

RUSHING TO RESCUE

Cruiser Minneapolis Appears Off the North Coast of Hayti.

NEAR WHERE SAMPSON'S FLEET MAY BE

Passes Turk's Island, One of the Bahamas, Going to the Southwest

NOTHING KNOWN OF THE SPANISH FLEET When Last Heard From It Was Off the Coast of Venezuela.

WASHINGTON NAVAL OFFICERS VERY MUM

Impossible to Obtain Any Information Concerning the Movements of the Vessels Commanded by Sampson and Schley.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, May 17.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The Daily Mail's Kingston dispatch says: A Turkish Island message received here states that the American cruiser Minneapolis passed through the Turkish Islands this morning, steering in a southeasterly direction.

The cable between St. Lucia and St. Vincent has been repaired, thus restoring communication between Hayti and St. Vincent, Barbadoes, Grenada, Trinidad and Demerara. There are two other cables to Demerara and Trinidad, but both touch Porto Rico and are controlled by Spain.

The Daily Mail's Gibraltar dispatch says: The Cadiz squadron is still inactive and its destination is not known. The armored auxiliary cruisers Rapido, ex-Columbia and Patriota, ex-Normanna, were still unready for sea yesterday.

The report published that the Cisneros, Princess Asturias and Catalina have been seen off Martinique is still to be considered as a rumor. The latest authentic dispatches from Cadiz stated that the Asturias was "a mere hulk recently launched and that the Cisneros and Catalina were almost in as backward a condition. The reserve squadron, Pelayo, Alfonso XIII, and the armored cruisers Rapido and Patriota, are reported to be ready for sea by the end of this week, but last accounts a week since from the Carlos V and Alfonso XIII were that a month's repairs are still to be completed on them.

By this plan the naval and military officials might hope to silence the rather severe criticisms that are being expressed because of delay in the opening of the military campaign in Cuba itself.

Considerable pressure has come upon the admiral to hasten the departure of the fleet to have the campaign hastened, and there are thought to be signs of a resumption of the plans of the military leaders for the invasion of Cuba at the point where they were suddenly suspended by the announcement of the arrival of the Spanish flying squadron at Martinique.

One sign of this was the inclusion in the regular army orders of a direction to "Captain Alger to go to Tampa to join General Miles. At army headquarters there was no sign of any departure, but after all, in view of the fact that three times at least a viewing has been prepared for a movement to Tampa, it may be presumed that everything is in shape for departure at short notice without open manifestation of preparations.

The department professes to feel no apprehension that Admiral Dewey or his men are in any way endangered by their occupation of Manila harbor on the present basis, but this cannot be said of the unfortunate inhabitants of Manila if the present situation is protracted unduly.

It is no small matter to organize and transport an expedition of 12,000 or 15,000 soldiers 4,000 miles across the sea at short notice, and the indications are that within a week some of the soldiers at least will be on their way from San Francisco, following the Cuban fleet's conscription order to leave at any moment with a few supplies most urgently needed by Admiral Dewey.

There are indications that the War department has been brought to see the wisdom and fairness of the suggestions thrown out by the Cuban fleet. It is expected that the expedition should consist of not less than 15,000 men, and at least a third of them should be seasoned troops from the regular army capable of meeting on equal terms the veteran Spanish soldiers who garrison Manila. To endeavor to overcome the Spanish force with less than half their number of troops would seem to be a mistake.

General Merritt took occasion to deny emphatically the accuracy of certain newspaper interviews published this morning, which placed him in the position of refusing to accept the offer to proceed to the Philippines because his force was insufficient.

Reports received here from Key West show that the condition of the little torpedo boat Winslow is much worse than was supposed, and it will be necessary, in all probability, to have it come to Norfolk for repairs. One shot smashed its low pressure starboard boiler, and another traversed one of its boilers. It would be possible to get along under one boiler, and reduce the torpedo engine from a quadruple to a triple expansion, but the efficiency of the boat would be very much lowered.

SPANISH WAR SHIP LEAVES TODAY. Earthquake Adds Interest to the Situation at St. Pierre.

(Copyright, 1898, by the Associated Press.) ST. PIERRE, May 17.—The Spanish torpedo boat destroyer Terror and the hospital ship Alicante are still at Fort de France.

It is rumored that the repairs to the Terror are finished and that it will leave the harbor tomorrow.

The signal lights continue and last night a large number were flashed from the hills. A Spanish vessel entered the harbor last night showing no light and left immediately.

OFF THE COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA. Spanish Fleet is Supposed to Be Near Venezuela.

