

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.

Advices have been received at Washington that the revolution in Guatemala has been suppressed and peace reigns.

The total loss by the big fire at Bismarck, N. D., is estimated at from \$600,000 to \$750,000, with insurance not to exceed \$250,000.

The only fortified port in Porto Rico is San Juan, and not more than 3,000 fighting soldiers are on the island. The sentiment of the natives is entirely in favor of the United States and against Spain. There is plenty of food.

Spain is increasing her defenses and guarding against any possible Anglo-American combination near Gibraltar. Forty guns have been added, and the garrison force between Carbonero and Guadalupe reinforced.

It appears that the Cubans under Gomez have determined to forestall the American commander in the operations in the vicinity of Holguin, as they have already occupied the small towns near Holguin and are still pressing forward.

Three men dead and a woman dying is the result of a shooting affray at Central City, S. D., Thursday. Judge J. P. Giddings, Ed Shannon and Jack Wear are the men, and Mrs. Ed Shannon is the woman. All the parties are well-to-do.

At Truckee, Cal., an explosion in a freight car containing two tanks of naphtha, caused by a tramp lighting a cigarette, resulted in the burning of 11 cars of merchandise and 1,800 feet of snowbeds. Three men were seriously burned and all passenger trains were delayed.

Eight hundred Spaniards at Cape San Juan, attempted to retake the lighthouse, which was guarded by 40 of our sailors, commanded by Lieutenant Atwater, Assistant Engineer Jenkins, Engineer Brownson and Gunner Campbell. The Spaniards were driven back by shells from the Amphitrite, Cincinnati and Leyden. It is reported that 100 Spaniards were killed.

In official circles at Madrid the reply of the United States to Spain in the matter of peace negotiations is regarded as satisfactory. Sagasta, however, denies that he authorized the French ambassador at Washington, as a representative of Spain, to make any change in the Spanish answer. As regards certain conditions which might create differences during the course of negotiations, the premier added: "If any changes are to be made, the government itself will make them."

A marble bust of the late James G. Blaine has been placed in the rotunda of the state house in Augusta, Me.

A dispatch from Santiago to Adjutant-General Corbin says the Lycanis has been loaded with the Spanish sick. It carried 1,000 and left Wednesday morning.

The United States has magnanimously offered to parole the 1,800 Spanish naval prisoners taken at the destruction of Admiral Cervera's fleet, whenever Spain is ready to repatriate them.

Had a rescue boat been sent out, many of the victims of the La Bourgogne might have been saved. There is ample evidence that some of them clung to wreckage for three or four days before they perished.

Senator Morgan, of the Hawaiian commission, is quoted by the San Francisco Call as saying that ex-President Dole will be the first governor of Hawaii, and not Minister Sewall, as recently reported. The senator added that he had the best of reasons for believing that Admiral Miller was carrying Dole's commission to the island.

Vessels arriving at San Francisco from Oregon and Puget sound ports have reported sighting a dangerous derelict in the path of navigation. It has been surmised to be the wreck of either the Jane Gray, Nomad or Forest Queen, all of which are missing, and are possibly adrift on the ocean. Captain Turner, of the Froquois, has received orders to proceed to Mare Island, procure a supply of explosives, and go in search of the derelict that is a menace to navigation. He is either to tow it into port or blow it up.

General Miles' invasion of Porto Rico is progressing in an entirely satisfactory manner, and the Americans are gaining ground daily. His plan is to have the troops march on San Juan from four different directions. When Schwan and Henry form a junction at Aroebito there will be a formidable army ready to march on San Juan. The force for horses is superb. Miles is giving his personal attention to the management of the details of the campaign. He intends to press forward to San Juan, regardless of peace negotiations until Washington orders hostilities to cease.

Minor News Items.

The army of invasion to Porto Rico will number 35,000 when completed.

Artillery is being concentrated in the Northern Sierra, in Spain, where a Carlist uprising is feared.

One of our first-class battleships, probably the Oregon, will be sent to reinforce Admiral Dewey at Manila.

