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AMERICAN TROOPS

Fired Upon by a Havana Mob Christmas Day.

SOME SERIOUS TROUBLE AHEAD.

General Brooke Refuses to Recognize Cuban Army—Senator Morrill Dies in Washington.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—A special to the Tribune from Havana says: The American troops were fired on in Havana tonight. The whole city is in an uproar, and serious rioting is threatened. A detail of company M, Tenth regular United States infantry, while quelling a riot which broke out on Bombay street at 6 o'clock this evening was fired upon. The regulars returned the fire and sent volley after volley into the crowd of rioters as they fled out of the street. Two Spanish sailors were wounded and a Spanish marine was killed by the Americans. A number of other persons, whose names could not be secured, were also wounded in the melee which caused the interference of the American troops. Three Cubans were fatally injured. Several Spaniards who were carried away by friends were wounded, but it is not known how seriously. The Cubans who were fatally injured are: Jose Delores, a mulatto, shot through the stomach with a rifle bullet. Ramon Delgado, shot in the hip and chest. Pedro Mates shot in the groin. None of the American soldiers were wounded.

In the small riots that occurred in various parts of the city today 12 persons were wounded, several fatally. A Spanish soldier, marching with his company to the wharf, attempted to pull down a Cuban flag and an American flag over the door at 108 San Lazaro street. This started the fight. The Spaniards were fired on from the house tops and windows. They returned the fire, riddling the front of the buildings with bullets. The soldier who attempted to take down the flag fell on the steps of a house, bleeding from wounds in the head and shoulder. The Spanish soldiers withdrew, carrying their injured comrades. Residents of San Lazaro say the withdrawal of the Spaniards was due to the appearance of an American officer, who persuaded the Spaniards to retire.

The town tonight is practically in the hands of the Americans. The Spaniards tonight are supposed to still hold possession of the strip of ground between the Prado and the port, but their soldiers have been withdrawn to within a few blocks of the port. Three companies of the Tenth regular infantry, who were hurried into town this afternoon, are on guard in the streets tonight. It is expected that the entire Tenth regiment will have to be brought in, together with the Eighth United States, which has been encamped at the trocha only two miles away.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Hon. Justin S. Morrill, the senior United States senator from Vermont, died at 20 minutes past 1 o'clock this morning, in the 89th year of his age, after an illness less than a week. With him when the end came were his sister-in-law, Miss Louise Swan, his son James, Benjamin Durfee, for a long time associated with the senator in finance committee work at the capitol, and Colonel S. E. Chamberlain, an intimate friend. Senator Procter was in the house at the time, as were also several other friends.

The senator never recovered from the unconscious state into which he lapsed early in the day, and his death was calm and peaceful. The immediate cause of death was pneumonia, which developed from an attack of grip, contracted about a week ago. The venerable senator was confined to his home but seven days. Despite his advanced age, he attended his senatorial duties faithfully and regularly went to the capitol. About 10 days ago the weather here was cold, raw and foggy, and his physician thinks that exposure to its rigors brought on an attack of grip. The day before congress adjourned for the Christmas holidays, the senator was unable to leave his residence. He grew no better as the days went on, his low vitality, due to advancing age being unable to resist the disease. Christmas night it developed into pneumonia, and from that time until the end he sank steadily.

No definite funeral arrangements have yet been made, but it is altogether likely that public services will be held in the senate chamber. The remains of Mrs. Morrill, who died during the present year, are now in a vault at Rock Creek cemetery, near this city, and it may be that the senator's body will be deposited there pending removal to Stratford, Vt., where a mausoleum is in course of construction.

In the death of Senator Morrill the senate lost its senior member in point of service and its oldest in age. With

the single exception of Hon. Galusha A. Grow, of the house of representatives, he was the only man in congress whose congressional career began prior to the beginning of the civil war, and he had the honor over Mr. Grow in that his congressional service had been continuous, covering in the senate and the house combined almost 44 years.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—A sensored special cable to the Tribune from Havana says: Rioting began at Montserrat tonight. A battalion of Spanish troops hurried from the barracks on the Prado to Gallano street, the dividing line between Cuban and Spanish territory. Order was restored, but in the firing which occurred before the troops arrived, an 8-year-old Cuban child was killed by a stray bullet.

Spanish territory in the New World is now limited to a narrow strip of land between Havana harbor and Callian street. The flags of Cuba libre and the United States are waving within two blocks of the Prado, a great boulevard which runs through the center of Havana.

Montserrat having been evacuated, the place was alive today with Cubans and people from the United States. The scene enacted at Cerro and Vedado last week and Jesus del Monte yesterday, was repeated at Montserrat. There was even a greater demonstration, for Montserrat comes almost to the city. Some of the flags leaped across the dividing line and waved on the Spanish side.

The celebration which was begun on Christmas night today reached its height, crowds of men and women waving Cuban and American flags and carrying branches of trees, paraded the streets shouting and singing. Many Americans went over to see the demonstration. They did not remain long. Owing to the intense enthusiasm, the populace insisted on kissing the "brave Americans," whether they wanted to be kissed or not.

Several affrays took place between the Spanish residents and the Cubans. A grocery-keeper on Oquendo streets refused to put out the Cuban colors, and was almost beaten to death with sticks. As evening came on, the demonstration became noisier than ever, as many of the negro parading were drunk and greatly excited. The Americans became fearful of another clash with the Spanish troops like that which ushered in Christmas day. Francisco Luinteso, a Spanish volunteer patrolling the street near the Prado, was fired at from a housetop and killed. A Cuban was killed in another part of the city. Half a dozen Cubans and Spaniards were shot or stabbed in affrays about the city.

