.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 18.—No more breaks are reported in the Louisiana levee district tonight, although the embankments at Concordia and Ferriday, in the northern part of Concordia parish, are reported to be very weak and a break may occur at any hour. The crevasse at Biggs is now a seething torrent, and the waters are spreading rapidly about Madison parish. At Cowpen the levee is seeping badly, and although a superhuman effort is being made to hold it, many experienced rivermen are of opinion that a break will occur sooner or later.

The town of Vidalia is in a very critical condition and many of the inhabitants are hastily packing their most valuable effects and are fleeing to Natchez. The waters from the Biggs crevasse are expected to inundate the town by Wednesday.

At Natchez refugees continue to arrive in large numbers, while live stock of every description is coming into the city in large droves. Thousands of men line the lower levees tonight, watching every weak spot and hoping for the best.

In the Mississippi delta the situation continues to slowly improve. This has been a beautiful day throughout the overflowed section and the waters are receding. The work of relief is being systematically carried on.

The river at Memphis is still falling, a recession of one-tenth of a foot in the past twenty-four hours being reported by the weather bureau tonight.

RIVER IS RISING AT KANSAS CITY.

Some Families Washed Out of Their Homes and Need Food.

KANSAS CITY, April 18.—The flood in the Missouri river at this point is steadily increasing, the rise in twenty-four hours ending tonight having been nearly six inches. At dark the stage of the river was 22.5 feet, or a foot and a half above the danger line. Though a large area of bottom lands is under water, no serious damage has been done so far. A few poor families, numbering probably fifty persons, have been washed out of their homes and are in need of food, but their wants will probably be met tomorrow by the local authorities. These families are living in tents or under board sheds that have been hastily fastened together.

St. Joseph and Leavenworth report a steady rise in the river. At Leavenworth, while railroad traffic is badly crippled, the situation is no worse than on Saturday.

TERRELL THE GREEKS' PROTECTOR

American Minister Will Guard Grecian Interests in Turkey.

LONDON, April 18.—A dispatch to the Times from Constantinople says that the Greek subjects there will probably remain under the protection of Mr. Terrell, the American minister. It is believed the hostilities will break the deadlock and lead to an arrangement between Greece and Turkey.

CALLS ON POWERS TO INTERVENE.

Paris Temps Demands That the Fighting Be Stopped at Once.

PARIS, April 18.—The Temps calls upon the powers to intervene by force of arms and stop Turkey and Greece from further fighting.

Exchange Will Rise in Peru.

LIMA, April 18.—In consequence of the decree suspending the coinage of sols, exchange, now at 23, will rise, it is believed, to 24. The proposal of the Pacific Huaigayoc company to lease the Pacasmayo Mole has been accepted.

Movements of Ocean Vessels April 18.

At New York—Arrived—New York, from Southampton; Phoenicia, from Hamburg; La Champagne, from Havre; Prince Wilhelm IV, from Paramaribo; Pomeranian, from Glasgow. Sailed—Ethiopia, for Glasgow.

At Havre—Arrived—La Bretagne, from New York.

At Queenstown—Sailed—Umbria, from Liverpool, for New York.

At Southampton—Arrived—Ohio, from New York.

At Moville—Arrived—Parisian, from Portland and Halifax, for Liverpool. Sailed—Anchoria, from Glasgow, for New York.

WHOLE VILLAGES AR[illegible] STARVING.

Pacificos Suffer Severe[illegible] from Weyler's Harsh O[illegible].

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HAVANA (Via Key West, [illegible]il 18.—(New York World Cablegram—Sp[illegible] Telegram.)—Stories of starvation of [illegible] villages of pacificos are now coming in from every province. The rainy season has begun and the condition of the people is pitiable. General Weyler has directed that crops in the military zone of Sancti Spiritus be torn up. He ordered them planted only a few weeks ago. There is nothing else for the people to eat. General Weyler formerly allowed the pacificos of Santa Clara to live outside but close to the forts; now he orders them to desert their little farms and come in and starve, lest the soldiers, firing at the rebels, kill them.

The death rate in Sagua is growing alarmingly. Cases of yellow fever are said to exist in several places in the interior. There is no doubt that a great epidemic of that disease will soon sweep over the island. The doctors here say the existing conditions make it certain. General Weyler's policy of concentration and starvation has created these conditions. The United States may feel the effects if the fever germs go there in sugar to be shipped.

The withdrawal of soldiers from the interior continues. Many places have been deserted by the troops. There is a small but steady return of healthy soldiers to Spain by every steamer.

No more military operations are expected by the insurgents, whose time for activity has now come three weeks earlier than expected. Word has been received from Castillo's camp, saying that the insurgents' officers have received orders to keep their horses in good condition for extensive operations next month. This indicates that it is Gomez's intention to push the fighting with the beginning of the rainy season. The Spaniards cannot then get around the country and the insurgents can take the offensive.

The insurgents are very active now in Havana province. They recently sacked Verde Nueva and Ceiba del Agua, fortified towns on the Havana railroad. They also whipped the Spaniards badly near Batano. The steamer Guadiguamio has brought here many wounded from the fight at Guane, in Pinar del Rio. Later a train brought a lot more who were shot in the fight at Campo, Florida, near Havana.

The insurgents report that they have rounded up in the swamps south of Neuvapaz, in this province, herds of fat cattle, and that they have a good supply of vegetables. They deny that Colonel Cuervo was wounded. They say that General Gomez thinks that the insurgents are too active in this province and has repeated his orders that they avoid a fight when possible. General Weyler remains in the field in a comfortable house in Santa Clara, paying attention to the police officials for allowing gambling in the towns. He seems greatly shocked by his discovery of a fact which everybody knew. Meanwhile, General Gomez is resting preparatory to his rainy season campaign.