Governor Pingree, of Michigan, favors establishing republics in colonies captured from Spain, the United States acting as guardian.

LATER NEWS.

It is rumored that Blanco has escaped from Havana.

General Miles' troops will remain in Porto Rico until peace negotiations are concluded.

The O. R. & N. Co., will build a new steamer, the Spokane, to run on Snake river.

Mail advices received at Hong Kong report recent activity on the part of the Spaniards at Manila.

Miss Percy Wing, of Washoogal, Wash., was drowned Monday in the surf at Clatsop beach.

Monday was the hottest day known in London in years. Up to 3 o'clock the thermometer numbered 150.

A new line of steamers to Honolulu from Seattle has been instituted. The first will start for the islands on the 25 inst.

A report to the effect that Manila has fallen and that American forces are in possession of the entire city and the forts is in circulation in London.

During a terrific thunder storm, lightning struck Camp Hobson, Ga. Seven soldiers are in the hospital seriously hurt. The same company was in a wreck a week ago at Fort McPherson.

What is regarded as a most important discovery of rich placer diggings, is reported to have been made on Pine creek, a small stream emptying into Atlin lake, a feeder of Lake Tagish, Northwest territory.

A tornado Sunday night struck near Canby, Minn., killed seven people, destroyed many buildings, and did great damage to crops. The entire family of Jos. Hutchinson, including his wife and four children, were killed. The storm was not wide in extent, but very violent. Seven people are missing, and some of them are supposed to be killed.

The coal miner's lockout at Pana, Ill., reached a climax Monday. Several hundred union men congregated near the mine in an endeavor to induce the nonunionists not to go to work. Two non-union men, rode upon horseback and emptied their revolvers into the crowd. Three union men were seriously wounded. Further trouble may ensue.

A carload of lemons and other fruit obtained by the efforts of the Red Cross Society was on Monday forwarded from San Francisco to the sick soldiers of General Shafter's army. It is consigned to Colonel J. Morris Brown, U. S. A., Staten Island military hospital. Besides lemons the car contains grape fruit, oranges and other fruits. The car is elaborately decorated with bunting and bears several patriotic placards.

Secretary Alger has cabled orders to the military commanders to cease hostilities.

The government has at last succeeded in securing a smokeless powder adapted for Springfield rifles, and is laying in a supply.

The American colony at Sidney, N. S. W., has cabled Washington, praying the government to retain possession of the Philippines.

The United States government has purchased the British tank steamer Lucifera for a water-bomb, the consideration being \$225,000.

The Washington volunteers in camp at San Francisco have petitioned Secretary of War Alger to either send them to Manila or permit them to return to their homes.

An order has been issued at the office of the adjutant-general of the United States army, granting one month's furlough to the sick and wounded soldiers and transportation to their homes.

It is reported that 40 Bannock Indians from Idaho, who are killing off in Jackson's Hole, have successfully resisted arrest. Secretary Bliss has issued orders for the Washakie authorities to drive the Indians back.

The steamer Victoria, just arrived at Victoria from the Orient, brings news of a frightful accident in Yokohama harbor, whereby two lady missionaries of the American mission board, Miss Simmons and Miss Allen, lost their lives by drowning, being run down by a Chinese junk.

The question of the acceptance of the protocol having been settled and its signature authorized, the Spanish government is now considering the domestic situation for the best means of allaying excitement and propagating the idea that Spain's surrender is not so complete as indicated by the bald terms of the protocol.

A serious mistake came to light at a funeral in Cincinnati. The remains of Captain W. D. Sherman, a Kansas volunteer, wounded at Santiago, were receiving the burial honors intended for the body of Mrs. Elizabeth Winkelman, an aged woman. Both caskets came by express, and the wrong one got to the funeral.

Admiral Cervera and a number of his officers, who are now prisoners at the naval academy at Annapolis, were interviewed at their station in Annapolis for the first time since their arrival. Admiral Cervera was reserved in his comment, but his officers were more outspoken. All were very grateful for the treatment which they have received.

