

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 8 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 bnglers 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 25,000 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 ALGER.

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, 34 steamships, varying from 1,400 tons down to 600 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 shadows of El Moro have cut the Haytian cable, and now hold 35 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 spacious, 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 reached



GEN. NELSON A. MILES.

with trains of siege guns, and there are level roads to Santiago, 33 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 defense. 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?"

The answer seems near at hand.

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 7th, 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 Sterling Wrecked.

Seattle, Wash., June 13.—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 Nusheyok river, about 65 miles from its mouth. Her crew and passengers were landed at Karluk. 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 Force 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, with 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 armored, 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 camp 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 some armed 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 is more helpless in warfare than an unarmored troopship full of soldiers. She would fall an easy victim to the smallest gunboat, 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 1813, was recently unearthed near Alexandria, Va.

THE TORPEDO ATTACK.

Unceasing Vigilance Saved the American Warships.

Off Santiago, via Kingston, Jamaica, June 11.—The firing by the New York and New Orleans briefly reported last night, was directed against the Spanish torpedo-boat destroyer, probably the Furor or Pluton.

The character of the vessel was not definitely known until the next day, when the torpedo-boat Porter found two loaded torpedoes floating off shore. Neither of them had been discharged. One sank, but the other was hauled on board the Porter. It exactly fitted the description of the torpedoes carried by the Pluton and Furor.

It is believed the torpedo-boat destroyer escaped. She was seen by the New Orleans when too far away for the latter to do any damage, and the heavy fire must have driven her back.

The daring attempt of the Spaniards, which was fortunately frustrated by the vigilance of the New Orleans' lookout, is the first instance of its kind since the beginning of the war. As seen from the flagship, the scene was brilliantly dramatic. The New York was lying several miles to the east of Morro Castle. The New Orleans was on her starboard hand, close inshore, ready to pounce upon any craft which attempted to steam out under the shadow of the hills. Shortly after 10 o'clock the New Orleans flashed her private signal, and in a few minutes colored lights sprang up in the darkness from the New Orleans' deck. They signalled that the enemy was in sight.

On board the flagship men and officers had scrambled out of bunks and hammocks in response to the call "general quarters." They stood on deck around the guns watching the short, sharp flames which showed the activity of the New Orleans' rapid-fire battery. The flagship was then too far away to see the object of the fire.

A dim object like a small boat concealed in smoke was seen on the port bank from the signal bridges, and Ensign Murkin reported to Captain Chadwick "a torpedo-boat one point forward on the port beam headed this way." Captain Chadwick and Rear-Admiral Sampson, was on the forward bridge. Before a shot was fired from the flagship, this curious looking object disappeared. It must have been two or three miles away from the New York and the same distance from the New Orleans. When a mile away and close to Morro, an object was seen against the cliffs. It was thought to be a torpedo-boat, and the New York's forward 8-inch guns belloyed out, making a hideous noise in the quiet night, lighting the air with bright smoke. On shore a few sparks close to a dark object showed where the shells struck. The six-inch and six-pounders followed suit, and for a few minutes a sharp fire was kept up. The boom of the Oregon's big guns was twice heard to the Eastward.

"Cease firing" was then sounded. After a careful watch, the New York steamed back to her station and the men went back to their hammocks. There had been no firing from the forts, and accounts differ as to whether the torpedo-boat did or did not fire.

CHASED FOUR WARSHIPS.

American Gunboat Reports a Singular Escape Off Havana.

Key West, June 11.—Four suspicious looking vessels, thought to be Spanish warships, are or have been attempting to elude the blockading squadron off Havana and enter the port. When last seen on the night before last, they were in Nicholas channel, about 80 miles off Havana, and heading in the direction of Havana. A government tug from Cardenas joined the fleet yesterday bringing messages for the commodore from an auxiliary gunboat. This was to the effect that on Tuesday night the gunboat sighted four vessels thought to be a battleship, two cruisers and a dispatch-boat, between Salt Cay and Piedre del Cruz light.

The gunboat followed them and when within speaking distance hoisted the private signal. The strangers replied with three masthead lights, which was not the required signal, and immediately thereafter they put out their lights. The gunboat cruised after the strangers for two or three miles, once approaching within 2,000 yards, but eventually abandoned the chase and reported to the nearest ship of the fleet. Advices were then sent to Commodore Watson by the government tug and he dispatched a ship to Key West.

The commander of the gunboat which followed the vessels is satisfied that they were Spanish warships either trying to get into Havana or lying in wait for transports. The affair, however, is involved in doubt.

