

The Corvallis Gazette.

VOL. XXXV.

CORVALLIS, BENTON COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1898.

NO. 15.

EPITOME OF THE DISPATCHES

Happenings Both at Home and Abroad.

A WEEK'S NEWS CONDENSED

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

Preparations are being hastened for the third expedition to the Philippines. Five steamers loaded with troops will probably sail from San Francisco for Manila about July 1.

An engine and tender on the north-bound freight on the Langdon line of the Great Northern jumped the track, fatally injuring Engineer Peterson, Conductor Cohen and a brakeman.

For the purpose of testing the efficiency of the mines in Hampton roads the burned schooner Shenandoah was blown. The ship was torn into a thousand fragments. An officer in the fort set the mines off by electricity.

Spanish power is crumbling in the Philippines. General Pona and 1,000 Spanish soldiers have surrendered at Santa Cruz, and similar surrenders have occurred at other places. The insurgents propose to form a republic under Anglo-American tutelage.

The Hawaiian annexation resolution has been favorably reported upon by the senate committee on foreign relations. There is some probability that the islands will have been formally annexed to the United States before two weeks have elapsed.

The achievement of the Vesuvius at Santiago is regarded as remarkable, and opens a new era in warfare. The effect of her giant shells upon the fortifications with which they came in contact was destructive to a degree heretofore unequalled by any death-dealing machine in existence.

Lieutenant-Colonel Arna of the Cuban army, who has just arrived in Key West, says that as soon as war between the United States and Spain was declared, the Spanish guerrillas in Pinar del Rio province went through the country districts but herding the pacificos, women, children and old men, whose bodies lie in the roads and fields unburied to this day.

A special cable from Hong Kong to the New York Journal says that the most severe and strong battle since Dewey's annihilation of the Spanish fleet has occurred at Manila. One thousand insurgents attacked 2,000 Spanish, inflicting heavy losses and almost forcing an entrance to the city. Marines from Dewey's warships and insurgents have the city surrounded and cut off from every possible source of food supply. Dewey's residents Dewey is prepared to take the city 24 hours after the arrival of the troops now on route.

The army of invasion for Porto Rico, it is said, will be 25,000 strong.

Spaniards at Caliz are reported as being in a state of great excitement, fearing our ships may go across.

President McKinley has sent to the senate the name of Gen. L. B. Taylor for the position of collector of customs for the district of Willamette, Oregon.

A leading Washington diplomat says the departure of Shafter's expedition destroys all chances of an early peace and commits the government to a vigorous prosecution of the war.

The president has sent to congress recommendation for the advancement of Lieutenant Hobson, who sunk the Merrimac in Santiago, and ten numbers in the list of naval constructors.

Disgraced sailors on the Harvard and Yale, 600 of whom are foreigners, will not be released. Their protests are vain, as the British and German consuls refuse to interfere in the matter. The charges made by the sailors in a breach of faith on the part of the government are held to be unfounded.

The services of our marines are being appreciated. Secretary Long has commended the zeal and discretion of the Captain of the Marietta. The secretary says the recent long voyage of the gunboat demonstrated the abilities of her master and crew. The defenses of two revenue-cutters Hudson also has been commended for his gallantry at Cardenas.

A special from Key West says that advances from the headquarters of the Cuban civil government in La Guajana, Camagney, report that over 6,000 Spanish volunteers and many regulars from the Puerto Principe and Navitas garrisons have deserted to the Cuban patriot army. The immediate cause of the desertions was fear inspired by the proximity of the American fleet.

Sampson's battleships are clearing the way for Shafter's men in Cuba. The defenses at Caimanera, the terminus of the railroad leading to Guantanamo have been reduced. The Texas, Marblehead and Swanton participated in the bombardment. Firing continued until the brick fort and earthworks constituting the defenses were completely demolished and their occupants compelled to take to the bushes. The Spanish guns fired five shots, all of which went wild.

Minor News Items. Of the 16,000 citizens of the United States now in Germany, 2,000 are matriculated students.

Timely rains give assurance of a wheat crop in the state of Washington in excess of 20,000,000 bushels.

The Columbia, Cornell, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin boat regatta will take place on Saratoga lake June 30.

Charles Allen, pugilist, was given at St. Joseph, Mo., a 13 years' sentence in the penitentiary for robbery.

The oldest living railroad conductor is Edward Miller, who is still in active service on the Westchester division of the Pennsylvania railroad.

LATER NEWS.

M. Sarrien has decided to relinquish the task of attempting to form a new cabinet in France.

May internal revenue collections amounted to \$14,008,517, an increase over May last year of \$3,281,235.

General Duffield's brigade of 3,000 men at Camp Alger, Washington, D. C., have been ordered to take transports at Fort Monroe for Santiago.

Cable service between Guantanamo and Washington had been restored and Blanco has been cut off from communication with the outside world.

The United States army for the invasion of Cuba, about 16,000 strong, and commanded by General Shafter, has arrived safely off Santiago de Cuba.

Reports of disasters at White Horse rapids, on the way to Dawson City, have been exaggerated. Instead of 500 boats being lost, but 50 were wrecked.

Rumors are current in Madrid that a national government pledged to vigor and prosecution of the war is likely to succeed the Sagasta ministry.

Water displaced by the launching of the battle-ship Albion at Blackwell, England, submerged a staging which was crowded with people, and it is estimated that 50 persons were drowned.

