

# The Newberry Herald and News.

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## Lieutenant Blue, of the Suwanee

THE BEST BIT OF GUN WORK IN THE WAR WITH SPAIN.

SKILL OF Our Gunners—Some Notable Shots On Santiago—Lieut. Victor Blue Knocks Over a Flag Staff in Three Shots at 2500 Yards.

(New York Sun.)

The most formidable batteries the Spaniards had about Santiago were the Socapa and Punta Gorda batteries. The Socapa Battery was located on the crest of the ridge to the westward of the harbor entrance and consisted of two 6.4-inch Montorins. These guns were lauded from the decks of the cruiser Reina Mercedes just before the appearance of the American fleet at one of the main piers of the town, and were dragged by mules and men entirely around the head of the upper end of the bay, a distance of twenty-five miles, over the roughest kind of a country to their places on the hill. The Spaniards had not roads or even trails to haul the guns over. They had to bridge gorges and toil up and down steep hills, hacking their path through the tangled underbrush with machetes as they advanced. They worked in relays, night and day, for ninety-six hours before the task was accomplished. These guns were protected by an ordinary eastern redoubt, only visible for miles out at sea. They were manned by gunners from the Mercedes. The commander of the battery was a Spanish naval lieutenant, the nephew of a prominent statesman. The Yankee gunners never received warmer praise than they got from this officer. He said to the Sun correspondent after the surrender:

"The shooting of your men was marvelous. It was so rapid and so accurately delivered that we were never able to work our guns for longer than a few seconds. Two or three shots from as would attract the fire of the vessel which happened to be nearest to us, and the hail of shells, large and small, which always followed quickly, smothered our fire. One of our guns was dismounted during the early days of the blockade and buried so deeply under a mass of stone and earth thrown up by the explosion of a big shell that we could not get it in the place again. Four or five times after this misfortune the men at the other gun were buried under avalanches of the same kind and two of them were suffocated one day before we could dig them out, the fire being so hot that their comrades could not work. The Oregon and the New Orleans were the boats that made it hottest for us."

A significant feature of the Spanish officer's testimony was that the concentrated fire of two or more vessels was required to smother the battery. He said that the ship was always in two or more places, and he and his men saw the crest of the hill and side and wait until the ship was over.

Punta Gorda occupied a sugar-loaf hill, which jutted out into the harbor three miles back from the entrance and directly in front of it. The battery consisted of two 6.4-inch Montorins, two breech-loading howitzers of the same calibre, and two smaller pieces arranged in a semi-circle around the crest of the hill, with their muzzles pointing in so that they might concentrate their fire on any boat attempting to force the harbor entrance and rake it from stem to stern. The battery was manned by gunners of the fleet, who were well trained.

In entering the harbor the hostile ships would have been unable to reply except one at a time from their forward batteries, because the channel is so wide enough to permit an advance in any other formation than single file. As no such movement was attempted the Punta Gorda battery did not play a conspicuous part in the war. The Montorins sent occasional shots through the harbor gap at any Yankee ships which in passing before it far out at sea offered a fair target. None of these shots

hit anything. Once in a while the Americans would drop a shell or so at from five to seven miles' range in on the sugar-loaf hill. One of these shells, an 8-inch missile, from one of the big battleships, struck in a pile of rock just under the howitzer battery. A ton of earth and stone was hurled into the air by the explosion, but no damage was done to the howitzers, which Gen. Wood afterwards used to salute Gen. Lawton when Lawton left Santiago on his return to the States. At a still later date Lieut. Ingram, of the 5th infantry, used them to tell all Santiago that its popular Military Governor had been advanced to the grade of major general by the American Congress.

These two howitzers constitute Santiago's only protection from a foreign invader now. The Montorins from both the Punta Gorda and Socapa batteries were long ago sent home by Col. Borup.