General Shafter says it would have cost 5,000 lives to have taken Santiago by force.

There are about 300,000 persons to whom bonds under the government's popular loan will be allotted.

Rev. Samuel Small, the famous evangelist, has been appointed a chaplain in the volunteer army.

Gerónimo, the famous Apache chief, is at Fort Hill, in the Indian territory, and spends most of his time playing monte. He is 90 years old.

A PARTING SHOT

The Havana Batteries Opened Fire on the Fleet.

SAN FRANCISCO WAS STRUCK

Large Hole Torn in the Cruiser's Stern—No One Aboard Ship Was Hurt—American Vessels Steamed Out of Range as Rapidly as Possible.

Key West, Fla., Aug. 16.—The flagship San Francisco, the monitor Miantonomoh, and the auxiliary yacht Silvia, were fired upon by the Havana batteries shortly before 5 o'clock yesterday morning. One 10 and two 12-inch shells struck the San Francisco's stern as she turned to get away out of range, and tore a hole about a foot in diameter, completely wrecking Commodore Howell's quarters and smashing his bookcases into fragments. No one was injured, and, being under orders not to attack the batteries, the ships departed as fast as their engines would carry them.

The flagship and the Silvia lay parallel to each other, not more than a mile from Morro castle, and separated from each other by three-eighths of a mile. The Miantonomoh lay about three-quarters of a mile to the rear of the others. All were within range of the Spanish batteries, and the temptation was too strong for the Spanish to resist.

The first glimmer of dawn was breaking through the eastern skies when, without an instant's warning, the look-out on the flagship saw a jet of smoke puff from one of Morro's big guns. Almost before he could pull himself together sufficiently to make a report of the incident, 10 and 12-inch shells were screaming all around. The Spaniards had the range, and apparently were grimly in earnest in their last efforts to wreck injury on their too mighty enemy. Shells fell between the San Francisco and the Silvia. Some fell short, a few went over them. The flagship signalled the Silvia to get out of range without delay, and both ships swung around and made for the sea.

It was then that the shell struck the San Francisco's stern. Commodore Howell was on deck with Captain Leary when the shell struck. With the utmost speed the fleet moved out about three miles. Here the men on the flagship pitched up the ragged hole in the vessel's stern. All the shells fired at the vessel fell around the ships. One of the Silvia's men stood calmly on the deck of the yacht, watch in hand, and counted them.

Morro castle fired several of the missiles, but how many is not known. The others came from two sand batteries near Morro. The firing lasted 20 minutes.

The one-sided engagement had scarcely ended when the men of the Silvia were treated to another surprise. The little yacht was manned by the New York naval militia. Her crew had barely recovered from the excitement when the flagship called the vessel over, and Captain Baller was given a packet of private documents, which he was ordered to take into Havana under a flag of truce. The white flag was hoisted over the Silvia, and she started towards the guns which had just given her such noisy greeting. As the Silvia approached to within a mile of Morro, the character of the flag floating from her foremast was discerned and the castle signalled:

"What is your purpose?"

To this the Silvia answered: "We have papers to deliver."

Morro did not resume the conversation and for some little time the gunboat rooked on the waters almost under the still-smoking cannon of the enemy. Presently, however, a Spanish gunboat drew out of the harbor and came close to the Silvia. It was the Martin y Pinzon, and carried a much stronger battery than the American ship. The customary formal salutations were exchanged, and Lieutenant William G. Ford, the executive officer of the Silvia, boarded the Pinzon and delivered the documents.

The ceremony occupied no more time than the physical act involved. The American officer returned to his ship, and the vessels went on their respective ways.

San Into a Washout.

Chicago, Aug. 16.—Battery A, Colorado light artillery, passed through Chicago today on the way to Fort Hancock, N. Y. The troops arrived over the Santa Fe road just too late to make connection with an eastbound train. They were delayed by an accident. A washout occurred near Nemo, Ill., and to the speed of the train the men owe their lives. As the last tourist car passed over a small cowpit, the roadbed collapsed and the car plunged from the rails. Every man on the train was awakened, but before it came to a stop, a guard rail caught the rear truck of the alder and threw it on the track.

