

TWO DAYS' HOT SKIRMISHING ABOUT GUANTANAMO BAY

SPANIARDS BEATEN OFF BY OUR MARINES

Americans in Possession of a Fine Base of Operations.

ON BOARD THE HERALD-CALL DISPATCH BOAT, OFF PORT ANTONIO, via Kingston, Jamaica, June 13.—Further details of the fight at Guantanamo show that the Spanish lacked the courage to attempt to carry the ridge by a bayonet charge.

Captain G. F. Elliott of Company C, who is an old warhorse, stalked about camp giving advice to his men, who smiled in response through the flashes of the rifles.

First Lieutenant J. E. Mahoney of Company E, when a man fired accidentally, strode to his side, restraining him in one breath and encouraging him in the next.

Lieutenant-Colonel R. Y. Huntington, calm and watchful, passed through the gloom with Adjutant H. L. Draper and Quartermaster Charles L. Macawley, going the rounds as though night attacks were merely a matter of ordinary detail.

Surely soldiers never had better examples than those which their officers afforded. Daylight was slow in coming.

The Cuban colonel, who acted as guide and scout, said: "The Spanish will make an attempt to carry the ridge with a rush at day-break."

The marines replied that they hoped that light would come soon, so that they might be able to see the Spanish uniforms at close range. The defenders of the ridge grew very impatient at the slow arrival of dawn.

The Spaniards removed their dead and wounded, but blood stains in the nearest positions which they had occupied during the night told that the volleys fired by the marines had been effective.

The Marblehead at 6 o'clock Sunday morning signaled that the enemy was seen over to the right. The twelve-pounder in the camp of the marines was trained in that direction and opened fire on what proved to be a body of infantry.

The Texas arrived after sunrise, and as the Spanish firing was increased, it was concluded that Colonel Huntington wanted reinforcements. Captain J. R. Phillips landed forty marines with two Colt automatic guns.

The guns from the Texas were dragged slowly up the zigzag path to the earthworks on the crest of the ridge occupied by the camp.

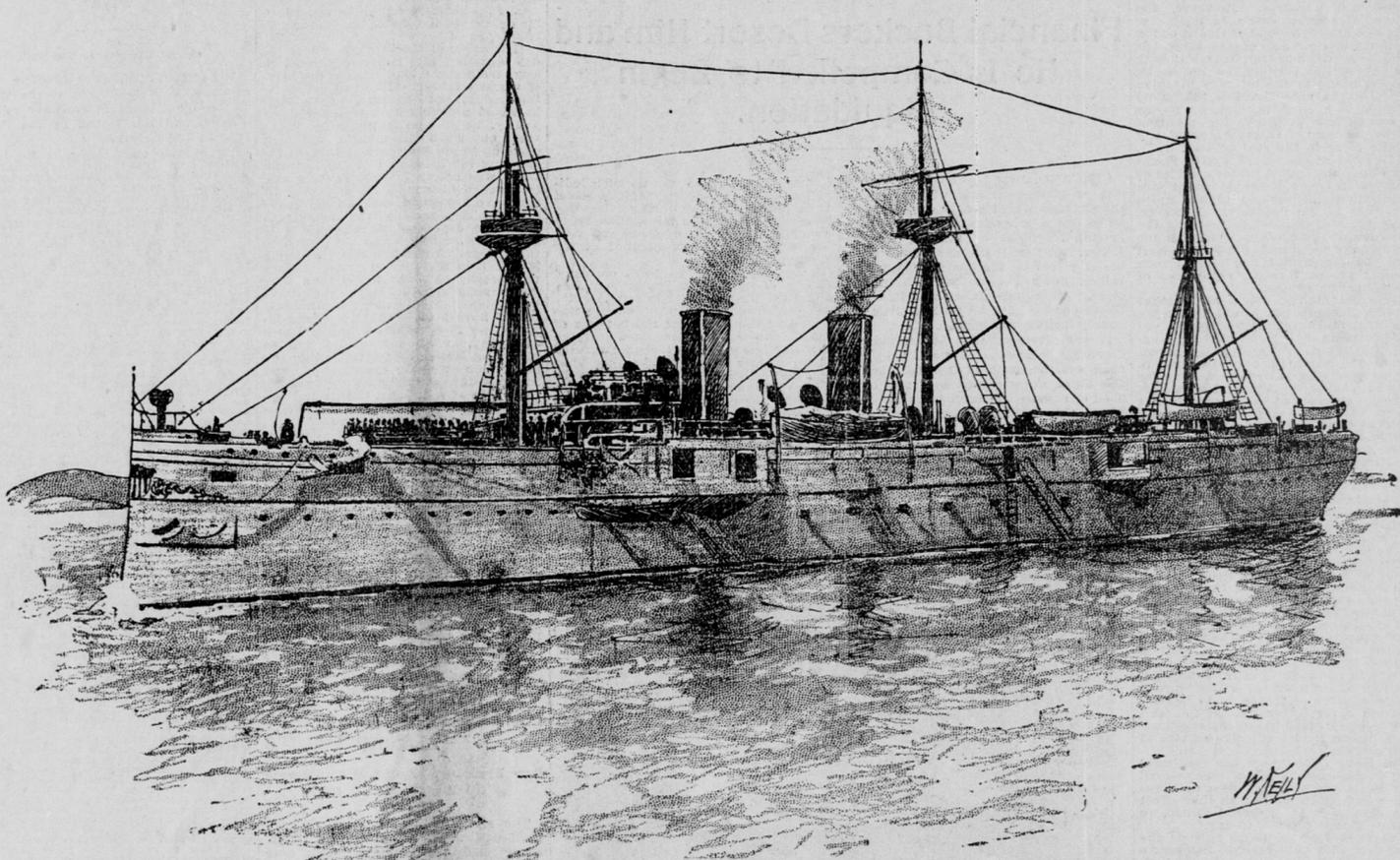
Colonel Huntington decided that it would be useless to sacrifice his men by keeping them where they were. While one company deployed in skirmish line and moved against the enemy, the main body retreated under cover to a position behind the earthworks, where the guns from the Texas and two field pieces are now mounted.

