

EPITOME OF THE DISPATCHES

Happenings Both at Home and Abroad.

A WEEK'S NEWS CONDENSED

Interesting Collection of Items From Many Places Gleaned From the Press Reports of the Current Week.

The senate has adopted the conference report on the naval appropriation bill.

The harbor defense plans of San Francisco are said to be in the hands of the Spanish.

A New York Journal dispatch says the government is preparing to seize several small islands in the South Atlantic as a bases of supplies.

Blanco, in his report of the Matanzas bombardment says the French and English consuls have entered protests on the ground that no previous notice was given.

It is announced that extraordinary naval and military activity is displayed throughout France. All the ships recently mobilized are kept in fighting trim. The reserves expect to be called out.

It was officially announced at Madrid that the fortifications of Matanzas have not suffered, in spite of 300 shells fired by the American fleet, and that not one man was killed or wounded thereby. The stories of the bombardment received from the United States are received with shouts of derision.

Spanish mail has been ordered confiscated by the postoffice department. In the first batch received at the dead letter office, the discovery of numerous contraband letters, some of which are of great importance to the naval and military authorities, has demonstrated that the order is not only justified, but a wise precaution.

A proclamation has been issued by the autonomist government at Havana. Spanish adherents in Cuba are urged to resist the American invasion. The war is classed as an unholy one. The American campaign is denounced as being one of aggression and the United States government is accused of sailing under paltry false colors.

News has reached San Francisco of a terrible explosion of powder that was being carried by pack train to Colonel Dan Burns' Candelaria mine in Mexico. The pack train was unusually large. It consisted of over 110 mules and the attendants numbered some 40 Mexicans. A part of the freight consisted of dynamite, caps and boxes of powder. It is said that 218 boxes of powder and 20,000 caps exploded with such force that 15 men and 60 mules were killed.

Lead and sugar are advancing rapidly in London owing to the war.

Secretary Alger has submitted estimates of \$34,000,000 to cover additional army expenses to July 1. This will be included in the general deficiency bill.

The committee on military affairs has favorably reported the administration bill suspending important laws governing the quartermaster's department in the army.

The emergency war measure was passed in the house on the 28th by unanimous consent. It repeals the limitation on the purchase of quartermaster's supplies during the existing war with Spain.

Minister Clayton communicated to the foreign department of the government at Mexico the resolution of the American congress declaring war with Spain. Minister Mariscal, of the foreign department, replied, assuring the American minister of the authority of President Diaz, that Mexico will maintain the strictest neutrality.

Orlando avarice received by steamer in Vancouver, B. C., tell of a shocking massacre which occurred near Taijoo, China, at the house of one Yang Kinsiang. A party of over 20 robbers entered the house and murdered Yang's wife, his mother and children and servants, 15 persons in all, who resisted them in their attempt to loot the house and attack the daughters. When the robbers had butchered all the inmates they set the house on fire.

The large packing houses of the Atlantic Powder Company, near Dover, N. J., containing high explosives for the United States government were blown up and two men are known to have been killed. Several are missing and a number were injured. The explosion is believed to have been the work of Spanish spies. Suspicious characters had been seen around the buildings for several days.

The large Spanish steamer Guido, bound from Corunna for Havana with a large cargo of provisions and money for the Spanish troops, was captured by the United States monitor Terror. The capture took place 10 miles off Cardenas, after a desperate chase, during which the monitor Terror and the gunboat Machias fired several shots, almost blowing the Spaniard's pilot house into the water. One man in the pilot house was seriously injured. It is estimated that with her cargo she is worth nearly \$500,000.

Minor News Items.

A newly discovered spot on the sun visible now, is said to be 30,000 miles in diameter.

The sale of salt is a government monopoly in China, which yields a yearly revenue of \$11,000,000.

Jews have become farmers in Maine in such numbers as to be recognized as a factor in trading.

The contributions to the James Russell Lowell memorial fund in Boston now amount to \$22,075.

Arthur Cramp, a colored man in Boston, born a slave near 74 years old, is going to evening school.

Munster, in Westphalia, has a public school which has just celebrated the eleven hundredth anniversary of its foundation.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee came home from Havana on the anniversary of the day that he went home from Appomattox—the historic 9th of April.

LATER NEWS.

Spanish Government Is Rent With Strife.

GARRISON READY FOR DUTY

Celebration of Murat's Victims Observed

The Manila Disast-Uppermost in the Public Mind—Formation of a National Ministry Possible.

