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## DOINGS OF THE WEEK

### What Has Happened in the Civilized World.

#### GIVEN IN THE PRESS DISPATCHES

##### A Complete Review of the News of the Past Seven Days in This and All Foreign Lands.

Santiago is on the verge of starvation. All the food has been eaten for the army and navy, and troops and sailors are on half rations.

The president has in contemplation the submission of a special message to congress calling for the immediate annexation of Hawaii as a military necessity.

The Marblehead on Monday, when the insurgents had pressed forward west of Santiago, shelled the Spaniards, who fled to the mountains, checking the path followed in their retreat with dead and wounded.

Word has been received from Ottawa, Canada, that a messenger has left there with notice of the expulsion from Canada of Lieutenant Caranac and Senator Du Bose, the Spanish officers, who were recently attached to the Spanish legation at Washington.

The Marblehead engaged and drove a Spanish gunboat into Guantanamo harbor and shelled and reduced the antiquated fortifications. The insurgents co-operated on the land side. The place is being held until troops arrive. It is contemplated to establish a general base there.

Sampson has officially declared that the purpose of the bombardment of Santiago was to clear the way for the troops. The object has been attained. He personally commended Ensign Palmer for approaching within 160 yards of the Spanish battery at night, and learning that the Spaniards were mounting guns.

Suspected of having furnished the United States with information regarding San Juan harbor, Walter Bett, secretary of the British consulate at that port, has received his passport and has been banished from Porto Rico by order of Governor-General Macia. Bett was imprisoned in a dungeon for 58 hours, and during that time he was subjected to gross maltreatment. British Consul-General Crawford has made a formal protest to his government and serious international complications are imminent.

The American naval commander is anxious to bring about the exchange of Lieutenant Hobson and his gallant companions from the Merrimack. The admiral sent the Vixen with a flag of truce to the entrance of the harbor Wednesday offering to exchange for the lieutenant and his party some prisoners taken from a prize of the Marblehead off Cienfuegos. Cervera considered the matter all night, and sent word today that he is powerless to act. He referred the matter to the military governor, who later in turn referred it to Blanco. A long delay is probable.

In addition to Dewey's fleet eight foreign vessels are stationed in Manila bay.

The Masonic festival in San Francisco has among numerous interesting exhibitions a sword cane presented to George Washington by General Lafayette.

The auxiliary cruiser St. Paul sailed from New York at noon Wednesday under sealed orders. She has taken aboard nearly 5,000 tons of coal and 25,000 gallons of water.

President McKinley received a press dispatch to the effect that Captain Phillips, of the battle-ship Texas, had been killed by a Spanish shell at Santiago. He said there was no reason to believe it true, and cited Sampson's official dispatch announcing no casualties.

A special from Kingston, Jamaica, reports that the Spanish cruiser Vizcaya and the torpedo-boat destroyer Furor were badly damaged during the bombardment of Monday. A shell from the Brooklyn is said to have burst under the Vizcaya's port quarter, dismounting a gun, injuring the cruiser's rudder and wounding several sailors.

The Spanish forces have been defeated with heavy loss in a battle at Jiguani, province of Santiago. After six hours' fighting the Spaniards raised a flag of truce and expressed themselves as willing to surrender, and the Cubans took as prisoners one Spanish colonel, seven captains and several other officers, besides 163 soldiers. The Spanish loss amounted to 78 dead and a large number of wounded. Included in the Spanish losses were 13 officers.

Assistant Secretary Melkelyoh has chartered the steamships Indiana, Morgan City and City of Para for the transportation of troops to the Philippines, and has closed a contract for the Victoria, Olympia and Arizona, of the North Pacific steamship line and secure the privilege of acquiring the Tacoma and Columbia if needed, all five on condition that they are given American register. He also has ordered impressed into service the steamer Queen and City of Puebla, of the Pacific Steamship Company, if found satisfactory.

There are believed to be only 18,000 Spanish troops in Porto Rico.

It is said that the populace of Manila is reduced to eating horseflesh.