One man from the Herald-Call dispatch boat remained all night with the marines, and with the others mounted the slope. At 10 o'clock in the morning the Spaniards opened fire with one gun directly across the bar from our position on the ridge, and also opposite the Texas and Herald-Call dispatch boat Somers N. Smith.

The collier Abarendos opened with her three-inch gun on the Spanish position in the mountains. That Spanish gun was silenced in five minutes. Then, moving southward, the Marblehead opened a flanking fire on the Spaniards who were engaging Colonel Huntington's skirmishers.

At that time Colonel Huntington's skirmishers were still away, striking their tents in the advanced position. It was the general opinion that the marines could hold their position, but only by stiff fighting. The men were all worn out by fatigue and loss of sleep.

John Blairs Gibbs, the surgeon who was killed in the night at-



UNITED STATES CRUISER SAN FRANCISCO, Which Went Ashore Yesterday, but Was Floated Off Without Apparent Injury.

SPAIN READY TO CONSIDER PEACE OFFER

Eager to Accept Any Proposal That "Does Not Emanate From the Enemy."

BRUSSELS, June 13.—A special Madrid correspondent of the Petit Bleu of this city has telegraphed an interview which he claims to have had with Senor Morino, the private secretary of the Spanish Premier, Senor Sagasta, in which the secretary is quoted as having formally declared that the Spanish Government would now accept any peace proposal which was submitted "on the express condition that it does not emanate from the enemy."

tack, had worked all day to get his hospital ready for the wounded. He paid no heed to the Spanish bullets which cut through the canvas of his tent. When his task had been completed, as a steady volley from the Spaniards swept over the ridge, he walked out to see

how the men were faring. When he was fifteen feet from the hospital a Mauser bullet pierced his temple. He was carried to the shelter of the trench which marines had dug on first landing and laid there in a sheltered spot. His case was hopeless from the first. Half an hour later Lieutenant Neville hurried into camp saying: "Where is Surgeon Gibbs? One of my men is wounded."

The hospital orderly saluted and said: "Surgeon Gibbs died a moment ago, sir." Surgeon Gibbs' mother lives in Richmond. He was a volunteer of a few weeks' standing and was extremely popular. He was absolutely fearless.

First Lieutenant W. C. Neville and Second Lieutenant M. J. Shaw of Company D were cut off from the main body for the night, while the post held by the marines was aflame and an almost continuous rattle showed the desperate engagements in advance and to the right. The lieutenants defended themselves successfully and fought their way slowly back toward camp. They abandoned Sergeant Charles H. Smith's body only when it became plain that many lives must be sacrificed in bringing it away under the withering fire.

Once several guerrilla skirmishers passed almost through the marines' camp on the edge of the crest and disappeared to the northward. They were quickly lost in the peculiar darkness of the tropical brush. Sometimes the range was so short that our officers were using their revolvers, firing when they saw flashes.

