

MILES IS MILD IN HIS TALK.

Does not Care to Criticize the Conduct of Officers.

HAS BEEN SO MUCH OF IT That Public has Lost Sight of the Glories of the War.

TRUTH OF HIS INTERVIEW

With a Reporter of the Kansas City Star Admitted by Him—His Retained Troops Will Not Parade—His Request Refused.

NEW YORK, Sept. 7.—The United States transport Ogdan, having on board Major General Nelson A. Miles and his staff, Major Greenleaf, Captain Whitney, the Second regiment of Wisconsin volunteers, consisting of thirty officers and 800 men, and the hospital corps, from Porto Rico, arrived here today.

Mrs. Miles, son and daughter were also on board the transport, which sailed from Ponce September 1. The surgeon in charge reported all well on board and no sickness or deaths during the voyage.

The troops were in the best of spirits. The big transport was decorated profusely with palms and draped with flags.

General Miles admitted to the Associated Press' reporter who interviewed him while the Ogdan was lying off Liberty Island, the substantial accuracy of the statements attributed to him by the Kansas City Star's correspondent at Ponce, Porto Rico.

"There are," said General Miles to the newspaper men about him, "a few minor inaccuracies in the published reports, such as usually occur in such interviews. I do not care to point out the inaccuracies referred to at this time; they are unimportant."

"It is true that I requested that my troops in Porto Rico on their return home should be allowed to camp somewhere near New York, preferably Brooklyn Heights, Fort Wadsworth or Governor's Island. And I also requested of the war department that the troops be allowed to march through New York city. I never intended to parade myself, as I shall go to Washington in a few days and would not be here at the time of the contemplated parade."

"I asked that the Wisconsin men aboard the Ogdan be permitted to stay in this vicinity for a day or two to give them a chance to see the city. It would do no harm to let these western boys get a glimpse of New York. Surely they merit it. Many of them, I think, have never seen the city and perhaps will never have another opportunity to see it."

"To my first request, namely, that my troops be permitted to camp hereabouts, in the neighborhood of Brooklyn Heights, and that they be allowed to parade, I have received no reply. To my second request I received a reply at quarantine this morning ordering the Wisconsin boys home forthwith. The men will go from the transports directly to the cars."

"I shall stay in the city a day or two to transact some business and will then proceed to Washington. General Wilson's division will reach New York in a day or two, I think. They will come on the transports Mississippi, Manitoba, Alamo and Concho. The last will carry General Wilson and his headquarters."

No Desire to Criticize Officers.

General Miles said that he did not desire to criticize the conduct of any officer engaged in the late war. He expressed the opinion that there has been too much criticism, complaint and condemnation published already and that the public had lost sight of the success and glories of the war. He did not care to enter into any general discussion of the events of the war beyond the written statement which he had prepared during his voyage on the Ogdan and which he has given out for publication.

General Miles declared that the health of the troops still in Porto Rico is good. He said that he considered the island a most charming country, but that he is greatly pleased to return to the United States.

General Miles gave to the representatives of the press a typewritten document treating of the prosecution of the war with Spain. The paper is written in the form of an interview with the general. In it the general is represented as recalling to mind that in a public statement made at the beginning of the war referring to the talk of a rush for the fever stricken city of Havana, he said:

"No officer is fit to command troops who from any motive whatever would needlessly risk the life of a single soldier, either from disease or the bullets of the enemy. I have never sacrificed the lives of men under my command and do not propose to subject them to any unnecessary risks in the present campaign."

Further along in the interview the document given out to-day says: "Owing to the fact that the season suited for campaigning in Cuba had been exhausted in debates and delay in Congress and in necessary preparations, General Miles was opposed to rushing an ill-prepared, undisciplined and untrained army in a movement against the capital of Cuba, defended by one hundred thousand trained Span-

ish troops, and in this position he stood practically alone for several weeks. Havana, Matanzas, Santiago and a few other points were drawn on his military map as hot-beds of disease, destructive to any army, and places to be avoided, especially during the sickly season.

Miles' Plan of Campaign.

When finally called upon to submit a plan of campaign he did so, and put it in writing. In substance he took the stand first, that every effort should be made to equip the Cubans, and thereby enable them to harass the Spanish forces. The cry of "On to Havana" should be encouraged, but when the transports, loaded with troops, were out of sight of land, they should sail as straight as steam power could take them to the gate of the Antilles, and the key of the whole position—Porto Rico. Then, having seized and occupied that island, a movement to Cuba was to follow, by means of a strong cavalry force, which was to be organized and equipped by August or September. He contemplated that 20,000 cavalry, thrown to the centre of Cuba, cutting the Spanish forces in two, and moving west to Havana by the time the rainy season was over, and it would be possible to manoeuvre an army, we could move against that city a well-organized, well-equipped and well-disciplined army, and complete the capture of the Spanish forces.