Spaniards in the Canary Islands live in dread of bombardment by the American fleet.

The Russian Jews of Cincinnati, have started a movement among their countrymen throughout the United States and are raising money to buy a battleship for the government.

## LATER NEWS.

The steamer Skagit Chief ran against a rock in the Skokholm river and was wrecked.

The three Philippine expeditions are to unite at Honolulu and conclude their voyage in company.

The war department has no intention of further increasing the strength of the Manila expedition.

From 10,000 to 15,000 troops conveyed by Sampson's battle-ships are expected to constitute the invading expedition to Porto Rico.

Mrs. A. Kummer, wife of Chief Engineer Kummer, of the steamer Wildwood, committed suicide at Port Townsend by jumping off the wharf into the Sound.

Word has been received at the navy department at Washington from a high though unofficial source that Admiral Camara's Cadiz fleet has been found unfit for sea.

The president signed the war revenue bill Monday. The measure had been signed previously by Vice-President Hobart and Speaker Reed, is now a law.

In response to an inquiry, General Linera, of the Spanish army at Santiago, cabled the following reply: "Hobson and the other seven prisoners are well, and are in receipt of all cablegrams sent them."

When the Dauntless left Guantanamo bay Monday morning the cable steamer Adria was grappling for the steamer cable. The cable is to be spliced and Sampson will hold it for direct communication with Washington.

Immediately upon information from the White House that the war revenue bill had been signed by the president, Secretary Gage issued a circular explaining to the public the proposed bond issue. That circular invites subscriptions for \$200,000,000 of 3 per cent bonds.

It was formally announced at the war department Monday morning that the first military expedition had left Key West at daybreak bound for Santiago.

A large force of transports conveyed the troops under convoy of a strong squadron of warships ranging from immense battle-ships to the small gunboats and armed fast sailing yachts. Major-General Shafter, who commands the expedition, has with him a force of 773 officers and 14,534 enlisted men. Regular troops make up the greater part of the force, there being only three volunteer organizations on the ships. It was difficult to prevail upon the mounted riflemen to leave their mounts behind, but this was a matter of necessity, it is said, owing to the lack of accommodation for horses on ship board. The best the department could do at this time in the way of supplying the cavalry contingent for the expedition was to include among the troops one squad of the Second United States cavalry, fully mounted with nine officers and 280 enlisted men.

A prominent Chinese physician of Cleveland offers to enlist a company of his countrymen, take them to our newly won Philippine possessions and teach the Chinese there that American rule is what they need.

A special from Jacksonville, Fla., says that three men were killed and Lieutenant Hart, of the engineer corps, was badly wounded by the explosion of a torpedo which was being placed in the St. Johns river about 18 miles south of Jacksonville. How the accident occurred the report does not show.

A Madrid dispatch says: A startling telegram from Governor-General Augusti caused an impression that Manila had surrendered already or was on the eve of surrendering. The latest report is that Augusti, in a fit of despair tried to commit suicide, but was prevented from killing himself by Admiral Montojo and the generals who wish to hold out. The queen regent is profoundly grieved and alarmed at the news of the progress of the war, particularly the report from the Philippines.

The war department has issued instructions for the guidance of officers of volunteers detailed to recruit their organizations to fill them to the maximum under the second call of the president for 75,000 men. Applicants for enlistment must be between 18 and 45 years old, of good character and habits, able-bodied, free from disease, and must be able to speak the English language. Married men will be only enlisted on the approval of regimental commanders. Minors must not be enlisted without the written consent of a parent or guardian. The term of service is two years.

Replying to a question in the house of commons Friday as to whether the British government or any of the European powers have any intention of intervening to secure the termination of the Spanish-American war, Balfoer, the government leader, said: Her Majesty's government will gladly take any favorable opportunity for promoting a cessation of hostilities and negotiations for peace, but any action upon its part for this purpose can only be undertaken if there is a reasonable prospect that it will be well received by both parties and likely to lead to an agreement between them. Unfortunately there is not sufficient grounds for believing that this condition exists.

Marine insurance companies are greatly agitated over Spain's new threat of privateering.