London, May 4.—The Madrid correspondent of the Standard, telegraphing at midnight, says:

Senor Aguilera, the civil governor of Madrid, has just posted on the walls of the home office the customary proclamation, intimating that the civil authorities consider that the circumstances justify the handing over to the military authorities the mission of keeping order. Lieutenant-General Caban, captain-general of Madrid, has assumed charge, and the first military patrols have just appeared in the Puerta de Sol. The measure is taken in consequence of the attitude of certain political parties. The whole garrison is ready in barracks.

At 2 A. M. a mob tried to break into the Apollo theater to hold a manifestation. The police prevented their doing so, but many windows were broken before they dispersed.

Tribute to Murat's Victims. Madrid, May 4.—The celebrations in honor of the Spanish officers, Ruiz, Diaz and Volardez, the victims of Murat's massacre, have proceeded today as usual, in spite of the bad news from the Philippines. A fine procession was headed by the civic guards, 12 abreast, followed by the orphans, the Madrid charities, veteran municipal functionaries and officials and others. Several regiments of troops brought up the rear. The streets were packed, but there was no outward display of sorrow.

In political circles, however, important developments are hourly expected. Senor Romero y Robledo (leader of the Weylerite party) will interpellate the government in congress, tomorrow, on the events at Manila, and the Carlists and republicans will participate in the debate, which is expected to have important results. It is asserted that the burning of the Reina Cristina was due to American petroleum bombs, and that a number of detached hussars belonging to natives were set on fire in the same way.

The procession passed off amid gloom and gloom, but there were no patriotic speeches. The minds of the people were too full of the disaster to think of anything but avenging the surprise at Manila. Senor Aguilera, the civil governor at Madrid, did not take part in the procession. All his energies were required to watch closely popular feeling, which is certain to explode and to require a propitiatory scapegoat.

After the bulletin tonight, very sensational news may be expected.

Senate's Quick Action on the War Deficiency Bill.

Washington, May 4.—Several war measures were passed by the senate today, and notwithstanding their importance, not one elicited the slightest debate. Probably the most important measure passed the emergency war deficit bill carrying \$33,720,945. Not more than 10 minutes were consumed in passing it, that time being occupied in reading the measure.

Hawley, chairman of the military affairs committee, secured the passage of a bill providing for the enlistment of a volunteer brigade of engineers and 10,000 men in the South, who are immune to yellow fever, these enlistments to be in addition to those provided for in the president's call for 125,000 men. The men will enlist "for the war."

House Proceedings.

Washington, May 4.—The passage of the emergency bill was a feature of today's action by the house. The naval appropriation bill with the senate amendment providing for the payment of officers of the navy for the use of their inventions by the government stricken out, was reported from the conference and passed. It now goes to the president.

Report Partly Confirmed.

Washington, May 4.—When asked if the army was preparing for an invasion of Cuba at an early date, Secretary of War Alger replied: "We are preparing for immediate action, and we try to keep so prepared, but plans made today may of necessity have to be changed tomorrow, and that is why we are compelled to keep such absolute silence."

Hot Engagement Reported.

London, May 4.—A dispatch from Hong Kong to the Daily Mail says: Commodore Dewey's fleet is off Corregidor island, hotly engaged with the Spanish fleet. Electrical experiments show that the cable has been cut at or near Manila.

Dewey's Instructions.

Washington, May 4.—Commodore Dewey's instructions permit him to bombard Manila if necessary to take possession of the islands, but he will not do so unless the city's harbor troops operate offensively against him.

Chicago, April 29.—

The lines of the Western Passenger Association met today to consider the rates to be made for the transportation of troops to the front. No definite action was taken, as all the roads in the association were not represented, but they will be given a chance to vote on the proposition. The rate is to be two cents per mile for transportation of troops of all sorts, no matter whether they are state troops or have been mustered into service of the government.

A Texas Cyclone.

Wichita, Kan., May 4.—A special from Canadian, Tex., says the town of Mobeetie, Tex., was almost totally destroyed by a cyclone early Sunday morning. Four people were killed, three fatally injured, and 15 more or less seriously hurt. The property loss was \$95,000.

Fleet From Cadix.

London, May 4.—According to dispatch from Cadix to the Daily Chronicle it is believed that orders have been given a fleet of five vessels to start for Cuba on May 15.

UNDER MARTIAL LAW

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NORTHPORT IN RUINS.

The Entire Business District Destroyed by Fire.

AMERICAN LOSS WAS LIGHT

Three Spanish Cruisers Destroyed—Only News Comes Through Madrid and Is Colored—American Ships Succeeded in Landing Their Wounded.

Madrid, May 3.—Advices from Manila say that the American squadron, under Commodore Dewey, appeared off the bay of Manila at 5 o'clock this morning and opened a strong cannonade against the Spanish squadron and forts protecting the harbor. The Spanish second-class cruiser Don Juan de Austria, was severely damaged and her commander was killed. Another Spanish vessel was burned. The American squadron retired, having also sustained severe damage.