The capture of Cervera's fleet in the harbor of Santiago changed the conditions and made it necessary to move a military force to that point. General Miles, while at Tampa, felt the importance of the enterprise so greatly that he requested permission to accompany that expedition or immediately organize another to join it. This permission was not granted, so far as accompanying that expedition was concerned, but authority was granted to equip a second "forward movement and operate against the enemy in Cuba, and Porto Rico. However, before this expedition was equipped calls were made for additional forces to go to Santiago, and they were immediately forwarded. On the third day of July General Shafter telegraphed that his losses had been greatly underestimated; that he met with a stronger resistance than he had anticipated, and that he was seriously considering the advisability of falling back to a position five miles to the rear, and that he had been unable to be up during the heat for four days.

Told Shafter to Hold On.

Under such circumstances General Miles telegraphed General Shafter that he would be with him in a week, with strong reinforcements, of course, taking the troops which had been ordered by the President to operate against the enemy in Cuba as well as Porto Rico. These reinforcements were pushed rapidly forward, and some of them arrived in advance of the commanding general, and were put in position in the trenches around Santiago. Under verbal instructions of the President, General Miles was directed to go wherever he deemed his presence was required, and that he should give such directions as in his opinion were best for the army and for the government.

These were the circumstances under which General Miles left Washington arriving at Santiago July 11, not as a private individual nor as a visitor. Any pretense that he went there disrobed of his authority or official capacity is too childish to be considered by sensible men. From the moment he arrived at Santiago he was responsible for what might occur. He arrived there with the Yale, Columbia and Ritz, loaded with infantry, and three ships loaded with artillery, besides those already disembarked. He designed to disembark the troops and artillery named on the west side of Santiago, as was understood before leaving Washington, and before he went ashore he made the necessary arrangements accordingly. He then proceeded to the front, and after consulting with General Shafter, a note was sent to the Spanish commander by General Shafter, stating that the commanding general of the United States army had arrived in his camp with strong reinforcements, and would meet him between the lines at an hour agreeable to him.

Interview with Toral.

The reply of the Spanish commander was that he would meet him at 11 o'clock next morning. The meeting was held, and after some conversation between General Shafter and General Toral General Miles frankly informed the Spanish general that he had left Washington six days before, and that it was then the determination of the government that this portion of the Spanish army must be captured or destroyed. He also informed the Spanish general that his reinforcements had arrived with him, that some of these forces had already disembarked and that the remainder would be disembarked on the western side of the harbor, and that it was useless for him to continue against the inevitable. These transports could also be plainly seen by the Spanish from Morro Castle and other points. General Toral replied that so long as he had rations and ammunition he had to fight, in order to uphold the honor of the Spanish army. In response to this he was informed that he had already maintained the honor of the Spanish army, and that further effort would be useless, and would result in the wanton sacrifice of human life.

He then said that he was waiting to hear from his government, and was informed by General Miles that he had already taken much time for that purpose, and would be given until daylight of the following morning, it being then 3 o'clock, to submit his final answer. He begged for longer time, and earnestly requested until 12 o'clock of the next day. This was finally granted by General Miles, the meeting separated, and the officers separated. On returning from this conference a dispatch was received by General Miles from Washington, as follows:

"WASHINGTON D. C., July 15, 1898. "Major General Miles—You may accept surrender by granting parole to officers and men, the officers retaining their side arms, the officers and men after parole to be permitted to return to Spain, the United States assisting. If Spain, the United States assisting, then assault, unless in your judgment an assault would fail. Consult with Sampson and pursue such course as to the assault as you jointly agree upon. Matter should be settled promptly. R. A. ALDRICH, "Secretary of War."

Discerns No Grounds for War.

"This," the statement says, "does not look as if Gen. Miles was there as a visitor. He was charged with responsibility of ordering an assault upon the entrenchments and fortifications of an army, which, if successful, would have cost at least 5,000 lives, or of withholding the assault if, in his judgment, such assault would fail.

"No greater discretion was ever given to any general commanding an army, and what is more, as will be observed, was authorized to accept the surrender of the interest of his subordinate, he generously declined to do, and went away leaving all the honor to his next in rank, General Shafter.

On the morning succeeding the first interview, a letter was received from General Toral of which the following is a literal translation:

"SANTIAGO DE CUBA, July 14. "General-in-chief of the American forces: "Honored Sir—His Excellency, the general-in-chief of the army in Cuba, telegraphs from Havana yesterday at 7 P. M. the following: "Believing the business of such importance as the capitulation of this place to be known and decided upon by the government of his majesty, I give you notice that I have sent the conditions of your telegram asking an immediate answer and enabling you also to show this to the general of the American army. To what I would agree to await the answer of the government, which cannot be as soon as the time which he has decided, as communication by way of Bermuda is more slow than by Key West. In the meantime your honor and the general of the American army may agree upon capitulation on the basis of repatriation (returning to Spain).