The wonderful submarine torpedo-boat Holland has been bought by the government.

The war has caused an immense decrease in first and second-class ocean travel.

A high fence has been erected all around the Carpenter Steel works at Reading, Pa., as a further protection from spies.

## FIRST LAND FIGHT

### Marines at Guantanamo Attacked by Spanish Troops.

#### FOUGHT ALL SATURDAY NIGHT

Our Losses Were Four Men Killed and Eleven Wounded—Assistant Surgeon Gibbs Among the Former—The Enemy's Loss is Not Known.

Off Guantanamo, via Mole St. Nicholas, June 14.—Lieutenant R. W. Huntington's battalion of marines, which landed from the transport Panther Friday and encamped on the hill, guarding the abandoned cable station at the entrance of the harbor of Guantanamo, has been engaged in heading off a rush attack by Spanish guerrillas and regulars since 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

The fighting was almost continuous for 13 hours, until 6 o'clock this morning, when reinforcements were landed from the Marblehead.

Four of our men were killed and 11 wounded.

The advance pickets, under Lieutenants Neville and Shaw are unaccounted for.

Among the killed is Assistant Surgeon John Blair Gibbs, son of Major Gibbs, of the regular army, who fell in the Custer massacre. His home was at Richmond, Va., but he has been practicing in New York, and entered the service since the war began. He was a very popular officer.

The others killed are Sergeant Chas. H. Smith, of Smallwood; Private William Dunphy, of Gloucester, Mass., and Private James McColgan, of Stoneham, Mass.

Corporal Glass was accidentally wounded in the hand.

The Spanish loss is unknown, but it was probably considerable. The spots of blood found at daylight at the position the Spanish occupied indicate fatalities, but their comrades carried off the killed and wounded.

The engagement began with desultory firing at the pickets, 100 yards inland from the camp.

Captain Spicer's company was doing guard duty, and was driven in, finally falling at the camp and routing the enemy by 6 o'clock.

The bodies of Private McColgan and Dunphy were found, both shot dead. The large cavities made by the bullets, which, inside a range of 500 yards, have a rotary motion, indicate that the victims were killed at close range. The bodies were stripped of shoes, hats and cartridge belts, and horribly mutilated with machetes.

When the marines were landed the whole battalion was formed on three sides of a hollow square about the camp on the hill back of the bay, where the warships were at anchor. Back of the camp is a deep ravine, and behind this are steep hills. The adjacent country is thick with bushes.

The sky was blanketed with clouds and when the sun set a gale was blowing seaward. Night fell thick and impenetrable. The Spanish squadron, concealed in the chaparral cover, had the advantage, the men furnishing a fine target against the sky. The Spaniards fought from cover till midnight, discoverable only by the flashes from their crackers in a barrel.

The Marblehead's launch, with a Colt machine gun in her bow, pushed up the bay enfilading the Spaniards, and it is thought that some were killed. The marines trailed much blood to the water's edge, and there lost it. Sharks are numerous in the vicinity.

The ships threw their searchlights ashore, the powerful eyes sweeping the deep tropical foliage and disclosing occasionally skulking parties of Spaniards.

Each discovery of the enemy was greeted by the cracks of carbine fire along the edge of the camp ridge or by the long roll of the launch's machine-guns searching the thickets with leaden stream.

Shortly after midnight came the main attack. The Spaniards made a gallant charge up the northwest slope, but were met by repeated volleys from main body, and broke before they were one-third of the way up the hill, but they came so far that at points there was almost a hand-to-hand struggle. The officers fired their revolvers. The Spaniards got through the open formation to the edge of the camp. Colonel Jose Campani, the Cuban leader, discharged his revolver and the Cubans, turning and finding themselves without support, ran helter-skelter down the reverse side of the hill.

It was during this assault that Assistant Surgeon Gibbs was killed. He was shot in the head in front of his own tent, the farthest point of attack. He fell into the arms of Private Sullivan and both dropped. A second bullet three feet in their faces. Surgeon Gibbs lived 10 minutes, but did not regain consciousness. The surgeons of the hospital corps then removed their quarters to the trenches, about the Spanish stockade, north of the camp.