(Copyright, 1898, by the Associated Press.) CUBA, May 17.—The Spanish fleet is now supposed to be off the coast of Venezuela or off the coast of Colombia. Only a portion of the fleet was allowed to enter the harbor here to obtain provisions, cattle and coal, which were purchased here.

Two Spanish Gunboats Hanging Around Western Cuba. CAPE HAYTIEN, Hayti, May 17.—Two Spanish gunboats, or gunboats, are making their base of operations at Badiquir, or Guantanamo bay. They are known to be moving every night in the waters between Hayti and Cuba.

NEARING THE DARK VALLEY

Gladstone, According to Latest Advice, Has But a Few Hours to Live.

GRAND OLD MAN'S LIFE IS ALMOST ENDED

Death's icy Hand Rests on the Distinguished Statesman and He Will Soon Claim Him for His Own.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, May 17.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Gladstone's life is fast ebbing away. Before these lines appear in print he may be no more.

A private telegram received by Sir William Harcourt at the House of Commons tonight stated that the illustrious patient was rapidly sinking, all the usual symptoms having declared themselves. It is curious that though everyone had been expecting and even wishing for death to release the great statesman from the agonies of the malignant disease this intelligence created a feeling of profound and widespread depression throughout the House of Commons.

On all hands expressions of sorrow were heard, the members forgetting for the time the anxious preoccupation arising from the grave foreign outlook to pay tribute to the greatest British statesman of the century.

I hear that if Gladstone's death occurs before the commencement of business tomorrow the House of Commons will be adjourned out of respect for his memory. This will be creating a new precedent, but the circumstances themselves are regarded as unprecedented and public feeling would demand the homage of the greatest parliamentarian that ever lived.

PATIENT IS SINKING RAPIDLY. Gladstone is Sleeping Away Into the Land of Shades.

LONDON, May 18.—According to a special dispatch from Hawarden, received this morning, Mr. Gladstone is sinking rapidly. The correspondent says:

"He lies on a small iron bed peacefully sleeping away into the land of shades. His death chamber faces south, overlooking the south terrace. The family and others are all sitting around him, or moving noiselessly in and out. It is a pathetic scene that is being enacted this gloomy night."

A bulletin at 9 o'clock yesterday morning said the first intimation of the serious condition of the patient. For some hours no additional information became public; but there were indications that a crisis had been reached.

The village postoffice, from which the telegraph wires run, was suddenly manned by a staff of work the special instruments, which had been silenced since they were fitted up last Saturday in readiness for the emergency.

During the day whenever one went one would hear general expressions of deep regret among the working people at Hawarden, Sandy Croft, another little village situated below at the foot of the gentle slope, and in Chester, Cottagers, porters, signal men, laborers, shop keepers, and all the other during the day asking: "How is the old gentleman?" in sympathetic tones which no one could mistake.

The moment you enter the castle you seem acutely to feel the presence of death in the hush and solemn quiet which prevails. Besides the members of the cabinet, Mr. Gladstone is constantly attended by Dr. Biss and the two nurses who have been with him since his return to Hawarden.

Late last evening the servants were admitted to the sick room to say a final farewell. Each in turn touched the hand of Mr. Gladstone and left the room tearfully.

CUBANS WILLING TO ENLIST. Secure Arms from the Spaniards Only to Desert at the First Opportunity.

(Copyright, 1898, by the Associated Press.) KINGSTON, Jamaica, May 17.—The Cuban provisional government has directed insurgent sympathizers not to try to evade in garrison cities General Blanco's conscription order forcing into the ranks of the volunteers all males from 15 to 45 years of age.

Refugees who arrived here by the French steamer Fulton from Havana, and who have been released from quarantine, say that the Cubans are not able to attract volunteers by hundreds. Spain is thus unable to force enemies ready to rise at an opportune time or to desert. The Spaniards in Havana, for a communal police purpose, spy out Cuban sympathizers and cause their arrest.

Esperanza there were 15 cents apiece, meat was 50 cents a pound, and flour 30 cents a pound, when the Fulton left on May 7.

The Atlas liner steamer Adoula sailed for Santiago de Cuba today with provisions and to bring back refugees. Three or four schooner cargoes of food leave Jamaica ports for Santiago weekly.

Troops Going West. CHEYENNE, Wyo., May 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Two battalions of the First Nebraska volunteers reached here this morning en route to San Francisco. One of the battalions came over the Burlington line and the other over the Union Pacific, and both continued their journey west as sections one and two of the regular west-bound Union Pacific train. With the troops was the regimental band.

The Idaho contingent of the Torrey cavalry reached here at 1:30 this morning and it once went into quarters at Fort Ransom. The Wyoming battalion will not leave until tomorrow.