A second naval engagement followed, in which the American squadron again suffered considerable loss and the Spanish warships Mindanao and Ulloa were slightly damaged. During this engagement the Cavite forts maintained a steady and stronger fire upon the American squadron than in the first engagement.

Admiral Bermejo, the minister of marine, has expressed himself as highly pleased with the heroism of the Spanish marines, and has telegraphed congratulations to Admiral Montojo and the valorous crews of the Spanish squadron under fire of superior warships.

The following is the text of the official dispatch from the governor-general of the Philippines to the minister of war, General Correa, as to the engagement of Manila:

"Last night, the batteries at the entrance to the bay of Manila, and the entrance to the bay of Cavite, were attacked by the enemy, forcing a passage under the obscurity of the night. At daybreak the enemy took up positions, opening with a strong fire against Fort Cavite and Tardanel. Our fleet engaged the enemy in a brilliant combat, protected by the Cavite and Manila forts. They obliged the enemy, with heavy loss, to maneuver repeatedly.

"At 9 o'clock the Americans took a large battery on the east side of the bay, considering the enemy's superiority, naturally suffered a severe loss. The Reina Cristina is on fire, and another ship, believed to be the Don Juan de Austria, was blown up. There is considerable damage to the fleet, and the commanding officer, Captain Bermejo, is considered to be killed. I cannot now give further details. The spirit of the army, navy and volunteers is excellent."

When the United States fleet arrived at Cavite at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Commodore Dewey sent scouting vessels to examine these waters for the enemy, and immediately sailed in the direction of Manila.

Notwithstanding the severe damage the Spanish ships suffered, naval officers here consider that the future operations by the American squadron will be conducted under great difficulty, owing to their having no base where they could repair or coal, or obtain fresh supplies of ammunition.

Another account says the Mindanao steamer, the Reina Cristina, was severely damaged in the second engagement.

Mutterings in Madrid. The town is growing excited by the serious news from the Philippines, and there is an immense crowd gathering in the Salle de Sevilla. The civil guards on horseback were called out to preserve order, and all precautions have been taken to prevent any rioting, but up to the present, nothing more serious has occurred.

Late official telegrams say Admiral Montojo has transferred his flag to the cruiser Isla de Cuba, from the cruiser Reina Cristina, which is completely burned. Admiral Montojo is believed to have been killed. The Spanish cruiser Castilla was also burned.

The other ships retired from the combat, some being sunk to avoid their falling into the enemy's hands.

The second engagement was apparently begun by the Americans after landing their wounded on the west side of the bay.

A cabinet minister speaks of "serious but honorable losses."

SPANIARDS' CRUSHING DEFEAT. That is About All the Dispatches Make Clear.

London, May 3.—While it is quite clear that the Spanish squadron has suffered a crushing defeat, the dispatches do not leave clear the interesting question whether the American squadron has suffered damage.

Probably, therefore, the United States fleet will be obliged to make the side of Manila for the men of his fleet who were wounded in the engagement.

As soon as the junction of the American and insurgent forces—the one at sea and the other on land—is effected, a demand is likely to be made for the surrender of the city, and, in the event of refusal, a combined attack will be made on it.

The result of such an attack, in the absence of a Spanish fleet and effective shore batteries, seems a foregone conclusion.

Representations may be made to Spain that she would better relinquish her hold upon Cuba than risk all of her West Indian possessions and the Philippines as well. It is believed to be not unlikely that the representations will indicate that, since Spanish honor has been satisfied by a conflict, Spain can now yield to the inevitable and accept the good offices of the powers to bring about an adjustment.

A GREAT NAVAL BATTLE

Spanish Are Defeated at Manila.

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The result of such an attack, in the absence of a Spanish fleet and effective shore batteries, seems a foregone conclusion.

Representations may be made to Spain that she would better relinquish her hold upon Cuba than risk all of her West Indian possessions and the Philippines as well. It is believed to be not unlikely that the representations will indicate that, since Spanish honor has been satisfied by a conflict, Spain can now yield to the inevitable and accept the good offices of the powers to bring about an adjustment.

MAY END THE WAR.

The Probable Effect of Dewey's Victory at Manila.

AMERICAN LOSS WAS LIGHT

Three Spanish Cruisers Destroyed—Only News Comes Through Madrid and Is Colored—American Ships Succeeded in Landing Their Wounded.

Washington, May 3.—Washington is rejoicing tonight. Not since the dark days of a third of a century ago have the people of this city been so profoundly moved by war news as they were this evening.