The attack was continued at intervals through the rest of the night, with firing by small squads in various directions.

Toward morning the fire slackened. Dawn is the favorite time for attack, and as the east paled, the marines, lying on their guns, were aroused. Some were actually asleep, as they had had no rest for 48 hours, and tired nature could no longer stand the strain.

## FLEET IS OFF.

The Army of Invasion Sails From Key West, Shafter in Command.

Washington, June 14.—Under command of General Shafter, the first division of the army sailed tonight from Key West for Santiago de Cuba to besiege and capture that town. The conveying warships, believed to number 16 or 19, will be ready for the voyage by nightfall, and with this powerful force there is no longer reason for apprehension that the transports can be attacked successfully by any Spanish warships, even if such ships had escaped the vigilant search of the naval commanders at Key West and off Havana.

It is believed here that the sally out of Havana of the three Spanish gunboats was intended to create the impression that they were prepared to attack the transports. If so, the plan miscarried, for the craft were detected immediately by Commodore Watson's cruisers and driven back pell mell into Havana harbor under the protection of the guns of the shore batteries.

Even if these boats had escaped they could have done no damage, for the size of the convoy furnished for the troops is sufficient to warrant the belief that they would have been speedily destroyed had they had the courage to make an attack upon the fleet of American ships. The Spanish boats are not of formidable character, not one of them being equal in power of the smallest American cruiser, or even of such gunboats as the little Bancroft, which may be used as General Shafter's flagship.

Every precaution has been taken by the government to insure the safety of the troops en route to Cuba. The naval war was in session today making the final preparations for the disposition of the guardships. The transports will be kept as closely together as safe navigation will permit, and the warships will be disposed of ahead, astern and on each flank. The fleetest conveying vessels will be thrown far astern, ready to signal the heavily-armed cruisers at the first sign of an approaching foe.

The troops should arrive off Santiago by Wednesday night, supposing the fleet proceeds at eight knots speed, and landing operations should begin by Thursday, for General Shafter will not keep his men cooped up on shipboard a moment longer this necessary.

## WRECK AT GLENDALE.

Brakeman Stephen D. Willis Crushed to Death.

Roseburg, Or., June 14.—North-bound freight train No. 31, pulled by a large engine, was derailed about 11:45 A. M. today near tunnel No. 2, eight miles north of Glendale. The engine, tender and five cars jumped the track. It is supposed the track spread.

Stephen D. Willis, head brakeman, and Al Veatch, brakeman, were riding on the pilot. Willis evidently saw the danger as the train rounded the curve, and jumped. He was stunned by the fall and the engine turned over on him before he could escape. He was instantly killed. Veatch was thrown ahead on the track and was only slightly bruised. Engineer Dempsey and the fireman were thrown from the engine as it rolled over. Dempsey was bruised and cut about the face, not seriously. The fireman was not hurt at all.

A wrecking train, with physicians, and William R. Willis, father of the brakeman killed, left soon after the accident occurred.

## LAKES ARE CLEAR.

Navigation Opened on Lindenmann and Bennett.

Port Townsend, June 14.—The passengers of the steamer Cottage City, which arrived tonight from Alaska, report Lake Lindenmann clear of ice. Two steamers are running day and night taking miners across. Eight scows laden with supplies were smashed in the ice on Bennett, losing everything aboard.

Three hundred men have succeeded in reaching the interior of Western Alaska via Yakutat bay. Parties arriving from there state rich diggings have been struck on Alaska river.

Speedy justice has been meted out to the murderers of Sam Roberts, a gambler, at Dyer. He was killed about three months ago, just as he was entering his cabin. Fitzpatrick received a life sentence at San Quentin, while Brooks and Corbett, his accomplices, were sentenced to 10 years.

## Protection for the Troops.

Washington, June 14.—Senator Bacon, of Georgia, had a conference with the president today concerning the reported yellow fever in the South. Senator Bacon advised the president to see to it that the United States forces in the South be removed from the region of contagion. The matter has been referred by the president to Surgeon-General Wyman, with instructions to make a report on it at the earliest possible moment.

