

CONFIRMATION OF FIGHTING IN MEXICO

(Continued From Page One.)

Distance westward from Cerro Prieto to Guerrero and, now that the fighting has been started, the insurgents choosing to open it before the federal troops were ready, further hot fighting is looked for.

Mining Man Relates Story.
A mining man from Mexico, just in from the region where the fighting took place, tells of the battle of Cerro Prieto. He says:
"Cerro Prieto is nearly due south of Pedernales. The town is located at the base of a large hill. Extending north-east of the hill is a ridge, and there the federalists had placed two mountain guns. West of the ridge is a canyon and then flat country stretches as far as La Junta, on the Mexico North Western railway west of Pedernales. With the guns were placed some cavalry, and the infantry were stationed at the town of Cerro Prieto. A detachment of cavalry rode over the flats toward La Junta, where about 250 revolutionary cavalry were stationed, waiting for reinforcements. A long range engagement occurred, and the rebels followed the federal cavalry into the trap, right in the face of the big guns. Just as the rebels were about to open fire, but they did not retreat. The infantry sallied out of the town to cover the rear, and the rebels retreated slowly, firing as they went. In that fight 150 soldiers fell, killed or wounded, and three officers were wounded, one fatally. The ranchmen shot straight, I tell you, turning in their saddles and bringing down soldier after soldier. They finally retreated west."

Gen. Blanco Escapes.
"Now the condition is this: Assisting the 250 were a few scattered bands of riders, making their total about 300. But reinforcements from the west were on the way, and must have arrived by today. The government also has soldiers marching west. They started Saturday from Chihuahua."
"Gen. Jose de la Luz Blanco, the revolutionary general, was not in the fight at Cerro Prieto. He is in command of a large detachment at Santo Tomas. It is true that the leader of the 250 was killed, but he was not captured. He was shot from his saddle. I couldn't learn his name. All the inhabitants of Cerro Prieto were rounded up by the soldiers, and those whom the police could not identify were shot like dogs. The fight was not a victory for anybody, but in view of the odds against the revolutionists and the way they fought out of a trap, well, you can draw your own conclusions."

Insurrectos Capture Hagerty.
"Gen. Navarro has given warning that any American newspaper man will be shot."
"The Associated Press man, C. D. Hagerty, was held up by revolutionists returning to Pedernales from Cerro Prieto. He carried a letter of introduction to Gen. Navarro, and that nearly caused his death and that of the photographer with him. But they finally were satisfied and let him go, or you never would have heard from him."

Report in Juarez.
Official information of the battle at Cerro Prieto was received Tuesday by Mayor Francisco Portillo, of Ciudad Juarez. A duplicate message probably has been sent to every "safe political" and small town president in the state of Chihuahua. The message is signed by J. M. Ponce de Leon, and translates as follows:
"It is my pleasure to inform you, at request of the governor, that the command under Gen. Navarro defeated and dispersed in Cerro Prieto, between Cuahuatlican and Pedernales, the insurgents from Ciudad Guerrero who have formed into bands and may rob and pillage the country. I ask your vigilance to impede the expedition and to destroy the bands who are pursued by the federal forces."

There has been no trouble reported in the vicinity of Ciudad Juarez, which is far removed from the scene of war.
Trains For Troops, Maybe.
A train of eight empty second class coaches departed Tuesday night from Ciudad Juarez over the National Railway. It is not known whether the "empty" are to be used for troop movements or passenger traffic, which in the south, is heavy at this time.
All is quiet on the local division of the Mexico North Western railway, according to advices received here.
Trains Allowed to Run.
"That in spite of real fighting, all is quiet along the road held by the insurgents" is the statement of A. S. Howren, engineer in charge of maintenance of way for the Mexico North Western. Mr. Howren, who arrived this morning, says: "I just came from Matamoros. All is the same on the line, and Americans need have no fear of anything on the trains. Insurrectos still permit the regular trains to run, and no soldiers are being hauled."

De La Barra Gets Report.
Washington, D. C.—Sector de la Barra, the Mexican ambassador, has received the following dispatch from Enrique Creel Mexican minister of foreign affairs:
"Gen. Navarro's forces defeated the revolutionists at Cerro Prieto in Chihuahua. Sixty were killed and many more are wounded. The revolutionists are in flight and the federal troops are pursuing them."

Laredo Receives News.
Laredo, Tex., Dec. 14.—Seventy Mexican revolutionists were killed and a small number wounded in a battle with federal troops in Cerro Prieto, state of Chihuahua, according to a telegram received last night by Miguel de Laredo, Mexican consul, stationed at Nuevo Laredo, from Enrique C. Creel,



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