The British cruiser Talbot left Havana on Tuesday, and she may have been one of the vessels sighted by the gunboat.

Her Case Hopeless.

London, June 10.—The Madrid correspondent of the Daily Mail says:

There is little doubt that Spain, seeing the hopelessness of further continuing the war, is approaching the powers with a view of obtaining an honorable peace.

Vancouver, B. C., June 11.—Sir Charles Mitchell, governor of the Straits Settlements, arrived on the Empress of Japan with Lady Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell tells of the torturing of Kling women for religious purposes in the streets of Singapore. A number of Kling women were marched from the temple in Desango on the road to the temple in Link road with lances through their tongues, lips and cheeks, their eyes being thrust out. The men who accompanied them threw water in their faces.

A RAIN OF BOMBS

American Fleet Shelled the Town of Caimanera.

SPANIARDS ABANDONED FORTS

Many of the Shots Demolished Houses in the Town—Spanish Commander Threatens to Burn the Place—Inhabitants Fled to the Hills.

Cape Haytien, Hayti, June 10.—It is reported here that a great battle has taken place at Caimanera, in the bay of Guantanamo, which is 40 miles east of Santiago de Cuba.

At 5:30 o'clock Tuesday morning five ships of the American squadron opened a heavy bombardment of the fortifications of the town. There was a perfect hail of bombs in the bay, striking and demolishing many houses beyond the fortifications.

On the Spanish side the military replied vigorously, making for some time a stiff resistance. The fire from the warships, however, never slackened for an instant. It was regular and well directed, and a great majority of the shots proved effective. The Spaniards were forced to abandon their positions on the shore and retreat to the town of Caimanera proper. It is supposed that the inhabitants also fled.

It is said here that the Spanish at Santiago and Caimanera are preparing for a final desperate struggle, and are determined to resist the assaults of the Americans to the last extremity.

The commander of the district issued an order yesterday to burn Caimanera before yielding it into the hands of the Americans.

The latter forced the entrance to the bay of Guantanamo, and, according to the latest advices, it was feared that the Americans would make an effort to land forces this afternoon. Measures to prevent this, if possible, have been taken by the Spaniards. The American fleet returned to its usual post.

The report of the bombardment at Caimanera came by cable. The bombardment destroyed a little house which sheltered the French cable at Caimanera. The cables uniting the main cable with the office at Caimanera and the town of Caimanera with Santiago were cut, thus accounting for the prolonged absence of intelligence here as to operations in that vicinity.

Even before the cables in Guantanamo bay had been injured so that they could not be worked, the operators at the Caimanera station were forced to flee by the fire from the ships. Up to this hour, 9:15 P. M., there has been no direct cable communication from Santiago since Monday at midnight.

The United States dispatch-boat Dolphin arrived at Mole St. Nicholas this morning and fired a salute of 17 guns.

SAILED FROM TAMPA.

Twenty-Seven Thousand Men Left for Santiago Thursday Noon.

London, June 10.—The Washington correspondent of the Daily Chronicle, with the approval of General Greely, cables:

"The army sailed from Tampa at noon today. The force numbers 27,000 men, composed of infantry, cavalry, artillery and engineers and signal corps."

"The infantry consists of 27 regiments, 16 regular and 11 volunteers. Of the regulars there were the First, Second, Fourth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Twentieth, Twenty-second, Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth regiments."

"Of the volunteer regiments there were the First New York, Thirty-second Michigan, First and Fifth Ohio, Second New York, First District of Columbia, Fifth Maryland, One Hundred and Fifty-seventh Indiana, and Third Pennsylvania. The total infantry force is 21,600. In addition there are a battalion of engineers, a detachment of the signal corps, five squadrons of cavalry, four batteries of heavy artillery."

"General Shafter is in chief command of the force, which is conveyed by the battleship Indiana and the gunboat Helena."

Has Manila Fallen?

Hong Kong, June 10.—A report here is that Manila has fallen. It is said to be occupied by the Philippine insurgents, commanded by Aguinaldo. The rebel junta and wealthy Philippine islanders resident here are jubilant over the news, and the United States consulate has been crowded all day. The American consul, Mr. Wildman, has been the recipient of hundreds of telegrams of congratulation, giving him also as much credit for the reported capture of Manila as they offered Aguinaldo himself. Since Mr. Wildman has been there, he has advised them in all their plans. Consul Wildman does not credit the report that Manila has fallen, but thinks a successful landing will be effected by Saturday.