## South African War Drawing.

London, June 14.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Mail says: War between the Transvaal and Swaziland may break out at any moment. The Swazi king has 80,000 warriors well armed and drilled, and there is much anxiety in the Transvaal.

San Francisco, Cal., June 10.—The litigation waged for three years to a successful issue by Alphonso B. Bowers against all builders and users of steam river and harbor dredges is about to be revived. Bowers recently brought suit against the United States government for damage to the extent of \$500,000, alleging infringements of patents as his cause of action. The government is actively engaged in preparing its defense, and the suit will soon be brought to trial.

## OFF THE ROADS

### Four Spanish Warships Were Seen Near Fort Monroe.

#### WERE HEADING SOUTHWARD

Caught by the Searchlight—Battle-Ship, Two Cruisers and Torpedo Boat—The Signal for Activity at the Fort and on the Vessels in the Bay.

Newport News, Va., June 11.—A dispatch just received from Fort Monroe says: Intense excitement was caused at Fort Monroe Friday night shortly after 9 o'clock by a dispatch received from the signal station at Cape Henry, stating that Spanish warships were lurking in the vicinity.

A short time later a message was received from Washington instructing the commander of the fort to be on the alert. Reports as to the number of ships seem to conflict.

A lieutenant, who was seen after midnight, said that he had been informed that a Spanish battleship, two cruisers and a torpedo-boat had been caught under the searchlight of Cape Henry, steaming from a northerly direction.

As soon as it was reported that the enemy's warships had been sighted there was great activity at the fort. The big searchlights began to sweep across the bay, and signals were flashed to the cruiser Minneapolis, auxiliary cruiser Dixie and dynamite cruiser Buffalo, which were anchored off Old point.

Quarters were sounded, and the crews hastily prepared the ships for action. The gunners took positions at their posts, where they were ordered to remain during the night. The ship's searchlights were kept playing on the water.

At the fort ammunition was hurried to the long guns, and the troops were ordered to the posts. Some of the officers were with their families at the hotels, and buglers were dispatched for them. The men scurried out of the hotels half dressed and hastened to the fort.

In the camp of the Maryland troops orders were given for the men to sleep in their clothes with their guns close by.

## STRONG CONVOY.

Sixteen Warships Go With Transports, Headed by the Indiana.

Washington, June 13.—Out of the maze of doubt and contradiction as to the dispatch of the first army of invasion to Cuba, one thing stands out clearly, namely, that the government, feeling strong in its present position and plan, is moving cautiously and with the deliberation which it believes will secure success unattended with disasters.

With this main purpose in view, the army and navy are co-operating toward the dispatch of the troops, some 26,000 in number, under escort of a strong fleet of naval convoys, made up of 16 warships, headed by the battleship Indiana. Unattended by this strong fleet the troops might have left last Friday, when one strong naval convoy was ready for this service. Since then, however, reports have



SECRETARY OF WAR ALDRICH.

come as to the presence of Spanish ships in the North Atlantic. Realizing that nothing was to be gained by haste, and that the war was progressing steadily toward success, it was determined not to take the one small chance of having our troop transports menaced by some scouting ships of the enemy.

As a result, the troop transports have not proceeded to Cuba, either yesterday or the day before, as has been repeatedly asserted. They are in readiness to go, but will not move until the naval convoy is ready to accompany them, assuring safe conduct from Florida to the point of destination. Whether that will be today or tomorrow, the war department declines positively to say.

The completeness with which the transporting of the troops has been planned is shown by the list of transport vessels given out at the war department today. Of this list, 24 steamships, varying from 1,400 tons down to 800 tons, are at Florida ports ready to carry troops to the point of invasion. The entire transport fleet of about 50 steamships, augmented by the fleet of 16 naval convoys, will make a formidable marine procession, exceeding in magnitude the notable spectacle of the naval review in the world's fair year.