Perhaps the best bit of gun work of the war was executed by Lieut. Victor Blue, of the Suwanee. It was at Aguadores one morning in June. Half a dozen Yankee ships, including the New York, Admiral Sampson's flag ship, had been bombarding the Spanish positions in the hills which fringed the shore, without any other result than to smother the enemy's fire, when the signal "Cease firing" fluttered from the New York. The position of one of the Spanish batteries, which had been uncommonly active in replying to the Yankee volleys, though without doing any damage, was marked by a red and yellow flag, which could easily be seen in the clear morning atmosphere. The staff from which this flag floated was fixed in a solid pier of masonry, the top of which showed above the redoubt that protected the Spanish guns and gunners. Blue was preparing to take a crack at the flag when the order came. He appealed to Lieut. Commander Delehanty, who was in command of the Suwanee, to let him go on and cut the flag down. Delehanty's desire to see the thing done was as keen as Blue's desire to do it. He asked permission of the flag ship to go ahead.

"Cease firing," was the presumptory signal repeated from the flag ship.

"I guess it's no go," he said to Blue. "The Admiral says we can't do any more shooting."

"But I can cut it in three shots," protested Blue.

Delehanty pursed his lips and squinted wistfully at the fluttering red and yellow bunting. "I hate like the devil to ask again," he said half to himself, "but I'll do it." Back fluttered this signal to the flag ship:

"Can cut the flag down in three shots."

For several moments there was no reply. The Admiral seemed to be considering the Suwanee's proposition. Every eye from the Suwanee and from the other ships, which had seen the exchange of signals, was fixed on the flag ship. Finally the Admiral's signal, "All right; if you can cut it down in three shots, go ahead," was displayed. The signal was received with a cheer on the Suwanee, which several of the other boats echoed. Then the attention of the fleet became riveted on the Spanish flag. Blue bent over his gun, adjusted the sights, shoved a cartridge into the chamber and closed the breech. Not the fraction of a second he glanced down the barrel. Then there was a sharp report. The far-away flag suddenly twisted itself around the staff. Then it slowly unwound, and two yellow pennants fluttered in the brisk east wind. Blue's shot had cut out the red bar in the centre which bore the Spanish coat-of-arms.

"A corker, Blue," shouted Delehanty from the bridge. "Try again, but remember that you were a little high that time. Depress your piece a bit."

Blue readjusted his sights, and again his gun spoke. This time a cloud of dust rose from the base of the flagstaff, which leaned over. It

was quickly righted by one of the Spanish gunners.

"A bit low and too far to the left that time," said Delehanty, examining the effect of the shot carefully through his glasses. "You knocked off a corner of the pillar the staff is fixed in. Take more time with your next shot. It's the last, you know."

Blue was fully a minute arranging for his next shot. Every man on Suwanee held his breath, and every eye was fixed intently on the far-away yellow streamers which still fluttered defiantly. Blue fired, and down came the staff, cut clean in two at the middle.

Delehanty started to say something commendatory, but his voice was drowned in the deafening yell which arose from the Suwanee's crew. The yell was caught up on the other vessels one by one, the crew of the New York finally joining in the chorus. As the cheering died away the signal, "Well done, Suwanee," fluttered from the Admiral's flag ship, and the incident was closed. The range at which Blue did this bit of shooting was 2,500 yards.

**CASTORIA.**  
The Kind You Have Always Bought  
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Talking of Shutting Down Southern Mills.

Philadelphia, Sept. 22.—About twenty-five representatives of the Southern Spinners' association from North and South Carolina are now in this city. The delegation is headed by President J. H. Aden and Secretary G. B. Hiss, of Charlotte, N. C. The visitors came to see the National Export exposition. They will while here, it is said, discuss questions which may result in temporarily shutting down a large number of mills in the South. This is on account of the anticipated increase of cost of cotton. The present price of material such as the mills in the Association use is 64 cents per pound. It is expected that in sixty days the price will be raised to 75 cents. The question whether or not it would be advisable to take orders at the present prices or refuse them is accordingly the principal subject of discussion with the committeemen here, and among the members of the Association themselves.

Secretary Hiss said tonight that the present prices are entirely too low and unless an advance is made it will be impossible to fill orders at the anticipated rise in the price of the raw material. As a matter of fact, he thought it would be better to shut down than run the mills at a loss.