Shot by His Partner.

The Dalles, Or., June 10.—Word has just been received from Antelope of a shooting affray that took place there early yesterday morning. While trying to stop a row in the Eureka saloon, Murdock McKay, one of the proprietors, was shot in the abdomen and dangerously wounded by his partner, William Roff. It is claimed the shooting was accidental. Medical aid was summoned from The Dalles. The courier that brought the news did not think it possible that he could live.

WENT DOWN IN A GALE.

Barge and Crew Lost Off the Atlantic Seacoast.

Charleston, S. C., June 10.—A barge laden with war supplies and a crew of five men, in tow of the steamer Leonidas, was lost last Saturday night between Norfolk and Charleston. The Leonidas and her charge were en route from Norfolk to Key West to supply the army and navy. The loss of the barge and her crew was reported today by the pilot-boat R. H. Cowan, which was hailed off the jetties by the Leonidas and given dispatches to send north. The pilot-boat was given but little information of the destination, the full details of the telegram being sealed. From what could be learned, the vessel encountered a severe storm last Saturday night off the coast of North Carolina, and during the gale, the hawsers parted and the barge went down. The barge was iron and schooner-rigged. The steamer is en route to Key West with ammunition and supplies for the United States war vessels and army. The cargo of the Leonidas required an immediate delivery, and her master found it impossible to put into port to wire the report.

Baltimore, Md., June 10.—Five men were picked up from off a drifting United States barge off Hatteras, Monday, and were landed in this city today by the steamer William Lawrence.

CENSUS BILL PASSED.

It Received the Unanimous Support of the Senate.

Washington, June 8.—A bill providing for the 12th census was passed by the senate today, after a debate which occupied the greater part of three days. Several years ago a census bill was presented by the committee having the matter in charge, but the measure was so unsatisfactory that it was recommended to the committee. The bill passed today was in lieu of that which was recommended, and as slightly amended, received the unanimous support of the senate. Under it, if it should become a law, a director of the census, and assistant director and five expert statisticians will be appointed in order to make the preliminary arrangements for the census of 1900, in accordance with the outline presented in the bill, which has already been fully presented by the Associated Press. A determined effort was made to provide that the employes of the census bureau should be examined and certified by the civil service commission, but it failed by a vote of 18 to 33. A provision was inserted that no more than two-thirds of the supervisors and enumerators should belong to one political party.

The house today disposed of the senate amendment to the sundry civil bill and agreed to a further conference. The conference report upon the post-office appropriation bill was adopted without debate, and the house proceeded to consider the bill to provide for participation of volunteer soldiers in congressional elections. Adjournment was taken pending disposal and it will come up tomorrow. The session began and ended today with a Hawaiian incident, Grosvener, a leader of the annexationists figuring in each instance. These grew out of the action of those who want early consideration lest the opposition win a victory and effect undue delay if not the defeat of the resolutions at this session.

IN THE SPANISH LINES.

Lieutenant Henry Whitney Completed His Mission.

New York, June 10.—Lieutenant Henry Whitney, Fourth United States artillery, who has twice penetrated into the very heart of Spanish territory, once in Cuba and lastly in Porto Rico, arrived here today on the British steamer Ardenrose, from Porto Rico. Through him, the war department will soon be in possession of important and accurate information concerning the military strength and defenses of the island. The Porto Rican mission was undertaken under orders from the department to travel through the most strongly fortified places and the headquarters of the military bodies and observe their strength and the preparations the commanders had made to resist occupation by the American troops. He made the journey with great expedition. He found 5,000 volunteers and 4,000 troops in and about San Juan. The soldiers were sickly, however, and discontented for lack of pay. Food he found to be scarce.

Huntington Roads Sued.

San Francisco, June 10.—The United States government today filed a suit in the circuit court against the Southern and Central Pacific railway companies, the Metropolitan Trust Company, of New York, and others to recover \$17,088 alleged to be due on 7,195 acres of land northwest of Sacramento.

Ready to Sell the Bonds.

Washington, June 10.—Preparations are substantially complete to invite offers for the bonds for carrying on the Spanish war, as soon as the bonds are authorized by congress. There will not be a delay of more than two days in issuing a circular stating the terms under which the bonds are offered, and inviting bids at par.

Comrade Colorado Department.

Denver, Col., June 10.—Brigadier-General Sumner was notified today of his appointment as permanent commander of the department of Colorado, including also the former colonel of the Seventh cavalry, stationed in Arizona.

New York, June 10.

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