Today the state authorities borrowed \$2,300 and paid the men for the time of service intervening between the time of the call and the date of muster. The Third Battalion of the First Nebraska passed through for the west this evening. All of the Nebraska troops were given an ovation at the depot.

Send Pine Jackets to Key West. NEW YORK, May 17.—Orders were received at the Brooklyn yard for the transfer of nearly 300 blue jackets from the receiving ship Vermont to Key West. Arrangements were made immediately for the transportation of these men, and they leave for Miami, Fla., today, from which point they will be sent to Key West.

Trucks Will Watch the War. LONDON, May 18.—General Bever Trenchard and Captain Hall Bay, according to a dispatch from Constantinople to the Standard, have started for the United States on the order of the sultan, to accompany the American forces during the war with Spain as military and naval attaches respectively.

PLAN ATTACK ON MANILA

Agulnaldo Will Co-operate with Admiral Dewey in Possession of the City.

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(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Co.) HONG KONG, May 17.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Agulnaldo, secretary of the Philippine league, on the dispatch boat Hugh McCulloch to place themselves at the head of a contemplated land attack on Manila. It is expected that owing to the strict blockade and resulting famine the city will very shortly be compelled to capitulate.

SALISBURY HAS NOTHING TO SAY. Makes No Reply When Questioned as to Chamberlain's Speech.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, May 17.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Lord Salisbury most significantly refrained from making any allusion in the House of Lords this evening to Colonial Secretary Chamberlain's declaration in favor of an Anglo-American alliance. The house was exceptionally full.

The forest growth along the Republican river lies prostrate and tangled. It lifted the water from the river bed where it crossed, forming a great volume of spray as it went that filled the valley behind it. The telegraph poles and wires along the B. & M. road are broken off, splintered and twisted for nearly half a mile.

The dwelling house and barn of Elijah Eaton were completely demolished and great damage done to the orchard and outbuildings. None of the family was injured.

The house of Frank Whitney was partly wrecked. Smith Brothers' ranch property was damaged considerably, together with a moderate loss of stock.

Ed Siminton's house and barn were entirely blown away. The Reams school house is reported destroyed.

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DAMAGE DONE BY A CYCLONE

Twister Breaks Loose in the Republican River Valley.

FARMS, GROVES AND RANCHES DESTROYED

Water Lifted Bodily from the River Bed and Several Buildings Blown Down—No Fatalities Are Yet Reported.

FRANKLIN, Neb., May 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Franklin and vicinity were visited this afternoon about 4 o'clock by a terrific rain and hail storm. Shortly afterward the terrible funnel form shape of a tornado was seen eight miles southeast of town. It swept rapidly northward, devastating the farms, groves and cattle ranches that lay in its path.

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THE BEE BULLETIN

Weather Forecast for Nebraska—Showers; Southeasterly Winds.

1 Speculation Concerning Fleets. Gladstone Nearing the End. Cyclone in Southern Nebraska. Sagasta Has a Hard Run to Make. Havana Overrun with Rumors. Volunteers at Camp Thomas. Keeping the Spaniards Guessing. Bryan After a Commission. General Merritt. Editorial and Comment. Wyoming Infantry on the Move. Council Bluffs Local Matters. Iowa News and Comment. General News of the Farther West. Sporting Events of a Day. Miscellaneous. The Hot War. Affairs at South Omaha. 9 Romantic Side of War. How to Deal with Fusion. Railroad Rates Which Are Unjust. Concessions of the Government. 11 Commercial and Financial News. 12 Cable Laying in War Time.

Temperature at Omaha:

Table with 2 columns: Hour, Deg. 5 a.m. 59, 6 a.m. 60, 7 a.m. 61, 8 a.m. 61, 9 a.m. 62, 10 a.m. 65, 11 a.m. 60, 12 m. 67.

CHARLESTON MAY SAIL TODAY

Everything is in Readiness and the Cruiser is Only Waiting for Orders to Go.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 17.—(The Charleston is preparing to sail for Manila within the next twenty-four hours. The newspaper correspondents, who have been detailed to join the vessel, have gone to Mare Island, pursuant to instructions received from Commander Glass.

The Charleston will probably come down from the island this evening, anchor in the harbor, adjust its compass, and sail tomorrow morning, and it is now certain that it will precede the fleet of Pekin, which is to take the first detachment of troops to the Philippines.

The first real work, indicative as to the time the Pekin will depart, took place today. A squad of men from the Presidio was detailed to store its provisions, and arrangements are being perfected for the quartering of the men who will go with it to join Admiral Dewey.

The City of Sydney and the Australia are also being coaled.