Should there be a general shut-down it might affect 150 mills in the South.

WOULD BE A CALAMITY.

(Editorial in Greenville News, 26th.)

Let us hope there is nothing in the talk of shutting down the Southern cotton mills because of the expected rise in the price of cotton.

The people of the South are very friendly to the mills and do everything possible to encourage them. It is distinctly to the interest of the public to retain the good will of the public. We are and have been all working along together harmoniously, have escaped all trouble between labor and capital and have been free from the prejudice against corporations that has made havoc in other parts of the country. But a combined movement by the mills to shut down would be a calamity for which there is no apparent cause. It would be accepted as a deliberate attempt to force down the price of cotton and would invite the wrath of all classes of people; and no institution can afford to concentrate public sentiment against itself.

Liberal railroad rates to the great State Fair will be made fair week.

How to encourage and keep the boys on the farm? Take them off of it occasionally for recreation and sight-seeing, where such opportunities as the next annual State Fair will afford.

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## FILIPINOS CAPTURE AMERICAN GUNBOAT

KILLED OR CAPTURED OFFICERS AND CREW OF EIGHT MEN.

No Particulars are Obtainable—Boat Was Reached and Burned After Three Rapid Fire Guns and Ammunition Were Appropriated.

Manila, Sept. 25.—4:30 p. m.—It is reported that the insurgents have captured the United States gunboat Urdaneta, in the Orani river, in the Northwest side of Manila bay, where she was patrolling. One officer and nine of her crew are missing. The United States gunboat Petrel, sent to investigate the matter, returned and reported that the Urdaneta was beached opposite the town of Orani, on the Orani river. She was riddled with bullets and burned, and the following guns, with their ammunition, were captured: One 1-pounder, one Colt automatic gun and one Nordenfiedt 25-millimetre gun.

The crew of the Urdaneta are prisoners or have been killed. Further details are lacking.

Washington, Sept. 25.—The gunboat Urdaneta, which was captured with her crew at Orani, about 25 miles from Manila, on the Bay of Manila, is a little craft of only 40 tons displacement, not much larger than a small tug. She was captured by the navy early in the war and has been on police duty in the bay for months past. The records of the navy department show that she was one of the boats of which the Oregon is the parent ship. That is, she was supposed to draw all of her supplies from the battleship, to be manned from the Oregon's crew and to act under the instructions of the Oregon's commander. According to the last reports to the department, the little boat was last May under command of Naval Cadet Welborn C. Wood, but the personnel of the crew is not a matter of record, being subject to frequent change. Wood was appointed to the naval academy from Oregon, had passed his academic course and was performing two years' service at the time of his capture. Naturally, the department officials are vexed that the difficulties of the negotiations looking to the release of Lieut. Gilmore of the Yorktown and his men should be added to by this last misfortune. Still there is no disposition to unnecessarily curb the junior officers of the navy who are rendering such gallant service in the Philippines.

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Babies Got Mixed.

[Taylorville, Ill. Courier.]

A couple of ladies in Pana desired to play a joke on the husband of one and got things into a pretty mess before they got through. The husbands were absent from home when the ladies gave birth to children, twins being born to one and one to the other. The single baby was transferred to the bed of the twins in order to make the father of the twins think he was the father of triplets. Then after the joke had been allowed to cause consternation for a time in the mind of the supposed father of the triplets the whole thing was exposed, but the mothers were unable to identify their children. One woman took one and the other retained two, but neither is certain she has the right ones. Hysterics and other evidences of excitement are in order, but the complete identity of those children will never be established. The mother of the twins will know that she has one of her children, but which one? While the mother of the one child will never be certain that she hasn't one of the other woman's babies.

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Babies Got Mixed.

## Dewey Surprises New York

SAILED IN ON THE OLYMPIA TWO DAYS AHEAD OF TIME.

The Admiral Well, Committee to Conster-nation and the Big City all Full of Bunting and Strangers.