The first battle of the Hispano-American war has been fought and victory lies with Admiral Dewey's squadron under the Stars and Stripes. That was enough to set the people of Washington almost in a frenzy of enthusiastic rejoicing.

For days, they, in common with the people throughout the country, have been waiting news from the Philippines, as everything pointed to a battle at Manila that might be a decisive conflict of the war. When the news came, exciting and great, the enthusiasm of the people was let loose, and the streets of the city have rung with cheers throughout the night.

The first news of the battle received in Washington came in a brief cablegram to the press from Madrid about 8 o'clock this evening. As the night wore on, the cable continued to sing the news of victory for the squadron of Admiral Dewey, and the interest grew into tremendous excitement.

An bulletin after bulletin was posted in front of the newspaper offices, each successive one conveying information more gratifying than its predecessors, the crowds in the streets became uproarious. Good, as well as bad news, spread rapidly, and by 10 o'clock, the streets were crowded with people, all discussing the one exciting topic of the hour. Hundreds gathered in front of the bulletin boards, and every scintilla of news—and it was all glorious—was received with enthusiastic cheers.

While victory had been expected, the news of it, coming, as it did, from Spanish sources, gave a vent to the patriotism of the people, which has been pent up for days. It was a spontaneous outburst of patriotic feeling that scarcely knew no bounds. Admiral Dewey's name was on every lip, and his praises were sung in the rejoicings of the people.

The absence of any statement of specific injury to the American vessels in the Madrid advices was construed as convincing indication that they had suffered appreciable injury and this was especially pleasing to the students of the news.

Not only was the preservation of the American ships and men considered in itself a happy outcome, but was compounded upon as indicating clearly that Admiral Dewey and his assistants, the regular army and the men under his command had discharged splendidly their several duties in directing and executing the fight.

In this connection it was pointed out as little less than marvelous that the American squadron had succeeded without severe injury, because, notwithstanding the disparity in the naval forces, the Spanish fleet, assisted by the shore batteries, should have been able to effect severe damage before it was destroyed. Its failure to do so was creditable only upon the hypothesis of perfect and swift work by the American squadron.

May End the War. An opinion freely expressed tonight by naval officers is that the very decisive victory of Admiral Dewey's fleet will mean probably an early end of the war without further naval battles of importance. The American fleet, it is suggested, is now supreme in the waters of Spain's Pacific possession, and indications point strongly toward the wresting of the Philippines from their control. It is said that only by acceding to our demands in Cuba could the host possibly be averted. Spain, it is argued, is confronted with a situation which promises naught save disaster in case she elects to force more fighting. The superiority of the American fleet has been demonstrated in the Pacific, and the same it is believed to be inevitable in the Atlantic in case the clash comes.

From whatever point of view it is considered, the policy of more fighting, on the part of Spain promises nothing but more Spanish misfortune. Navy officers think the view most prevalent with the Spanish government, and believe an end of the war, on the basis of Cuban independence, is to follow soon, and that, too, without further notable opportunity for the American navy to prove its power and distinguish itself.

It is regarded by some as likely that the decisive victory gained by Admiral Dewey's squadron may open the eyes of Spain to the seriousness of the conflict upon which she has entered.

In official circles it is regarded as almost certain that results of a most serious nature will confront the Sagasta cabinet within Spain's own borders. It is said that the Spanish people have been led to believe that their navy was invincible, and the bitter disappointment over the first engagement of the war is likely to precipitate internal dissension, if not revolution.

Probable Result of the Victory. Another result of Admiral Dewey's victory, it is thought, may be action on the part of the powers of Europe to induce Spain to abandon what is regarded as a hopeless contest.

In the dispatches from Madrid, the statement was made that Admiral Dewey effected a landing on the west side of Manila for the men of his fleet who were wounded in the engagement.

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TO ATTACK BY LAND

Army Preparing to Go to Cuba.

MAY LAND AT MATANZAS

Regular Troops Now on the Way to Tampa—Object Is to Strike a Decisive Blow Before the Rainy Season Sets In—Work in War Department.

Washington, April 30.—A rather striking significance of the invasion of Cuba was made today in the chartering of eight large steamers, of an average capacity of about 2,000 tons, and able to carry from 500 to 1,000 passengers each. These are to be used as transports for the conveyance of the first military expedition to Cuba. The names of the boats are the Olivette and Florida of the Plant line, now in the Gulf; the Southern Pacific Company's steamer Aranza; the New York & Texas Company's vessels Comal, now at New York, and Alamo, now on route to the Gulf, and three fine ships of the Boston Merchants' & Mariners' line, in Baltimore, the Alleghe, Berkshire and the Decatur Miller. The price paid for those vessels is from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for the 30 days for which they are chartered. They will be taken charge of by the quartermaster department at