

THE OREGON MIST.

VOL. XV.

ST. HELENS, OREGON, FRIDAY, JULY 8, 1898.

NO. 20.

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.

From swimming baths are to be constructed in Portland.

A salmon weighing 89 pounds has been shipped from Portland to the Omaha fair.

The Egyptian government has definitely refused to permit the Spanish fleet to coal at Port Said.

It is reported on apparently good authority that the water supply of Santiago has been cut off.

The Spanish troops at Calmanera and other points in the interior of the province of Santiago, are starving.

Manila dispatches received at Madrid under date of June 24, say the Spaniards are determined to fight to the death, and that when the American troops arrive desperate fighting will occur on land and sea.

The passage leading to the inner harbor of Guantanamo harbor has been thoroughly cleaned of mines by launches from the Dolphin and other ships. Eight mines, weighing 180 pounds each were taken up and sent to dock, where they will be cleaned before they are put into the American waters.

A dispatch received at Washington Wednesday evening says: General Shafter has just reported to General Miles that he can take Santiago in 48 hours, but indicates that the undertaking may involve considerable loss. He has information of the approach of 8,000 Spanish reinforcements from Manzanillo, and it is believed that he intends to take the town immediately, and that news of a battle may be expected at any time. The Spanish reinforcements referred to are now within 54 miles of Santiago.

Information has been received from Manzanillo to the effect that five battalions of Spanish troops, which left that city several days ago to reinforce General Linares returned to Manzanillo two days after departure. This is regarded as indicating the failure of the Spanish attempt under command of General Pando to rush 10,000 trained troops to the defense of Santiago. This news has set at rest the fears of both the American and Cuban commanders. They believe that Pando's men either were unequal to the difficult march from Manzanillo to Santiago, or else General Linares, realizing the hopelessness of his position, sent word that it was useless to send additional troops to that point.

Admiral Sampson reports that the auxiliary cruiser St. Paul arrived off Santiago Monday and discharged her troops. Captain Sigsbee reports that on Wednesday afternoon while off San Juan, he was attacked by a Spanish torpedo-boat. The torpedo made a dash, which was evaded by the St. Paul. Shots from the guns of the St. Paul hit the torpedo three times, killing one officer and two men and wounding several others. The torpedo dropped back under cover of the fortifications with difficulty, and was towed into harbor in a sinking condition, where she is now being repaired. Later the cruiser and gunboats started out again, but remained under protection of the forts.

By proclamation issued Tuesday the president gave notice of the intention of the government to assume the formidable task of blockading about 200 miles of the Cuban coast line in addition to the section already blockaded, and also to blockade San Juan, Porto Rico. This increases the extent of the blockade on the Cuban coast fully fourfold. The demands upon the navy will not be nearly so heavy in proportion to the territory covered as in the case of the initial blockade, for the reason that the new blockaded coast lies entirely within the great bight on the south coast of Cuba, in which water is generally very shallow, and the ports are few into which a vessel could enter. The most important of these ports are Manzanillo, Trinidad and Tunas.

Orders have been issued for the immediate sailing of another large expedition to reinforce Shafter. The soldiers will sail from Tampa and will number 9,000 men. It is understood they will be taken from General Snyder's second division of the Fourth army corps. Eight transports will carry the expedition to Key West, where they will be joined by a strong naval convoy and proceed to Santiago. Preparations have been proceeding vigorously for some days, but the rigid censorship at Tampa prevented a word going out regarding the expedition. Snyder's second division, the Fourth army corps, looked upon by the war department as the one best equipped for an immediate start, is now at Tampa, and is made up of three brigades and nine regiments, which include both regulars and volunteers.

There is no abatement in the demand for the new war bonds. Experts agree that the total of individual subscriptions will not exceed the \$10,000,000 mark.

The submarine boat Argonaut has completed a run of 300 miles under and on the waters of the Chesapeake bay between Baltimore and Norfolk, Va., and Simon Lake, the inventor, expresses confidence in being able to cut the wires or destroy mines laid to protect any harbor in the world.



ARMADA DESTROYED

Sampson Has Annihilated Cervera's Squadron at Santiago.

Glorious news from Cuba afforded the American people opportunity to do justice to the celebration of the nation's birthday.