THOMAS G. ALVORD, JR.

RIVERA IS WELL CARED FOR.

Cuban Leader Has Hopes of a Pardon as a Special Favor.

HAVANA, April 18.—The correspondent of the Associated press went to Cabanas fortress today and saw General Ruis Rivera and Colonel Bacallao. He found Rivera in a large, dry and well ventilated cell. At the moment of the visit the general was lying down, but he had been able to leave his bed the day before. His wounds are healing rapidly, and he is hoping to be pardoned as a special favor of the crown. Colonel Bacallao is similarly situated and the two officers have a servant who attends them. They have comfortable beds and good meals sent in daily from a restaurant near by. Neither has any special complaint to make. Colonel Bacallao also is hopeful of a special pardon.

The correspondent today saw Ona Melton and Alfred Laborde of the Competitor's crew. They are doing well.

Brigadier General Moncada has been promoted to be the second in command under the chief of staff of Captain General Weyler. Brigadier Marato has been appointed chief of the Remedios brigade. Both will serve under the immediate orders of General Weyler.

Chinese Army for Cuba.

OTTAWA, Ont., April 18.—Over 600 Chinamen passed through here on their way from the Pacific coast to New York on their way to Cuba.

JAPANESE CENSURE FOR EUROPE.

Complaints That Only Two Courts Mourned for Dowager Empress.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., April 18.—The steamer City of Peking arrived today from Hong Kong and Yokohama with the following Oriental advices:

It is stated that Hau Ching Cheng, who has just been relieved of his post of minister to Russia, Germany and Austria, is to be president of the proposed Russo-Chinese railways in Manchuria. He is to reside in St. Petersburg and the vice president is to be a Russian.

Among the passengers on the City of Peking was Min Sangho, who is sent by the Corean government as a delegate to the conference of the International Postal union at Washington.

The Japanese papers contain unfavorable criticism of European governments for the failure of the various courts to go into mourning in honor of the late empress dowager of Japan. The courts of Spain and Belgium were the only ones that extended this courtesy to Japan. It is pointed out that the imperial court of Japan never fails to go into mourning when a member of a royal family of another government dies and the Japanese cannot understand why the highly civilized European governments do not reciprocate.

FEARED TO APPEAR ON THE STAGE.

True Reason Why Princess Chimay Backed Out at the Last Moment.

LONDON, April 18.—A dispatch to the Times from Paris says that the secret of the withdrawal of the Princess Chimay-Caraman, formerly Miss Ward of Detroit, from the Folies Bergero, is found in the fact that friends of the family had resolved to place her children in the front room of the theater. A crowd of Belgian friends of Princess Chimay had arranged to come from Charleroi. They were to simultaneously raise the cry of "to the mad house." Some of the Belgian friends of the prince proposed to provoke a duel with Rigo. This challenge the champion of Princess Chimay need not of course have accepted. Nevertheless the tragic side of her adventure, the correspondent of the Times concludes, may have been nearer than was generally supposed.

Damaging Fire at Hamburg.

HAMBURG, April 18.—A fire, which is estimated to have caused damage amounting to several million marks, raged all night long at Harburg, six miles from here. The flames destroyed an oil factory and the warehouses of the Brinckman company and Freidrichs Tierl and burned down the buildings of Heinson & Brammer, shippers.

Hohenlohe and Hanotaux Visit.

PARIS, April 18.—Prince Hohenlohe, the imperial chancellor, yesterday visited M. Hanotaux, French minister for foreign affairs, a long conference resulting. M. Hanotaux returned the visit of Prince Hohenlohe in the afternoon.

Shipwrecked Sailor Goes Mad.

PARIS, April 18.—Juan Tejada, one of the survivors of the wreck of the Ville de St. Nazaire, has become a maniac as a result of exposure while making his escape in a small boat.

AMERICANS ARE SAFE

Will Be Duly Protected in Both Greece and Turkey.

JOHN SHERMAN GIVES HIS WORD FOR IT

War in the East Causes This Country Little Concern.

STRICT NEUTRALITY TO BE PRESERVED

Turkish Minister Makes a Call on the Secretary of State.

AVERS THAT TURKEY DESIRES PEACE

Says He Has No Further Advices from the Seat of War—Probable Movements of the Mediterranean Squadron.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The grave situation in the east was the topic of conversation in diplomatic and official circles here today. In diplomatic circles, particularly, where the possibilities of a general conflict in Europe are always regarded as more or less imminent if any of the powers become engaged in war, the situation was deeply considered. Opinions vary as to the probable duration of the conflict. One prominent officer of the navy inclined to the belief that fighting would continue for a short time, until the powers of Europe should decide that hostilities had proceeded far enough, when they would step in and put an end to it.

If any advices were received in this city today from the representatives of the government in Turkey or Greece they could not be obtained tonight. Secretary Sherman had one dispatch from Mr. Terrell at Constantinople. It was in the State department cipher, however, and had not been translated.

During the day the secretary had a call from the Turkish minister, who remained with him a short time. The secretary declined to say what had transpired between them. It is customary when a state of war has been declared, or hostilities exist, for the minister of the government interested to notify the government to which he is accredited of such a condition of affairs, and presumably that is what took the minister to the secretary's house.

Secretary Sherman reiterated tonight the statements he made last night, that while the government regretted the existence of war, Turkey and Greece were so far from us that it was a matter that concerned the United States but little. The strictest neutrality, he declared, must be preserved. The secretary had no fear but that the citizens of the United States would be amply protected. Very few of them are in the cities of Constantinople and Athens.

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