Collided With a Yacht.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 16.—The sloop yacht Lyons, with 17 men aboard, while anchored outside of Boston light, was run into by a barge in tow of the tug Honeybrook and five men were swept from the deck by the heavy tow line. Two of the number, C. W. Sellman and A. Nordell, were drowned; another, A. Casperson, was killed by being jammed between the tow line and the deck, while the two others, Peter Nelson and J. Harrison, although sustaining injuries, were rescued.

SPAIN IN MOURNING

Public Mourned by the Loss of the Colonies.

London, Aug. 16.—The Madrid correspondent of the Daily Mail says: The comments of the press on the protocol are a veritable funeral hymn on the destruction of the Spanish colonial empire. Some days ago, the desire for peace made the people close their eyes to the price, but now, upon reading the protocol, they realize that the cost is the loss of that empire which Spain had conquered with so much glory, and that Spain now falls to the second rank among nations. The public mind is stunned and there is general mourning.

General Blanco telegraphs that Havana is greatly agitated by the news of the signing of the protocol, and that much anxiety is manifested to learn the conditions, which have not yet been published. Some uneasiness is felt regarding the effect that the text of the protocol may have on the Spanish volunteers in Havana.

Many newspapers express grief and despair that the men who brought disaster to Spain by lack of foresight, organization and ability, should continue to govern the country.

The Madrid Press.

Madrid, Aug. 16.—The El Finis today prints the text of the protocol signed by the United States and Spain with mourning borders, and says:

"Spain, without colonies, is reduced to the role of a third-rate power."

El Imparcial says: "Peace will not bring to Spain even the real she so much needs after three years and a half of war."

El Nacional says, bitterly: "If Spain had at least been vanquished only after a furious and heroic struggle, she could resign herself, peace with the United States will only be a momentary respite from our misfortunes."

El Epoca says: "The peace in the saddest imposed since the treaty of Utrecht," and expressed the doubt if a government which allowed itself to be dragged into war will acquire itself well by negotiating peace.

El Liberal says the article in the protocol relating to the Philippines does not indicate that anything good for Spain will be fixed upon, and the question will not be settled favorably for her.

El Globo (ministerial) prays for peace between the United States and Spain, and says the communications on Eastern questions, which Day and Cambon have signed, begin the first chapter in a new history of Europe.

El Tiempo (conservative) says: "Peace is an accomplished fact. The bitterness of defeat does not prevent us from seeing with satisfaction the end of the war."

DEATH IN A CLOUDBURST

Twenty Persons Met a Sudden End in Tennessee.

Knoxville, Tenn., Aug. 16.—A terrible cloudburst, in which at least 20 lives are known to have been sacrificed, was last night visited upon the community of Beach Creek, about 15 miles north of Rogersville, Tenn., which place is 80 miles distant from Knoxville. The torrent of water fell in the vicinity of the home of William Egan, a well-to-do farmer, and his entire family, wife and five children, were drowned, and washed away with the flood. Egan, however, escaped. The deluge of water carried with it every other human being within its reach, but the only names of the lost reported here up to a late hour tonight, in addition to the Egan family, are John Arnold and Samuel Henry and wife. These people resided within a quarter of a mile of the Egan home. This information was received in this city by friends of the deceased.

Searching parties have been formed and are tonight looking for the bodies of the unfortunates who perished in the flood. It is, however, feared that they have been carried to graves from which they may never be recovered.

The cloudburst destroyed several thousand dollars worth of property. Whole crops were washed away and palatial homes suffered the same fate as the humblest hut in the path of the flood.

It has been impossible to communicate with the stricken community from this city on account of the fact that all wire communication has been interrupted. The complete details of the catastrophe are, however, expected by tomorrow night, coming by mail. The reports received up to a late hour tonight make it the most terrible affair of its kind experienced in this section for many years.