General Merritt has decided that no more troops can be stationed at the Presidio with due regard to the health of the present occupants, and has made arrangements to station in the old Bay District track all the troops from Oregon, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Minnesota, Kansas, Utah and Idaho.

Start for San Francisco. DENVER, Colo., May 17.—(The First regiment of Colorado volunteers, Colonel Irving Hale, departed for San Francisco this afternoon by the Great Northern train, two going west over the Rio Grande railroad, and two over the Colorado Midland. The soldiers marched from camp through the city to the depot, and were widely cheered by the crowds lining the streets.

ALBION, Neb., May 17.—(Special Telegram.)—A severe rain storm accompanied by hail struck Albion about 3 o'clock p. m. It completely demolished the Free Methodist church. The Lutheran church was blown from its foundations and badly wrecked. Chimneys and windows were destroyed as was done to outbuildings, fences and windmills. So far as heard from no lives were lost.

HASTINGS, Neb., May 17.—(Special Telegram.)—This vicinity was visited by a terrific electrical storm at 11 o'clock this morning. Lightning struck the barn belonging to Wm. Williams Hocker and completely destroyed it, besides killing one horse. Several other buildings were damaged.

ITHACA, Neb., May 17.—(Special.)—Another splendid rain fell here Saturday night and Sunday. It is a bonanza for small grain, which is now in splendid growth. About half of the corn is planted around here. The ground is in splendid condition and crop prospects are fine.

SHELTON, Neb., May 17.—(Special.)—A fine rain has been falling here at intervals since the 11th. Now the ground is in better shape for crops more promising.

BOAT AND CREW BLOWN UP

Contained a Crew of Seventeen Men and Was Engaged in Removing Torpedoes from Cardenas.

MADRID, May 17.—A dispatch received here today from Havana says that a small naval boat, having a crew of seventeen men, has been blown up off Cardenas, while engaged in removing torpedoes from that harbor. Nationality not stated.

The dispatch adds that the torpedo exploded through the negligence of those engaged in the work, and that all the crew of the boat referred to perished. The dispatch does not indicate whether the boat was an American or a Spanish craft.

JAPAN HAS FILED NO PROTEST. No Occasion to Object to Present Conditions in Philippines.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—The statement cabled from London yesterday that Japan intended to protest vigorously against the seizure of the Philippines by the United States, which was the subject in view is taken in view of the fact that Japan has no objection to the present situation in the Philippines. The dispatch does not indicate whether the boat was an American or a Spanish craft.

Spanish Gunboats at Ecuador. SAN DIEGO, Cal., May 17.—Captain Leutz, commanding the United States steamship Albatross, reports that two Spanish gunboats of about 100 tons at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and they have been there much longer than neutrality laws allow.

This is the first news received of any Spanish war ships being on the coast of America. The news was given to Captain Leutz by the captain of a Panama steamer which called at Guayaquil.

Volunteer Army Nearly Complete. WASHINGTON, May 17.—The volunteer army is rapidly nearing completion. Reports received by Adjutant General Corbin tonight show that \$2,580 men have mustered in. Eighteen states have completed their quota as follows: California, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Oregon, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Davis Declines Appointment. WASHINGTON, May 17.—The name of Richard Harding Davis, sent to the senate May 17 in the list of those nominated for captain and adjutant, was withdrawn today by the president for the reason that Mr. Davis declined the appointment. In a letter to the president Mr. Davis explained that his contracts with certain newspapers for service during the war precluded him from accepting any government position.

Reports Favorable to Annexation. WASHINGTON, May 17.—Chairman Hitt presented to the house today the majority report of the house committee on foreign affairs in favor of the annexation of Hawaii by joint resolution.

SAGASTA'S HARD JOB

Spanish Premier Finds it Difficult to Form New Cabinet.

ABLE MATERIAL IS VERY SCARCE

Class Liberal Politicians Desire to Keep Hands Off.

FOR A COMING DAY OF RECKONING

ple Will Demand Satisfaction When the Bubble Bursts

STILL PIN THEIR FAITH TO CERVERA

Castelar Thinks the Ministry Has Committed Too Many Blunders to Avert the Catastrophe—Reasons for Resignations.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Co.) MADRID, May 17.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The crisis casts more than ordinary interest because everybody comprehends that Sagasta finds so much difficulty in getting first-class liberal politicians to join the new cabinet on account of the general feeling that this ministry is doomed to suffer for the sins of its predecessors. The hour of reckoning comes with an enraged and disappointed people.

In tone most of the Madrid papers that dare attack it ridicule the monarchy and dynasty, forecasting their fall open. Even Castelar is generally doing his duty to his party, and his country and his queen, but he perceives dangers in the growing audacity of the republicans and Carlists.

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