Admiral Sampson early last week resolved to await no longer the coming of American troops before seeking to establish a landing spot at some point not far east of Santiago. He decided to seize Guantanamo Bay, owing to its many advantages as a rendezvous for both navy and army. The American

GOES ASHORE DURING A FOG

Accident to the San Francisco.

ESCAPES SERIOUS DAMAGE

DRAWN OFF BY FOUR TUGS AT HIGH TIDE.

Officers of the Cruiser Believe That It Will Not Be Necessary to Place Her in the Drydock.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

HIGHLAND LIGHT, Mass., June 13.—The flagship San Francisco, with Commodore Howell on board, while attempting to round Cape Cod in a fog, went ashore near High Head life saving station at 7 o'clock this morning, but by the hard work of the crew, which threw overboard a large quantity of coal and ballast, and the assistance of four tugs from Boston, she came off at high tide at 6 o'clock to-night, apparently uninjured. The San Francisco struck head on, going at a speed of about eight knots. A hurried examination did not disclose any injuries to the cruiser, and it is probable that she will not have to be dry docked.

to Sampson's purpose. It is one of the largest and finest harbors on the entire coast of Cuba. It consists of two land-locked bays, one of which could easily accommodate a large number of ships. The inner bay is separated from the outer by a narrow tortuous channel navigable only with great care.

The fort is quite a pretentious military structure, built on a small tongue of land which puts across the channel between the outer and inner bay. It completely covers the entrance, and ships in entering must pass within fifty yards of its guns. It is built of yellow stone. The extensive barracks adjoining seem in good condition and present a much more formidable appearance than the castles which crown above the entrance to Santiago harbor. Knowing the value of Guantanamo Bay to the Americans, the Spaniards made as powerful and desperate a resistance as they could.

NOW WELL ON THE WAY TO CUBA

Over Fifteen Thousand Troops Sail From Key West.

Arriving at Santiago on Thursday, No Time Will Be Lost in Taking That City.

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The first army of invasion to Cuba is now well on its way, thirty-two transport steamships, bearing over 15,000 officers and men, convoyed by battleships, cruisers, gunboats and auxiliary craft, sixteen in number, having actually sailed from Key West at daybreak this morning.

An authoritative statement to this effect was made at the War Department to-day, setting at rest all reports that the expedition was on its way, or had landed last week. The authorities made the announcement for the reason that the time for secrecy was passed as the scout boats had made sure that the path was clear before it and that no possible menace could come from the Spanish ships or troops, even should the enemy know that our forces were now advancing against them. With the expedition off officials here feel that there will be a period of comparative inaction for a few days.

By Thursday at the latest the transports will be off Santiago and a large American army will make its landing on Cuban soil. Admiral Sampson has cleared the way for this undertaking and little danger is apprehended in getting ashore. It will be after that, when the advance is made, that the actual developments may be expected. By that time it is likely the American commanders will be in direct cable communication with the authorities here. Admiral Sampson has taken the shore end of the cable landing at Guantanamo and a force of cable experts are rapidly restoring the line to working order.

The progress of this work has been so satisfactory that one of the leading officials of the State Department said to-day that it was hoped that direct cable communication would be established by Thursday. It will put an end to the dearth of official information concerning important movements and will enable the authorities here to keep in close touch with those executing the

strategic movements. The troops making up the expedition which started to-day are as follows:

- United States Infantry Regiments—Sixth, Sixteenth and Seventy-first; New York Volunteers—Tenth, Twenty-first, Second, Thirteenth, Ninth, Twenty-fourth, Eighth, Twenty-second and Second; Massachusetts Volunteers—First, Fifteenth, Thirtieth, Seventh, Seventeenth, Thirteenth and Twentieth. Total infantry, 561 officers and 10,709 enlisted men. Cavalry—Two dismounted squadrons of four troops each from the Third, Sixth, Ninth, First and Tenth Cavalry, and two dismounted squadrons of four troops each from the First United States Volunteer Cavalry. Total dismounted cavalry, 159 officers, 2875 enlisted men; mounted cavalry, one squadron of the Second, 8 officers and 280 enlisted men. Artillery—Light Batteries E and K, First Artillery; A and F, Second Artillery, 14 officers and 323 enlisted men; Batteries G and H, Fourth Artillery, 4 officers and 132 enlisted men. Engineers—Companies C and E, 9 officers and 200 enlisted men. Signal Corps—One detachment, 2 officers and 45 enlisted men. Hospital detachments are included in the above figures. The staff corps numbers fifteen officers. The grand total of the expedition is 773 officers and 14,564 enlisted men.

Aside from the men and officers making up the expedition, the boats carried a vast quantity of supplies, ammunition and war equipment necessary to maintain an organization of