Threatened Protest by Japan.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 16.—Japanese papers received here today contain a story to the effect that the Japanese ministry will protest against the United States holding the Hawaiian islands. An order to remove the opposition of the upper house by raising an issue of foreign complications.

Denver, Col., Aug. 16.—The Northern Colorado coal miners' strike, in which about 1,200 miners were engaged, is at an end, the miners having accepted the Northern Coal Company's offer of 25 cents a ton, mine run. Both sides claim a victory.

Fighting Ends.

Ponce, Porto Rico, Aug. 16.—The peace news has stopped all forward movement of the American army in Porto Rico. General Wilson, at Coamo, and General Schwan, at Mayaguez, will remain at those places. General Henry, who is at Utuado, will return to Adjuntas, and General Brooks, who advanced beyond Guayama, will return to that town. General Miles expects to do nothing pending the arrival at San Juan of the peace commissioners.

PROTOCOL SIGNED

War Between America and Spain Terminated.

ORDER HOSTILITIES STOPPED

Orders Sent to American Military and Naval Commanders—An Impressive Ceremony at the White House—Two Commissions Provided For.

Washington, Aug. 15.—With simplicity in keeping with republican institutions, the war which has raged between Spain and the United States for a period of three months and 22 days, was quietly terminated at 23 minutes past 4 o'clock this afternoon, when Secretary Day, for the United States, and M. Cambon, for Spain, in the presence of President McKinley, signed a protocol which will form the basis of a definite treaty of peace.

The closing chapter of events that led up to the signature of the protocol and the cessation of hostilities was full of interest. There was rumors in the early morning that over night the French embassy had received the long expected final answer from Madrid, but these, upon inquiry, proved groundless, as it was not until 12:30 that the note began to come from Madrid in small lots.

The state department was soon advised of the fact that the message was under transmission, but, as it was evident that it would be long and its reception would occupy much time, the secretary of state left the state department for his luncheon.

At 2:45 o'clock Secretary Thibault, of the French embassy, appeared at the state department to inform Secretary Day that the ambassador was in full possession of the note, and was fully empowered to sign the protocol for Spain, and only awaited the pleasure of the state department. He intimated that the ambassador would be pleased to have the final ceremony conducted in the presence of President McKinley, where the negotiations were begun.

Ambassador Cambon reached the White House at just 2:55 o'clock, five minutes in advance of the appointed hour.

After an exchange of diplomatic courtesies, unnecessary loss of time did not occur, and Assistant Secretary of State Gruller, on the part of the United States, and First Secretary Thibault, on the part of Spain, retired to a window, where there was a optical formal examination of the protocol.

This instrument had all the outward formalities due a document of this importance. It was printed in duplicate at the state department, one copy to be retained by the United States government and the other to become the property of Spain. The two copies are alike, except that the one held by this government has the English text in the first column, and the signature of Secretary Day ahead of that of M. Cambon, while the copy transmitted to Spain has French in the first column and that of Secretary Day. The protocol sent to Spain was accompanied by the credentials issued by President McKinley, specially empowered the secretary of state to affix his signature to the document. The authorization was brief and in typewritten, save for the president's characteristic bold signature. Later the American copy of the protocol will be accompanied by the written credentials of the Spanish government sent to M. Cambon, and bearing the signature of Queen Christina.

The examination of the protocol was satisfactory, and the document was handed to Cambon first and then to Secretary Day, who affixed signatures in that order to each side of the two copies. Then the last detail in making the protocol binding was administered by Assistant Secretary Gruller, who attached the seal of the United States.

No credentials were produced during the meeting at the White House, the president accepting Secretary Day's assurance that this had been settled to his satisfaction at the state department.

It was 4:33 o'clock when the final signatures were attached to the protocol, and, within the knowledge of all officials present, this was the first time that a treaty or protocol had been signed at the White House.

As the ceremony concluded, the president requested the hand of the ambassador and through him returned thanks to the sister republic of France for the exercise of her good offices in bringing about peace. He also thanked the ambassador personally for the important part he has played in this matter, and the latter replied in suitable terms.