There was a fight between Cubans and Spaniards in front of the United States Club at midnight. Several of the participants were badly cut with machetes. Many American soldiers who were in town behaved so boisterously that General Ludlow says he is sorry that they were permitted to come into Havana, and in future none will be permitted except on strictly military business.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—A special cable gram to the Tribune, from Havana.

Cuban residents of Havana declare tonight that if General Brooke does not rescind his order barring representatives of the Cuban insurgent army from being present at the evacuation ceremonies of New Year's day, they will close their houses on that occasion, tear down their flags and decorations and remain indoors.

FOR A DRYDOCK ON THE COLUMBIA

Senator McBride Trying to Secure an Appropriation for one.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(Oregonian office, Post building.) Senator McBride has offered an amendment to the naval bill, which provides for the construction of a stone drydock on the Columbia river and appropriates \$200,000 for immediate use in beginning the work. According to the provisions of the amendment, the dock shall be 700 feet in length, and its other dimensions shall be such as to accommodate the largest vessels in the regular or auxiliary navy, either existing at the present time, or likely to be constructed in the future. The cost of the dock when completed is not to exceed \$1,025,000. Provision is also made for a new board of naval officers to be appointed by the secretary of the navy, to select a suitable location for the dock, \$1000 being set aside to defray the expenses of such a board.

Senator McBride has introduced a bill to remove the charge of desertion from Maurice D. Roberts, deceased, who was a member of the Third Missouri cavalry and the Seventh Missouri infantry during the war of the rebellion. From evidence, that had been collected, it would seem that the muster-out rolls were defective, and in this manner Roberts was accredited with deserting. His widow, Hettie A. Roberts, now living in Salem, Or., has endeavored to secure a widow's pension, but this was

refused, as her husband was recorded as a deserter. If this bill passes and Roberts' record is cleared up, Mrs. Roberts will be entitled to a widow's pension under the law.

Senator McBride has introduced a bill appropriating \$4000 for the purchase or construction of a launch for the use of the custom officials at Astoria. A craft capable of giving a good speed and one that will stand knocking about is badly needed in the customs service at Astoria, and Senator McBride's bill is intended to supply the deficiency.

MADRID, Dec. 27.—General Rios, the Spanish commander in the Visayas, has telegraphed to the government from Iloilo, capital of the island of Panay, date of December 24, as follows:

"Am preparing to embark on the steamer Leo XIII, for Zamboanga, island of Mindanao, having yesterday (December 23) formally surrendered Iloilo, in the presence of the military and naval commanders, the mayor and foreign consuls. Have charged the German consul with the protection of Spanish interests. Shall arrive at Manila by the end of the month."

Though the dispatch is ambiguous, it is assumed here that the surrender of Iloilo was to the Americans.

ON BOARD THE OREGON.

Fred Nelson Writes an Interesting Letter Home.

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, Nov. 11, '98.

My Dear Sister.—Once more we are in Rio. Arrived here at 8:30 this morning. We have kept our six pounder hot, firing salutes. It is some sort of a holiday and we salute everything in sight, ourselves included. As soon as we entered the harbor we fired a salute of 21 guns, with the Brazilian flag at the mast head, and a fort replied. Then we saluted all the different nations whose flag flew from a ship and each ship replied separately. After dinner the Brazilian president came out in an antiquated side wheel yacht and all the men-of-war saluted him. There were five Brazilian, two English, one German, one French and the Iowa and the Oregon, all banging away at once. It sounded like a second Santiago. We manned the rail and all the ships that carried masts manned the yards. It was a pretty sight, with all the sailors all around the rail, hands on each others shoulders, while on the yards the sailors stood hand in hand.

Rio is very cool at present, in fact, all South American ports seem much cooler than when we left them, but I suppose that is because we have been in hot weather for some time.

I hear we are going to Manila from Honolulu. I hope not, for I confess I am just a little homesick, and if we go to Manila I can't come home before the end of my cruise. Well, I guess I will appreciate home and friends when I do get back. It was all right until we got a new captain, but now it is a continual round of quarters and drill. Two years more and it will be over and then home again. The harbor is in the shape of a horse shoe. At the entrance, which is narrow, are two forts that look as if they could sink any ship, but during the last revolution here, a Brazilian man-of-war used to run in and out at pleasure. There is a high rock at the entrance and the city is surrounded by a chain of mountains. The city seems laid out without regard to streets, the houses being set down wherever there is a flat spot. It is very unhealthy here, so we can't go on liberty, but we are to take part in a celebration on the 15th and a battalion may go ashore for exhibition drill. On the 18th we leave for Sandy Point, Chili. We may see a little fighting there as that city is a bone of contention between Chili and Argentine. From Sandy Point we coal from some small island near the equator and then to Honolulu. I will write from Honolulu whether we are going to Manila or not.

Nov. 17.—We celebrated Brazilian independence day and inauguration day. At sunrise each of the seventeen ships in the harbor fired a salute of 21 guns. The bay is surrounded by mountains and valleys and they echo and re-echo the reports till it sounds like a naval battle. All the ships were dressed with flags of all nations, running in a single line from bow to mast-head and from yard-arm to stern, in double lines. At night electric lights were substituted for flags. The Brazilian flag floated from the mast-head of the Iowa and the American flag from the jack-staff. The search lights were played on them all evening. We have no night dressing but we decorated with Chinese lanterns. A stage was erected on our fore-castle, the side awnings spread and the fore-castle became a theatre. The stage was draped with an English flag on one side, an Italian on the other and the Hawaiian Jack overhead while "Old Glory" formed a background. The crowd was a Turkish flag. The officers of H. M. S.

(Continued on page six.)