Admiral Sampson has accomplished the work he was directed to perform when he left Key West for the coast of Cuba. He was ordered to find and destroy Cervera's fleet.

Several weeks ago, Commodore Schley located the fleet in the bay of Santiago.

Sunday, after being bottled helplessly in the harbor for weeks, the fleet was destroyed. Nothing now remains of the Spanish squadron but shattered and burning hulks.

Admiral Cervera's fleet, consisting of Cristobal Colon, Almirante Oquendo, Infanta Maria Teresa and Vizcaya, and two torpedo-boat destroyers, the Furor and the Pluton, are today at the bottom of the Caribbean sea, off the southern coast of Cuba; the Spanish admiral is a prisoner of war on the auxiliary gunboat Gloucester, and 1,000 to 1,500 other Spanish soldiers and sailors, all who escaped the frightful carnage caused by the shells from the American warships, are also held as prisoners of war by the United States navy.

The American victory is complete, and, according to the best information obtainable at this time, the American vessels were practically untouched, and only one man was killed, though the ships were subjected to the heavy fire of the Spaniards all the time the battle lasted.

Admiral Cervera made as gallant a dash for liberty as has ever occurred in the history of naval warfare.

In addition to this splendid work, accomplished by Admiral Sampson, General Shafter, in command of the land forces before Santiago de Cuba, has so far progressed in the carrying of his plan for the reduction of the city that he has demanded the immediate surrender of the Spanish forces.

BOYS ARE SAFE.

The First Manila Expedition Has Reached Cavite.

The American troops of the City of Sydney, City of Peking, and Amtrale, conveyed by the Charleston, have arrived at Cavite, having taken the Ladrones islands, on the way, and having left them there.

The Spanish governor and other officials captured were brought to Cavite.

The United States troops have commenced to disembark at Cavite.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

The president has intimated that another call for volunteers will soon be issued.

Captain P. H. Cooper, superintendent of the naval academy, has been selected to command the cruiser Chicago.

The Egyptian government has decided to notify Admiral Camara that the continued presence of the Spanish fleet at Port Said is violating neutrality, and that the warships must leave.

Secretary Long said that he understood Camara's fleet had paid the canal dues, and the presumption is that they will continue the voyage.

The war department has received the welcome information today that military telegraph stations have been established at St. Villa, in the center of the present military operations, and that this line runs to a point near Aguadores, where it connects with the French cable line, thus bringing General Shafter into direct communication with the department.

Corporal Hecht, Seventh Infantry, who with seven men was sent out seven miles from Santiago was found by General Shafter Thursday afternoon and sent into camp. The party had repeatedly seen the Spaniards, who did not offer to molest them, and the Americans spent the day as if enjoying a picnic in the woods. The corporal said that if he had had with him an efficient force he could have brought in 40 Spanish prisoners.

The camp conditions near Santiago continue hard. Heavy rains set every thing adrift. Rations, however, are being served out regularly, but they are still not plentiful. Officers and men fare alike. The latter are suffering during the cold nights from lack of blankets thrown away on the march. These have been appropriated by the Cubans, who take everything in sight, and do as little as possible. On the whole, they actually fare better than our men.

Consular Agent Broadbent has just made a master-stroke, which he reports to the department. While the Spanish ships were seeking permission of the Egyptian government to take coal at Port Said, the consular officer succeeded in quietly buying up all the coal available at that place. This amounted to 2,000 tons and it is in a good place to be shipped to Dewey, to serve as a base of supplies for Watson's Eastern squadron, when it enters the Mediterranean, or to coal any American vessels that may pass through the Suez canal bound to the Asiatic station.

WATSON'S EASTERN SQUADRON

Preparing for Its Role, While Camara Loafs Time.

Washington, July 2.—It was announced at the navy department this afternoon that the Spanish Cadiz squadron had paid the heavy Suez canal tolls and was about to proceed eastward through the canal, though this statement was probably erroneous, in view of the later reports to the press indicating that the Spanish vessels were stopping for repairs. The advice only hastened preparations making for the departure of Commodore Watson's Eastern squadron. The commodore has reported to the navy department his arrival off Santiago, and his consultation with Admiral Sampson respecting the details of the cruise, which, it is expected, will occupy fully four months, providing the war endures that length of time.