As a further mark of his disposition, President McKinley called for the proclamation, which he caused to be drawn up, suspending hostilities, and signed it in the presence of M. Cambon, who expressed his appreciation of the action.

Terms of the Protocol.

Washington, Aug. 15.—Secretary Day gave out this statement of the provisions of the protocol:

"Spain will relinquish all claim of sovereignty over and title to Cuba.

"Porto Rico and other Spanish islands in the West Indies and an island in the Ladrones, to be selected by the United States, shall be ceded to the latter.

"Cuba, Porto Rico and other Spanish islands in the West Indies shall be immediately evacuated."

President's Proclamation.

Washington, Aug. 15.—The president issued the following proclamation:

"By the president of the United States of America—A proclamation: Whereas, By a protocol concluded and signed August 15, 1898, by William R. Day, secretary of state of the United States, and his excellency Jules Cambon, ambassador extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of France, at Washington, respectively representing for the purpose the government of the United States and the government of Spain, the United States and Spain have formally agreed upon the terms on which the negotiations for the establishment of peace between the two countries shall be undertaken; and Whereas, It is in said protocol agreed that upon its execution and signature hostilities between the two countries shall be suspended, and notice to that effect shall be given as soon as possible by each government to the commanders of its military and naval forces,

"Now, therefore, I, William McKinley, president of the United States, do, in accordance with stipulations of the protocol, declare and proclaim on the part of the United States a suspension of hostilities, and do hereby command that orders be immediately given through the proper channels to the commanders of military and naval forces of the United States to abstain from all acts inconsistent with this proclamation.

"In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the city of Washington, this 15th day of August, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-third.

"WILLIAM MCKINLEY, President.

"WILLIAM R. DAY, Secretary of State."

HOSTILITIES SUSPENDED.

Orders to American Military and Naval Commanders.

Washington, Aug. 15.—The orders to General Merritt to suspend hostilities were as follows:

"Washington—Merritt, Manila: The president directs all military operations against the enemy suspended. Peace negotiations are nearing completion, the protocol having just been signed by the two countries. You will inform the commanders of the Spanish forces in the Philippines of these instructions. Further orders will follow. Acknowledge receipt.

"By order of the secretary of war.

"CORBIN, Adjutant-General."

The orders sent to Miles and Shafter were identical with the above. As the order states further instructions will be sent each general, General Merritt will be directed to confer with the Spanish commandant at Manila to carry out the terms of the protocol and to occupy Manila immediately.

General Miles will put himself in communication with the chief authority in Porto Rico for the purpose of having the Spanish forces turn over San Juan and other points to him, preparatory to evacuation.

Owing to the conditions in Cuba, the orders to Shafter will be different from those to the other generals. Orders were issued this evening to the naval commanders at the several stations on duty in Cuba and the Philippines, carrying into effect the directions of the proclamation. The navy department not only transmitted the president's proclamation in full to the several commanders-in-chief, but also directions as to the dispositions of their vessels. The following orders are in that sense self-explanatory:

"Navy Department, Washington, Aug. 15.—Sampson, Santiago: Suspend all hostilities. Blockade of Cuba and Porto Rico is raised. Howell is ordered to assemble his vessels at Key West. Proceed with the New York, Brooklyn, Indiana, Oregon, Iowa and Massachusetts to Tompkinsville. Place the monitors in a safe harbor in Porto Rico. Watson transfers his flag to the Newark and will remain at Guantanamo. Assemble all cruisers in safe harbors. Order the marines north in the Resolute.

"Acting Secretary."

"Navy Department, Washington, Aug. 15.—Remy, Key West: In accordance with the president's proclamation, suspend immediately all hostilities. Commence the withdrawal of vessels from the blockade. Order blockading vessels in Cuban waters to assemble at Key West.

"Acting Secretary."

The notification to Admiral Dewey was not made public, but Assistant Secretary Allen stated that besides being in possession of the president's proclamation, he was ordered to cease hostilities and raise the blockade at Manila.