## COAST IS CLEAR.

American Troops Will Land in Cuba Without Difficulty.

Kingston, Jamaica, June 13.—The navy awaits the army. The fighting ships of Rear-Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley have battered down the coast defenses of Southern Cuba, and have sealed up Admiral Cervera's fleet in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba by sinking the collier Merrimac in the channel at its entrance, with guns of the fleet covering it. Boats running under the shadow of El Moro have cut the Haytian cable, and now hold 85 miles of the coast east of Santiago de Cuba, including Guantanamo harbor.

Under the cover of the guns of the fleet, Eastern Cuba may be safely invested by land and sea. Admiral Cervera's fleet annihilated and the entire province and its town and harbors seized and held, after a short campaign.

The harbor of Guantanamo is a fine basis for land and sea operations. The harbor is capacious, and has 40 feet of water. The land approaches are not so precipitous as at Santiago de Cuba. The low-lying hills can be easily reach-



Map of Guantanamo harbor showing the fleet's position.

ed with trains of siege guns, and there are level roads to Santiago, 35 miles distant, where a few mountain batteries, beyond the reach of the fleet, will be taken to an eminence commanding the city and the Spanish ships.

Guantanamo is an important place. It has six miles of water harbor, and will be of great value to the United States navy and army as a supply station, coaling depot and cable terminus.

The Spaniards have but slight defenses. Their batteries were silenced by the Marblehead in a few minutes' firing at 4,000 yards. A small Spanish gunboat ran away. The Oregon, Marblehead and Yankee hold the harbor, waiting to land marines.

The navy's work has been done well. Day and night ships patrol the 30 miles of coast within easy gun range of the shore. The officers and men are ever ready and impatiently say: "What more can be done? We have opened the way; where is the army of invasion?"

## ENGAGEMENT AT GUANTANAMO.

Cruiser Marblehead in Full Possession of the Bay.

Washington, June 13.—The first official confirmation of the engagement at Guantanamo came to the naval department today and was made the subject of a bulletin. The terms in which Admiral Sampson described the affair tended strongly to take away the large importance that had been given it in the unofficial discussion. There was a notable failure on the part of the admiral to mention anything like a landing, although a statement that the Marblehead now holds the lower bay by implication may carry with it the idea that her marines are ashore. The cablegram follows:

"June 9 Admiral Sampson ordered the Marblehead, Commander McCalla, and the Yankee, Commander Brownson, to take possession of the outer bay of Guantanamo. These vessels entered the harbor at daylight on the 9th, driving the Spanish gunboats into the inner harbor, and took possession of the lower bay, which is now held by the Marblehead."

## PUT BACK FOR COAL.

Monitor Monterey and Collier Brutus Arrive at San Diego.

San Diego, Cal., June 13.—The United States steamer Monterey and her coal consort, the Brutus, supposed to be speeding on their way toward Honolulu and Manila, were sighted at noon today, steaming south toward San Diego, at a good rate of speed, the Monterey leading. They arrived off the harbor mouth at 3 P. M. and separated, the Brutus going about five miles south and anchoring near Coronado island, while the Monterey came in rapidly and dropped her anchor at 4 P. M. off the coal bunkers. A great crowd was on the wharf to receive her.

Paymaster Rogers stated briefly that they had simply come in here for coal and water, and would sail tomorrow afternoon for Honolulu.

## Germany's Interest in It.

Madrid, June 13.—It is reported that Germany will propose a meeting of the European conference to discuss the question of the Philippines.

A dispatch from Blanco at Havana says the Spanish torpedo-boat destroyer Terror is in Porto Rican waters.

## Ship Starting Wrecked.

Seattle, Wash., June 12.—The steamer Kodiak, which arrived here this afternoon from Southeastern Alaska, reports that the ship Sterling ran on a reef and was wrecked in the Nushayok river, about 65 miles from its mouth. Her crew and passengers were landed at Kariuk. The Sterling left San Francisco April 27, with supplies for the canneries in Southern Alaska. She carried 175 passengers, 150 of whom were Chinese.