The delays to which the Spaniards are subject at Port Said will redound very greatly to the advantage of Admiral Dewey, if Camara is still in reality bound for the Philippines, for they insure the arrival of almost the whole of General Merritt's forces, and almost certainly of the cruiser Charleston and the Monterey and Monadnock, before the Spanish squadron could reach Manila harbor.

It was learned this afternoon that the Egyptian government had decided to notify Admiral Camara that the continued presence of the Spanish fleet at Port Said is violating neutrality and that the warships must leave.

Consular Agent Broadbent has just made a master stroke, which he reports to the department. While the Spanish ships were seeking permission of the Egyptian government to take coal at Port Said the consular officer succeeded in quietly buying up all the coal available at that place. This amounted to 2,000 tons, and it is in a good place to be shipped to Dewey, to serve as a base of supplies for Watson's Eastern squadron, when it enters the Mediterranean, or to coal any American vessels that may pass through the Suez canal, bound to the Asiatic station.

The news that reached the department through the press reports that Admiral Camara is about to leave his torpedo-boat destroyers at Port Said, because they would be unable to weather the monsoons that rage in the Indian ocean at this season, is believed at the navy department to presage the dissolution of the squadron and the abandonment of the cruise to the Philippines.

The wire to the front. Washington, July 2.—General A. W. Greely, chief signal officer, tonight received a dispatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Allen, signal corps officer in Cuba, announcing that a telegraph and telephone station had been established at a point within two miles of the city of Santiago. This information is of the highest importance to the officials of the war department, as it insures to them practically direct communication with Shafter. The information is significant, too, as it shows that the American troops are within rifle shot of Santiago. The telegraph station being of course within the American lines, its location conclusively indicates that the forces of General Shafter have established themselves in advance of telegraphic communication.

A Road Convention. Astoria, Or., July 2.—The county court is using every means to provide Clatsop with good roads, and it was decided today to call a convention. This convention will meet here July 20-21, during which time the farmers' convention will be in session here. The road convention will consist of two or more representatives from each road district, and the best means of securing good highways for the county will be discussed. Farming in Clatsop county is steadily increasing, but farmers are greatly handicapped because of poor highways. It is the intention to remove this obstacle to the county's progress, and secure through the convention can be used the year round. The convention will doubtless be largely attended.

Shot in Bay Field.

Harrisburg, Or., July 2.—This morning Charles Turner was shot and killed by T. M. McGrath, about six miles east of this place. Turner had been working on the farm of Harvey Summerville. McGrath lives near by. Turner visited with McGrath's boy, about his own age. McGrath thought he was visiting his wife, with whom he has had trouble, and became jealous. Today he went to the Summerville farm and went up to Turner, who was working in the hay field, spoke a few words, then stepped back and drew a revolver and shot him. The ball entered Turner's left breast, and he dropped dead.

Remains at Santiago.

Plays del Este, July 2.—Intercepted dispatches from Admiral Cervera show a critical state of affairs at Santiago. Both food and ammunition are reported to be getting very short, and the latter will be exhausted soon. For some days the fleet has been unable to draw a shot from the batteries of the harbor entrance, even though going very close inshore. The cruiser New Orleans has left for Key West.

Dolphin Badly Damaged.

Washington, July 2.—Reports received at the navy department of the collision between the Dolphin and Newark indicate that it took place near Key West. The Dolphin smashed her stem, killing the forward compartment to the collision bulkhead. It is expected three weeks will be consumed in making repairs.

The hunt beats 10 strokes a minute less when one is lying down than when in an upright posture.

A BATTLE BEGUN

Santiago Attacked by the Land and Sea Forces.

ENEMY'S OUTER WORKS TAKEN

Morro Castle and the Forts Bombaraded by the Fleet—Volleyed Used for Dynamite Gun With Good Effect—Cervera's Ships Fired Upon Troops.

Plays del Este, July 2.—A general assault on the city of Santiago by the land and sea forces of the United States began at 7 o'clock this morning.

General Lawton advanced and took possession of El Gaucho, a suburb of Santiago.