In compliance with orders sent, Admiral Sampson and Commodore Remy will each send a vessel around the coast of Cuba to notify the blockading squadron that the blockade has been raised.

Admiral Schley, being on the Brooklyn and included in the orders to that vessel, will come north with her.

Washington, Aug. 15.—President McKinley has been the recipient to-night of warm congratulations from all parts of the country on the successful termination of the war.

Qualification in England.

London, Aug. 15.—The morning papers are unanimous in expressing gratification that the war is ended. The comment mainly turns on the fact that the protocol leaves untouched the hard-fought problems now facing America. The Times believes it will be a real peace, adding:

"We trust it is no violation of neutrality to express the satisfaction of the great majority of Englishmen in America's success."

THE FINAL BLOW

Miles' Last Battle a Victory for the Americans.

GEN. ERNST CAPTURES COAMO

Schwan's Brigade Encounters the Enemy Near Mayaguez—Two Men Killed, One Wounded—The Spanish Commander Was Killed.

Washington, Aug. 15.—The war department late today gave out the following delayed telegram:

"Ponce, Aug. 11.—Secretary of War, Washington: The following has been received from General Wilson: General Ernst's brigade captured Coamo at 9:30 this morning. The Sixteenth Pennsylvania, Colonel Hulings commanding, led by Lieutenant Colonel Biddle, of my staff, having made a turning movement through the mountains, striking the Aybaito road half mile beyond the town, captured the entire garrison of Coamo, about 150 men. The Spanish commander, Iloca, and Captain Lopez were killed. Our loss is six wounded, only one severely. The men and officers behaved excellently. Colonel Hulings and Lieutenant Colonel Biddle are especially commended. This is a very important capture and was well executed. The names of the wounded will be sent as soon as received here."

General Miles reports from Ponce that five men were wounded, though none seriously, in the sixteenth Pennsylvania regiment in the skirmish beyond Coamo, August 9.

A dispatch has been received at the war department from General Schwan, commanding a brigade under General Miles, in Porto Rico, saying he had an engagement a few miles from Mayaguez with a large Spanish force, in which two privates were killed and Lieutenant Byron, of the Eighth cavalry, was wounded. One of the privates killed was Herberger, of the Eleventh infantry.

General Schwan reports: "Most, if not the entire Spanish garrison of Mayaguez and the surrounding country, consisting of 1,000 regulars and 200 volunteers, took part in the engagement. We drove the enemy from their position, and it is believed inflicted heavy loss. A wounded Spanish lieutenant was found in the field and brought into our lines. I propose to continue the march to Mayaguez at an early hour tomorrow."

TALK OF INTERVENTION.

France's Slice of China Already Marked Out.

Paris, Aug. 13.—The papers are full of significance of the Chinese question. The Matin says: "In China the greatest game in the world is being played, and French intervention should be officious and decisive."

The Sorb has a sensational article headed: "War between England and Russia is imminent."

The Journal des Debats says: "England is now seeking an arrangement with Russia. That understanding is impossible, unless Russia remains mistress of the north and England is insured her influence in the Yang-Tze river. In short, the lines of the section are being drawn to be marked along which the disruption would occur whenever China falls to pieces. Clearly neither France, Germany nor Japan could hold aloof from such an agreement."

The article hints that France would support Russia in event of war, and says in conclusion: "France will be content with the southern provinces bordering on Tongkin."

TROUBLE IN ALASKA.

General Merritt Ordered to Send a Battery to the Yukon.

San Francisco, Aug. 15.—The call says: Serious trouble in the interior of Alaska is apprehended by the United States government. Food riots are feared at Fort Yukon and other up-river points, growing out of the failure of the transportation companies to get supplies in there, by reason of the prevailing low water.

Acting on instructions received from Washington, Major-General Merritt will quickly dispatch a battery of artillery to St. Michaels, the office in charge having orders to proceed at once up the Yukon river to Fort Yukon and open up a military post for the coming