"I have the honor to transmit this to you that in case you may consider the foregoing satisfactory that he may designate persons in representation of himself who with those in my name, may agree to clauses of the capitulation upon the basis of returning to Spain, accepted already in the beginning by the general-in-chief of this army. Awaiting a reply, I am, very respectfully your servant, JOSE TORAL."

At the meeting on the following day, General Toral stated that he was prepared to surrender with the approval of the captain-general of Cuba, but it would require a little time to have his acts confirmed by the home government; that in the meantime he was prepared to appoint commissioners to arrange the clauses of the capitulation. Not only this, he offered to surrender the balance of his command, which had not been under fire during the campaign. The remarkable offer was on his motion and was in the nature of a surprise to the American general present.

THE POLITICAL WAR

Between Factions of Colorado Silver Republican Party

RESULTED IN A SHOOTING

In which One Man was Killed—One Faction Occupied the Hall in which the Convention was to be Held, and the Opposition Charged on Them with Rifles and Revolvers—Tragedy Caused by the Action of National Chairman Towne Deposing State Chairman Broad, of Colorado—Over 150 Shots Fired in the Night.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Col., Sept. 7.—The political war between the two factions of the Silver Republican party resulted this morning in the death of Charles Harris, of Denver.

It was the result of an attempt by the Broad faction to capture the opera house, which was guarded by the Sprague faction. At 4 o'clock a rush was made by fifteen or twenty of the Broad men from both front and rear of the building, and the Sprague men who held possession in repelling the attack fired a volley into their assailants.

Harris fell with a bullet through the abdomen and died shortly afterwards. The shooting occurred just outside the opera house door. Several arrests have been made. The man who fired the shot which struck is undoubtedly in custody but his name cannot now be ascertained.

The tragedy results from the action of the National Chairman Towne in removing Richard Broad from the chairmanship of the state committee on the ground of "disloyalty to the Silver Republican party and the cause it stands for," it being alleged that he had joined in a conspiracy with friends of Senator Wolcott to defeat the proposed fusion with Democrats and Populists.

Charles S. Sprague, representing the Teller and Towne delegates, obtained possession of the opera house in which the convention is to meet to-morrow and refused to surrender it at the demand of ex-Chairman Broad. Mr. Sprague is editor of the Colorado Springs Evening Telegraph.

Harris died soon after he was shot. Another man was struck in the cheek by the same bullet that killed Harris. Sheriff Boynton and Chief Gathright took control of the opera house and made a thorough search.

Discovered an Arsenal.

The sheriff said they discovered a whole arsenal in the building. The officers seized six Winchester rifles and ten revolvers.

The opera house is now in possession of the police, deputy sheriffs and adherents of ex-Chairman Broad. No one is allowed to approach the doors.

James A. Howe, Walter Russell, J. J. Lang and A. C. Smith, of the party in the hall, were arrested.

The sliding doors which form the entrance to the auditorium, show the effect of the shooting. The right hand door as the room is entered is perforated with the bullets from a Winchester and a ball also lodged in the left door. Both were fired from the inside of the room and are about as high as a man's head from the floor.

At 10 o'clock this morning the Wolcott-Broad faction applied to Judge Lunt for a writ of mandamus compelling Chairman Blood, who was appointed by National Chairman Towne to succeed Chairman Broad, to be removed and to turn the building over to ex-Chairman Broad. The writ was refused.

"At 4:30 this morning," said ex-Mayor Plumb, "we were inside the opera house. There were twenty-two of us. Suddenly a fusillade of shots was fired through both the front and side doors. Then in a second the doors were burst open and in rushed from seventy-five to 100 men.

"There was constant firing in all parts of the hall, we replying as best we could. I saw one man fall, shot through the lungs. They carried him to the balcony and laid him down. He died in a few minutes afterward. Another man was injured.

"We were forced out of the building. Sheriff Boynton and Chief of Police Gathright were in the front ranks of the attacking party."

The police and sheriff's officers claim that the attack was made entirely by men from Denver. They say they only rushed in after the attack began. It is a peculiar fact, however, that they were all on hand.

Chairman Blood's Statement.

Chairman Blood has issued a statement in which he says that ex-Chairman Broad, I. N. Stevens and Dewitt C. Webber arranged with a gang of thugs to come from Denver and co-operate with Sheriff W. S. Boynton and the police of Colorado Springs in seizing the convention hall and turning it over to the anti-Teller faction so that they may organize and control the convention to-morrow.

Mr. Blood says that the armed force which entered the opera house was headed by Sheriff W. S. Boynton and Frank Howbert, collector of internal revenue, and a policeman in uniform, and that four or five of the men who were in possession of the hall were arrested without any warrant or process of law whatever and thrown into jail.