Morro castle and the other forts at the entrance of the harbor were bombarded by our fleet. The Vexillon used her dynamite guns with good effect.

The Spanish fleet in the harbor fired on the American troops, who were very close to the city.

Hard fighting all along the American line was in progress at 1 o'clock.

Nine wounded Cubans have been brought in.

Spaniards Retreated. Siboney, July 2.—At 1 o'clock this afternoon, after six hours' terrific fighting, the Spaniards began to leave their entrenchments and retreated into the city.

Many Americans were wounded, and are being brought in. One man had both arms shot off and was wounded in one hip, but was laughing.

Battle Continued Until Dark. Plays del Este, July 2.—The fighting continued until dark. Our forces carried the enemy's outer works, and have occupied them this evening.

The American loss is heavy. Some estimates place it at 600 killed and wounded.

Shafter's Official Report.

Washington, July 2.—The war department has received the following from General Shafter, dated at Siboney: "I have had a very heavy engagement today, which lasted from 8 A. M. until sundown. We have carried their outer works and are now in possession of them. There is now about three-quarters of a mile of open between my lines and the city. By morning, the troops will be entrenched, and considerable augmentation of the forces will be there. General Lawton's division and General Bate's brigade have been engaged all day in carrying El Gaucho, which was accomplished at 4 P. M. Am well in time, and will rest in front of Santiago during the night. I regret to say that our casualties will be above 400. Of these not many were killed. "SHAFTER."

Cubans Sent to the Westward.

Washington, July 2.—An official dispatch was received last night at the war department confirming the press report that Shafter had sent back on transports to Acaceradores, whence they came, 2,000 of Garcia's Cubans. The purpose is a double one, first, to prevent reinforcements coming into Santiago from Manzanillo on the west, and second to prevent the retreat in that direction of the Spanish garrison of the town.

Used the War Ballroom.

Washington, July 2.—Gen. Greely has the following from Siboney: "Saw the war ballroom up near Santiago last night from the flagship of Admiral Sampson, where I was observing it. "ALLEN."

To Stop Pando.

Plays del Este, July 2.—It is believed that General Garcia, whose forces were taken to the east to cooperate with the United States army in the capture of Santiago, will be sent back with 3,000 of his men to stop the advance of General Pando, the Spanish commander, who, with 8,400 troops and a quantity of cattle, was reported at a point 71 miles from Manzanillo, going east towards Santiago. According to information which reached the flagship New York today from Colonel Rice, in command of the Cuban camp, General Pando started from Manzanillo June 22, and is traveling at the rate of 10 miles a day. The distance to Santiago is 67 miles, and the roads are rough and difficult to travel. The Cubans now opposing Pando number only about 300 men.

Relieves General Brooks.

Washington, July 2.—Brigadier-General Penning, recently relieved from duty at Camp Black, was today ordered to proceed to Atlanta to relieve General Brooks of the command of the department of the Gulf. This order does not affect Brooks' command of the First army corps, in camp at Chickamauga, and which is to proceed to Tampa for embarkation to Santiago, either to reinforce Shafter's army or to invade Porto Rico.

Berlin, July 2.—The following dispatch has been received from Hong Kong: According to trustworthy intelligence from Manila, the Spanish government-general has made arrangements for a meeting with Admiral Diederichs (commander of the German naval forces in the far East), in order to propose in behalf of the Spanish government that Manila should be handed into provincial charge of a neutral commander. The proposal was rejected by Diederichs in view of the American blockade.

THE OPPOSING ARMIES.

Spanish Reinforcements Are Moving on Santiago.

Washington, July 1.—Numerically, the opposing armies at Santiago are not very different, the estimate of 14,000 men, thoroughly entrenched and booby-trapped with barbed-wire fences and in block-houses as against about 18,000 men under Shafter's command, aided by 4,000 Cubans.

One of the gravest elements in the problem, however, is the Spanish war-ships, for, unless Shafter is materially assisted by Sampson, who might engage the full attention of the Spanish ships, their fire on the American advance would be very hard to meet.