## A HARBOR MAP

### The Insurgents View the Spanish Fleet in Santiago.

#### IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH SCHLEY

Give Very Definite Information Regarding Cape Verde Fleet—Entire Spanish Fleet at Santiago Numbers But 6000 Poorly Fed Soldiers.

Off Santiago de Cuba, via Kingston, Jamaica, June 11.—After diving the Spanish fleet at Santiago de Cuba into a more protected position in the harbor, by the bombardment of Tuesday, Commodore Schley opened communication with the insurgents 18 miles from Santiago to the east. They were urged to obtain, if possible, the names and number of the fleet inside the harbor, as the contour of the land at the entrance made it impossible to accurately determine by the view of the fleet just how many vessels of the Spanish squadron were there.

On Friday afternoon Lieutenant Sharp, of the Vixen, went to the place of the rendezvous, and secured from the insurgents a map of the harbor, showing the entire Cape Verde fleet, and the exception of the destroyer Terror, inside, and close to the city under the protection of the guns on Blanco battery at the northern extremity of the harbor. The ships there, according to this chart, are the Cristobal Colon, Vizcaya, Almirante Oquendo, the Maria Teresa and the Reina Mercedes (destroyed by the American warships since this dispatch was written); all cruisers of the first-class, and heavily armed, together with three torpedo-boats. The definiteness of this information naturally gave Commodore Schley great satisfaction.

With Admiral Sampson's arrival, Wednesday, the blockade was much strengthened, and the plans to starve the fleet were pushed vigorously. Just how long Santiago can stand besieging is a matter of conjecture. The country about the city is unproductive and mountainous, and the insurgents camps are so close that there is little or no communication between the city and its environs. The railway service is not carried to a distance much beyond 10 miles from the town. Since Sunday last, when Cervera's squadron was penned up by the flying squadron under Commodore Schley, nothing has been done since the auxiliary cruiser St. Paul captured about 4,000 tons of coal consigned to the port. It is thoroughly believed that only a short time will be needed to bring Santiago to a starvation basis. Naturally the fleet has a supply, perhaps for two months, but the Spanish soldiers cannot be sustained on this. An important fact was learned today from the insurgents on shore, with whom communication has been opened up. There are not 20,000 soldiers, as has been stated, in this part of the province of Santiago de Cuba, but only about 6,000. Even these are badly fed and much disheartened.

## CENSOR'S WORK.

Movements of United States Troops Are Kept Secret.

Washington, June 11.—It became apparent this afternoon that the war department, through the energetic offices of the censor, has succeeded entirely in its purpose to keep the movement of troops a secret, for beyond question at the close of the day it was impossible to learn the whereabouts of the United States troops, which had for weeks been gathered under command of General Shafter in Florida.

Stories of a mysterious warship in Cuban waters floated through the navy department during the day. The officers quickly condemned them, declaring that if the boats were Spanish they were nothing more than unarmored launches and were not to be feared by any transports conveyed by such fine gunboats as the Helena and Bancroft. But when these stories reached the war department they were received in a different spirit. Nothing ignomineous in warfare than an unarmored troopship full of soldiers. She would fall an easy victim to the small-armed torpedo-boat, and the soldiers, knowing their weakness in this respect, are loath to undertake to cross the Florida straits until these disagreeable visitors have been removed from the pathway.

Without respect to the character of the strange craft that are said to be dodging the blockaders at Havana, they will be removed from the scene of action on short notice, as it is expected that Sampson has been made acquainted with the situation, and is expected to redeem his promise to provide safe conduct for the army when called upon.

He has ample force to conduct the operations at Santiago to a successful issue and still spare vessels of any power desirable for use in the Florida straits.

## Patriotic Philadelphians.

Philadelphia, June 11.—The Press this morning states that agents of the government secret service are in possession of information indicating that hundreds of tons of coal have been supplied to Spanish agents by brokers in this locality, and that prosecutions which may send several prominent coal-dealers to prison are imminent.

A 28-pound ball fired by an English man-of-war in 1812, was recently unearthed near Alexandria, Va.