New York, Sept. 26.—Admiral Dewey threw New York into a fit this morning by arriving forty-eight hours ahead of his schedule time.

The first intimation the city had of his arrival was through the issues of the early morning extras. They sold as no newspapers have sold since the end of the Spanish-American war.

Admiral Dewey was on the quarter deck of the Olympia when this writer voiced the first welcome of the American people to the returned hero.

"Welcome Dewey!" was shouted by lusty lungs. Dewey smiled happily and raised his cap. He wore a blue undress uniform with gold stripes on the sleeves and the regulation cap. His health, it was plain to be seen, was excellent.

The admiral smiled in response to continued cheering and raised his cap repeatedly. The sailors swarmed all over the ship and heads were thrust through every open port. They roared the cheers as only jack tars can cheer.

While the salutes were thundering and steam vessels were striking welcome from afar the reporters approached the Olympia and gave her the first personal welcome, hearty, enthusiastic and patriotic.

Mayor Van Wyck and the reception committee were thrown into a state of consternation by the unexpected arrival of the Olympia. The committee was in session all day trying to determine what to do.

The admiral says he is quite well. Rear Admiral Sampson visited him on the Olympia this afternoon. The Dolphin, flying Rear Admiral Sampson's flag was sighted about one o'clock. The Olympia fired a salute and the marines were drawn up to receive the rear admiral. A moment after the admirals shook hands Dewey said: "Look at those marines; did you ever see a finer body of men?"

Rear Admiral Sampson complimented them, and said to Admiral Dewey: "Are you well?"

"Don't I look well?" replied Admiral Dewey.

He certainly did. He was clear-eyed and his brown complexion and alert step showed his perfect condition.

"I am well, Admiral," said Admiral Dewey a moment later, "but I feel a bit tired. When a man's been aboard ship near two years he needs something of the shore. I am awfully glad to be among my own people again."

Admiral Dewey had no plans of his own. He is in the hands of the committee on reception. In a general way he thinks the Olympia should join the squadron off Tompkinsville tomorrow.

People are pouring into New York by the thousands from every direction. Every train is loaded. The hotels, boarding and lodging houses are all crowded, and it had to be seen where those who have not arrived will find shelter. The streets are thronged with people and with all the buildings from the Battery to Harlem—fifteen miles—decorated with red, white and blue bunting, New York presents the gayest appearance she has ever known.

Governor Stern for New York.

(Special to Greenville News.)

Columbia, S. C., Sept. 26.—The Governor and a number of his staff and the Richland volunteers, thirty-six strong, left on a special over the Coast Line this afternoon at 5 o'clock. The train consisted of six cars including the Pullman, in which the Governor and his staff travelled.

Other companies will be picked up at Sumter and the Charleston contingent will be met at Florence.

## THE INCOME TAX FARCE

COMPTROLLER DERHAM FINDS AUDITORS INDIFFERENT.

Circulars will be Sent Out Within a Few Weeks Calling Attention of Officials to the Fact that the Income Tax Law is Yet on the Statute Books—County School Superintendents not Making Any Effort to Furnish Information About Delinquencies.

(Special to News and Courier.)

Columbia, September 25.—Comptroller General Derham has returned to the city from a tour of the lower part of the State, where he has been making settlements with county officials. He found a few scattered returns of incomes, but there does not appear to have been a general response to the law. Mr. Derham says that there was some talk at the last session of repealing the statute, but that now that it is in force and certain people are paying the tax, that he will prepare circulars and blanks and see that county auditors pay more attention to the existing statute. As is notoriously the fact the income tax law as it now stands is a howling farce. In Columbia for instance, there are seven men who pay the income tax, when it is a notorious fact that there are a great many more who have a gross income of very much more than \$2,500. Charleston pays more income tax than the remainder of the State of South Carolina, and there is no reason to believe that more than half of the \$2,500 incomes are in Charleston.

Men who are notoriously well off are not paying any attention to the law, and what is surprising is that the county auditors have not yet found this out.

The people of the State have no special reason to feel proud of this majority of county superintendents of education in the State. This remark is premised upon the lack of interest they seem to have in affairs of vital consequence to their schools and those of the county.