The military authorities here say that General Linares has shown great military and historical reticence during the last few days, as he gradually drew our troops from the protection of the American ships and brought them close to the fire of the Spanish ships in Santiago harbor. For this reason it was with relief that the announcement was received here that Shafter had succeeded in landing all of his artillery, including his siege train, for, unless Sampson can be relied upon to force his way into the harbor, and attack the Spanish ships, the siege guns, planted on heights commanding the bay, will be the main reliance of General Shafter in offsetting the presence of the Spanish ironclads.

Undoubtedly Shafter is animated to attack as soon as possible by his knowledge of the approach of the reinforcements for Linares from Manzanillo, for, with this additional force, Shafter's position would be disagreeable, if not perilous, at least until he had received reinforcements.

The war department received the first definite news today as to the approach of Spanish reinforcements. This was an official dispatch stating that 8,000 men, with pack-trains and droves of animals, were advancing from Manzanillo, and were 54 miles from Santiago. It has been known through the reports of General Joyce, made to General Miles, that the Spaniards have 10,000 at Holguin, and every precaution has been taken to guard against their advance from either quarter.

The official report today showed that 8,000 of those at Manzanillo had covered half the distance to Santiago, and it is the belief of military officials here that a similar advance is being made by the 10,000 men from Holguin. These advances are practically unopposed, and regarded as one of the most serious phases of the situation. There is the further element, to which the military authorities are giving careful attention, that one man entrenched behind earthenworks or in rifle pits, is worth three men in the open. It is said that the battle of Chancellorsville and Spottsylvania afforded the most direct proof on this point.

ALL IN READINESS.

Assault on Santiago May Begin at Almost Any Hour.

At the Front, on the Rio Guama, via Kingston, July 1.—Preparations for a general advance of the American troops on Santiago de Cuba are being pushed steadily forward, and troops in all branches of the service are being hurried to the front.

Heavy rains this afternoon made it impossible to move today beyond General Wheeler's headquarters, but as the roads dry quickly, the guns will probably be brought up tomorrow, and the entrenchments will be shelled by the artillery and by Colonel Wood's dynamite gun. The shrapnel fire will be more used by the artillery. The guns are 2.3 inches, and with sharp shell they are effective at 2,300 yards. The Cubans say the Spaniards are in deadly fear of dynamite, and General Lawton will see how he can terrify them.

Simultaneously with the bombardment, General Chaffee's brigade will move forward and occupy a position of vital importance in advance of our front. The press representatives are not at present permitted to divulge its location.

The military telegraph has been completed as far as General Wheeler's headquarters, placing the front in direct communication with General Shafter, who still maintains his headquarters on board the Segrencia, where he can keep in close touch with Rear-Admiral Sampson.

There are now more than 18,000 men at the front.

Drinking water for the troops at the front is obtained from the Rio Guama, a stream full of springs direct from the mountains. The water is remarkably good, and is now carefully guarded from pollution. The Cubans and our soldiers bathed in it at first. Strict orders have been issued against such practices in the future and sentinels have been placed to enforce the order. Strict orders have also been issued about eating the tropical fruits, mangoes, oranges, etc., in which the country abounds, the only exception being made in the case of milk from green coconuts, which is considered healthy and refreshing, and limes. Some of our men made themselves sick through eating fruit.

The men are steady and confident. The pickets show none of the nervousness which might be expected, and there are practically no alarms or firing on the lines at night.

Sailors Thanked.

Washington, July 1.—A precedent that will be historical was established by the senate at its session today. For probably the first time in the history of the senate, a resolution was passed tendering the thanks of congress to common seamen, specifically naming them. The resolution elicited several patriotic speeches in which the private soldiers of the army and the common sailors of the navy were glowingly eulogized.

FOR SANTIAGO.

General Snyder's Division Will Join Shafter's Forces in Cuba.

Washington, June 30.—Orders have been issued for the departure of another large army expedition from Tampa, composed of about 9,000 men of the Second division of the Fourth army corps, under command of Brigadier-General Snyder, and six batteries of artillery, three light and three heavy. The expedition will arrive off Santiago about Saturday. The trip doubtless will be to the eastward around Cape Mayao, along the same route as that taken by Major-General Shafter's expedition. This will bring Shafter's force up to about 20,000 men, made of the 16,000 he took with him. General Duffield's command on the Harvard and Yale, General Garretson's command, which will go on the same steamers, and General Snyder's invasion force from Tampa.