Ex-Chairman Broad says he was justified in taking forcible possession of the opera house under a lease made with him August 26, which Manager Nye violated by turning it over to Charles S. Sprague.

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A GREAT FAIR.

Greatest, in fact, in the Career of the Association

BUT THE WEATHER DISCOURAGING.

To-day is "City Day" and the People of Wheeling can

MAKE THE 1898 FAIR A SUCCESS

By Coming out 20,000 Strong and Thus make up for the

DISAPPOINTMENT WEDNESDAY

Without two Very Large Crowds on Thursday and Friday the Fair Association will have to enter up a considerable loss on Their Enterprise—This, the People of Wheeling Should Prevent by Coming out to-day and To-morrow in Record Breaking Numbers—More Awards made Yesterday—Wednesday's rains Caused Postponement of the Races.

The Intelligencer joins cordially with the promoters of the State Fair in an appeal to the people of Wheeling to turn out to-day, "City Day," and on Friday in record-breaking numbers.

Yesterday's rain cut such an extent that, unless there are very large crowds on the two remaining days of the fair, the association will have to enter a heavy loss upon its books and that is something which every Wheelingite ought to do all he can to prevent.

Indirectly the fair means profit to hundreds of merchants; they and all others will no doubt do all they can to make Thursday's and Friday's attendance large enough to result in a balance on the right side of the fair association's books. Without this encouragement the association would feel justified in the belief that their efforts for the good of Wheeling are not appreciated—the Intelligencer declines to believe that attendance to-day and to-morrow will disappoint them. Wheeling people always arise to the need of the occasion, and they are not going to fall now.

Everybody turn out to-day and put the attendance figures above the 20,000 mark. IT OUGHT TO BE DONE.

The eighteenth annual West Virginia state fair and exposition is surely being handicapped in a manner that is rather discouraging to the promoters of the great enterprise. "Farmers' Day" is usually the occasion of the second largest attendance of the entire week. The heavy rain yesterday morning made the track a sea of mud, so it was impossible to run the races, and it is not surprising that the attendance was disappointingly small. The out-of-town attendance was small on account of the weather, and the city people did not turn out strong for the same reason.

To-day the weather will no doubt be good, the weather bureau having swung a prediction to the breeze yesterday afternoon to the effect that Thursday and Friday will be cool, and the weather clear. This prediction is borne out by the falling barometer and can be relied upon by the people of Wheeling and the surrounding country.

To-day is "City Day," always the occasion of the largest crowd of the week, and as the out-of-town people who were held back yesterday will come to the fair in force to-day, there ought to be a record breaking crowd on the grounds. If the city people come out and make a strong effort to avert a financial loss for the association, the attendance should go above the 20,000 mark.

Notwithstanding the races were postponed, the crowd in the latter part of the afternoon yesterday, was fair considering the weather. The principal feature, in the absence of racing, was the concert in the grand stand by the Opera House band, which discoursed its usual high class of music. About 1,000 people were attracted to the stand by the music.

To-day at 11:30 the annual cavalcade, in which every head of live stock on the grounds will take part, occurs on the track, and will interest everybody as it has always done in the past.

Immediately following the cavalcade the races will begin. The first event on the programme is the unfinished 215 pace brought over from Tuesday. Each of three of the four horses in this race has won a heat, so it is likely that the greatest speed contest ever witnessed on the state fair track will be concluded.

YESTERDAY AT THE FAIR.

Rain Washed Out Midway Attractions, But They Soon Recovered.

The heavy rains of Wednesday morning knocked out the races yesterday completely, and in interfering with the special programme the attendance was cut away down. Considering everything, however, the crowds were very good, and all those who attended the Fair yesterday had the best of opportunities to look around and inspect the various exhibits without being crowded to death, or being covered with several inches of dust. As it was, the day passed off quietly, with only the splendid music of the Opera House band and the cry of the lecturers of different Midway attractions to disturb the elements.

The committees appointed to make the awards of premiums worked hard all day in an effort to finish their labors, but in the case of the cattle department the committees were not successful. The work of making these awards is not easy, and yesterday large crowds watched the judges at their work with a great deal of interest.

A brief noon, when it was found that the track was in such a condition as to not permit the races, Secretary Hook arranged for a special concert to be given in the grand stand by the Opera House band, and hundreds of people heard and applauded the splendid programme rendered. The Midway, which had been almost completely washed out by the storm,

Weather Forecast for To-day. For West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, fair; light to fresh south-westerly winds.

Local Temperature. The temperature yesterday as observed by C. Hehnert, druggist, corner Fourth and Market streets, was as follows: 7 a. m. .... 71 2 p. m. .... 74 4 p. m. .... 68 10 p. m. .... 70 Weather-Change.