Some time ago Mr. Derham sent out a printed form, on which he wished accurate returns made by each of the county superintendents of education, asking for the amount of the school deficiency for the county and that such statement be made under oath. Nothing can be done until these reports are in hand, and the counties will be kept waiting for the money, which is in the treasury, on account of the dispensary fund, for distribution among the schools.

The counties that have up to this time sent in their reports as required are:

Orangeburg, Lexington, Charleston, Richland, Marlboro, Dorchester, York and Greenville. Not one-fourth of the counties of the State have paid attention to the simplest sort of business methods, and the counties from which no returns have been received should remember that if they are kept out of the fund that they may need for the schools that if their county has not made its report, who is to blame and where the responsibility rests. The counties that have submitted reports have been secured from the Comptroller General.

Mr. Ayer Didn't Challenge Esterhazy.

ANDERSON, S. C., Sept. 17. To the Editor Greenville News:

Will you kindly do me the favor to correct in your tomorrow's issue a report which has been circulated that I had challenged the French Count Esterhazy to a duel. As a matter of fact I have done nothing of the sort, however much I might have wanted to do so. It was entirely a mistake and I regret sincerely that the incident has gained so much publicity. Had it been possible to legally do so I doubt not that he would have received quite a number of American proposals to scrap some.

Hoping that you will do me the justice to correct the statement that it was sent.

PAUL E. AYER.

## COL. NEAL'S CASE

SAYS HE WILL SETTLE UP SATURDAY OR MONDAY.

Asks the Attorney General to "Let up" on His Bondsman Until Then—Mr. Bellinger Ready to Receive the Cash.

(Columbia Record, 26th.)

Attorney General Bellinger received a letter from Colonel Neal this morning. In it he says that he will be in Columbia Saturday or Monday prepared to settle his indebtedness to the State. He doesn't say whether he intends to settle for the \$2,500 he acknowledges is due or the \$11,000 that is charged against him.

He asks that this time be extended him and requests that his bondsman be not pushed further until he can settle.

Mr. Bellinger says he will be here at the time mentioned to receive a settlement, but in the meantime his action against bondsmen will remain in statu quo. The bondsmen have been requested to settle, but as this has not been done, the proposed suit against them which is to come at the October term of court will not be dropped unless in the meantime the settlement is made. Even if all the money is paid, it is not likely that the criminal action against Colonel Neal will be dropped. But he would stand a much better chance of acquittal if he does pay up.

The last time Colonel Neal was in the city it was generally expected that he was ready to settle. But his attorneys said they knew nothing of such intention. In their consultation with the Attorney General nothing was accomplished and the amount he will be held for remained the same as before.

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and, of course want a Democratic newspaper. The Chicago Dispatch is the Great Democratic Weekly Newspaper of the country. It advocates the readoption of the Chicago platform and the renomination of William Jennings Bryan.

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Address The Chicago Dispatch, 120 and 122 Fifth Avenue, New York City, N. Y.

For MacLaren on The Church.

It has been known for some time that Ian MacLaren has been critically studying modern church methods, and the results are now to be made public in 'The Ladies' Home Journal.' His first article is called "The Candy-Pull System in the Church," and in this he frankly states what many have felt but have scarcely ventured to publicly assert with regard to social tendencies of the church. The great English author will then handle "The Mutineer in the Church," and after that answer the somewhat startling question, "Should the Old Minister be shot?"

A Girls Experiences in Boston.

A sparkling serial of Boston life, under the title of "Her Boston Experiences," will begin in the next issue of 'The Ladies' Home Journal.' It is written by Margaret Allston, a vivacious, well-bred girl who spent a winter in Boston with relatives living in the Back Bay and was taken everywhere in the most exclusive social, dramatic, literary and musical circles. She saw the best and the worst of Boston life, and she tells both as she saw them, all in a bright but audaciously frank manner, until the picture becomes a perfect biography of Boston life and people of to-day. The Ladies' Home Journal, Boston.

## CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

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