Eight transports will carry Snyder's expedition to Key West, where it will be joined by a strong naval convoy and proceed to Santiago.

Artillery Being Taken Up Over Bad Mountain Roads—General Shafter at the Front—Spaniards Hoisted Red Cross Flags Over the City.

Off Jurunga, Province of Santiago de Cuba, via Kingston, July 2.—The force of the American army is being mobilized as rapidly as possible in the vicinity of Aguadores, four miles from Santiago de Cuba. The moment the tedious task is completed, the attack on Spain's last ditch in Eastern Cuba will be begun. When that will begin Shafter himself cannot say. The troops can be moved without serious delay, and are pushing forward rapidly, but the movement of the pack-trains, wagons, ambulances and artillery is somewhat slow.

From Daiquiri, where the artillery was landed, to the present point of concentration, the road runs through a tangle of undergrowth up and down steep hillsides and over treacherous swamp-bordered streams for a distance of over 12 miles. Through this continuous thicket the vanguard of the army is cutting its way. Engineers are at work leveling the track and filling pits, while a large force of regulars and volunteers, with axes, aided by Cubans with machetes, are hacking down trees and clearing out the brush. A few light guns have already reached this position. The siege guns are not yet within five miles of the vanguard.

General Shafter left his ship today and took quarters with General Wheeler at the front. His appearance there gave rise to a rumor that an attack would occur tomorrow, but the staff officers say it is impossible to get the army in shape to strike a blow for several days. About 2,000 troops are camped four miles east of the besieged city, and the remainder of the forces stretch along the road from there to Jurunga and Daiquiri. The advance forces are in a semi-circle, the left flank resting two miles from there under command of General Chaffee with the extreme right under command of Colonel Miles, about a mile to the northwest. Beginning with the Twelfth infantry at the extreme left, the Seventh, Seventeenth, Fourth, Twenty-fifth and Tenth infantry extend to the right in order named. Beyond their picket lines are established three-quarters of a mile near Santiago city, being in plain sight of General Chaffee's and Colonel Miles' troops.

Much amusement has been caused among the officers by the large number of Red Cross flags flying from buildings in Santiago. Some such flags have been counted today, and it is reported that two more were hoisted tonight. They are all flying from the largest and most prominent buildings, and our officers say the Spanish soldiers evidently intend to thus try to protect every place in the city offering a good mark for the American artillery.

For the past day or two landings have been without incident. The hospital corps has finished its camp and several patients are already under good treatment. There are quite a few cases of measles under the care of the physicians, but a majority of the cases of sickness are the result of heat and the extreme hardships the men have undergone, particularly in waiting for shelter and food during the landing.

The fleet has silently and grimly waiting for the moment to come when it shall finally measure its strength with the harbor batteries. All day long four American men-of-war lay within a mile and a half of Morro's guns, but not a shot was exchanged. The sailors on board could almost have exchanged words with the soldiers ashore, and the fact that the Spaniards did not risk a shot is taken to indicate that they are very short of ammunition. The Indians, Iowa, New Orleans and Massachusetts could easily have been hit as they lay almost motionless within easy range, but Morro might be a country schoolhouse for all the hostile demonstration it made.

Word was received by Rear-Admiral Sampson today that the Spanish supply-boat Purisima Concepcion, which escaped from Jamaica recently, has arrived safely at Tunas, the port of Sancti Spiritus, on the southern coast of the province of Sancti Spiritus. The naval officers here are much chagrined at the fact that the steamer got away.

In the Suez Canal.

Madrid, July 2.—In an interview this afternoon Lieutenant-Colonel Correa, minister of war, advised that Admiral Camara's squadron had been hindered by the passage of the Suez canal. He also announced that the Victoria, the Numancia, the Alfonso XIII and the Lebrato, all armored cruisers, are ready to force the third squadron.

Navit's Star Gone.

San Francisco, July 2.—The steamer Newport, with General Merritt on board, called this morning for the Philippines. General Merritt is very anxious to avoid an encounter with any vessel from the Spanish navy, and will issue orders to the fleet at Honolulu to make all possible speed to the islands.

In a civil service examination in England there were 1,300 failures in a class of 1,972.

ARMY IN CAMP

Americans Mobilized Four Miles From Santiago.

ENGINEERS HARD AT WORK

Artillery Being Taken Up Over Bad Mountain Roads—General Shafter at the Front—Spaniards Hoisted Red Cross Flags Over the City.

Off Jurunga, Province of Santiago de Cuba, via Kingston, July 2.—The force of the American army is being mobilized as rapidly as possible in the vicinity of Aguadores, four miles from Santiago de Cuba. The moment the tedious task is completed, the attack on Spain's last ditch in Eastern Cuba will be begun. When that will begin Shafter himself cannot say. The troops can be moved without serious delay, and are pushing forward rapidly, but the movement of the pack-trains, wagons, ambulances and artillery is somewhat slow.

From Daiquiri, where the artillery was landed, to the present point of concentration, the road runs through a tangle of undergrowth up and down steep hillsides and over treacherous swamp-bordered streams for a distance of over 12 miles. Through this continuous thicket the vanguard of the army is cutting its way. Engineers are at work leveling the track and filling pits, while a large force of regulars and volunteers, with axes, aided by Cubans with machetes, are hacking down trees and clearing out the brush. A few light guns have already reached this position. The siege guns are not yet within five miles of the vanguard.

General Shafter left his ship today and took quarters with General Wheeler at the front. His appearance there gave rise to a rumor that an attack would occur tomorrow, but the staff officers say it is impossible to get the army in shape to strike a blow for several days. About 2,000 troops are camped four miles east of the besieged city, and the remainder of the forces stretch along the road from there to Jurunga and Daiquiri. The advance forces are in a semi-circle, the left flank resting two miles from there under command of General Chaffee with the extreme right under command of Colonel Miles, about a mile to the northwest. Beginning with the Twelfth infantry at the extreme left, the Seventh, Seventeenth, Fourth, Twenty-fifth and Tenth infantry extend to the right in order named. Beyond their picket lines are established three-quarters of a mile near Santiago city, being in plain sight of General Chaffee's and Colonel Miles' troops.

Much amusement has been caused among the officers by the large number of Red Cross flags flying from buildings in Santiago. Some such flags have been counted today, and it is reported that two more were hoisted tonight. They are all flying from the largest and most prominent buildings, and our officers say the Spanish soldiers evidently intend to thus try to protect every place in the city offering a good mark for the American artillery.

For the past day or two landings have been without incident. The hospital corps has finished its camp and several patients are already under good treatment. There are quite a few cases of measles under the care of the physicians, but a majority of the cases of sickness are the result of heat and the extreme hardships the men have undergone, particularly in waiting for shelter and food during the landing.

The fleet has silently and grimly waiting for the moment to come when it shall finally measure its strength with the harbor batteries. All day long four American men-of-war lay within a mile and a half of Morro's guns, but not a shot was exchanged. The sailors on board could almost have exchanged words with the soldiers ashore, and the fact that the Spaniards did not risk a shot is taken to indicate that they are very short of ammunition. The Indians, Iowa, New Orleans and Massachusetts could easily have been hit as they lay almost motionless within easy range, but Morro might be a country schoolhouse for all the hostile demonstration it made.

Word was received by Rear-Admiral Sampson today that the Spanish supply-boat Purisima Concepcion, which escaped from Jamaica recently, has arrived safely at Tunas, the port of Sancti Spiritus, on the southern coast of the province of Sancti Spiritus. The naval officers here are much chagrined at the fact that the steamer got away.

In the Suez Canal.

Madrid, July 2.—In an interview this afternoon Lieutenant-Colonel Correa, minister of war, advised that Admiral Camara's squadron had been hindered by the passage of the Suez canal. He also announced that the Victoria, the Numancia, the Alfonso XIII and the Lebrato, all armored cruisers, are ready to force the third squadron.

Navit's Star Gone.

San Francisco, July 2.—The steamer Newport, with General Merritt on board, called this morning for the Philippines. General Merritt is very anxious to avoid an encounter with any vessel from the Spanish navy, and will issue orders to the fleet at Honolulu to make all possible speed to the islands.

In a civil service examination in England there were 1,300 failures in a class of 1,972.



GEN. W. A. SHAFER.