In response to an inquiry, Mr. Ramden, the British consul at Santiago, sent the following dispatch to the New York World: "Nothing happened to Hobson or the others during the bombardment."

The American fleet off Santiago has been materially strengthened by the addition of the warships, which escorted the transports, consisting of the Indiana, Detroit, Montgomery, Bancroft, Helena, Erie and Annapolis.

Chinese authorities, presumably upon representations from Spain, have compelled the U. S. S. Zairo to leave Chinese waters without allowing the usual 24 hours to take on coal and provisions. She is now in British waters at Hong Kong.

Three Spanish gunboats and some large vessels, apparently merchantmen, left Havana harbor and proceeded eastward, close in shore. The auxiliary gunboat Maple fired upon the Spanish ships and they returned to port and have not since attempted a sortie.

A Havana dispatch says that on Friday morning last the United States battle-ship Texas endeavored to cover the landing of American marines at Punta Cabrera, province of Santiago de Cuba, but the Americans were repulsed with the loss of several men.

By way of Marseille, France, the state department has received and transmitted to the navy department advice confirming the report that the Spanish reserve fleet has returned to Cadiz. The dispatch states that the Victoria came into port disabled and in tow.

Major-General Merritt may sail for Manila on the cruiser Philadelphia, which has received orders to be ready for sea by July 1. The prospective governor-general of the Philippines is anxious to reach the islands as soon as possible. General Otis will go with the fourth squadron.

Preparations for sending troops to reinforce Shafter's expedition are under way.

Spain positively refuses to give up Lieutenant Hobson and his men, and to emphasize that refusal, Blanco announces that he will hereafter recognize no flag of truce.

Havana's Morro castle has fired on our warships. The fusillade continued at intervals, all day Saturday and the shots were fairly well aimed, indicating the presence of imported gunners.

Affairs are growing worse at Havana. The insurgents are raiding the province from all directions. They constantly harass the city, cut off supplies and destroy the roads. An attempt by Spaniards to dislodge the Cubans resulted disastrously.

The blockade is to be strengthened. The fleet will be reinforced after the debarkation of the troops at Santiago. The ships are to close up, and naval vessels say that all danger of Spanish vessels running the blockade will thus be eliminated.

Food is reported scarce in Porto Rico. Prices have advanced and starvation is imminent among the lower classes. Since the bombardment of San Juan by Sampson's warships, the inhabitants of the city live in terror of a repetition of the awful experience, and reliable news is unobtainable in the island.

The Cubans report food supplies in Havana extremely scarce, and that the Spanish army has been placed on half rations. A Cuban officer who has arrived in Key West says that in two officers of the army, but none accepted. Aguinaldo is reported to have advocated autonomy under American protectorates.

The insurgents, it is believed, out of deference to Admiral Dewey, have resolved not to bombard. For several days there have been tremendous rain storms.

Queen May Abdicates. Gibraltar, June 22.—There is a persistent rumor from Madrid that the queen regent proposes to abdicate in consequence of the critical condition of her country.

No Flag of Truce. Key West, June 22.—It is learned from naval officers here that General Blanco has notified the American blockading fleet that he will hereafter recognize no flag of truce, adding that every vessel within six miles' range will be fired upon whether flying the Stars and Stripes or a white flag.

General Blanco's letter which led up to the sending of the Maple, under charge of Captain Ludlow, to open negotiations for the exchange of Lieutenant Hobson.

General Blanco's letter was addressed to the monitor Terror's captain (Ludlow). After refusing to negotiate for the exchange of the prisoners, he delivered the ultimatum as to boats with flags of truce.

Picnic Party in Collision. St. Louis, June 21.—A picnic party, returning from Benton Park in a wagon tonight collided with a street car on the Southern electric road. The following were fatally injured: George Bollerson, Julia Bader, wound in head; William Holden, hurt internally. A number of others sustained minor injuries.

The 18-year-old lad who is heir to the throne of Japan is said to be the last male descendant in the order of primogeniture of a dynasty which has reigned 2,600 years.

WITH MEN AND ARMS

Insurgents Are Winning Many Victories.

FIERCE FIGHTING REPORTED

Native Troops Join Insurgents and the Spaniards Surrender—Whole Regiments in Revolt—Town of Otaga, Next in Importance to Manila, Taken.

Hong Kong, June 22.—According to advices from Manila, dated June 19, it was reported there that General Nonet, in coming southward with 3,000 mixed troops from Bataan, 30 miles north of Manila, found the railway line blocked, and was taken by ambush by the insurgents. Fierce fighting ensued, and was carried on for three days, during which General Nonet was killed. The native troops joined the insurgents, and the Spaniards who were left, about 500 in number, surrendered.

A battalion at Panganga of native

It was also recalled that when Colonel Cortezo, commandant at Port McPherson, Ga., was exchanged, it was strictly on the basis of his rank, without consideration of the incidental factor of the former captain-general.

The naval officials attach no importance in the half-meeting of the flag over Morro castle after the recent bombardment as indicating that Hobson and his associates had perished. Morro is being spared to protect Hobson, and moreover it is hardly supposed that the Spanish flag would be lowered out of

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militia, supposed to be particularly loyal, began shooting its officers, and killed five, when the insurgents attacked Marabon. The Spanish succeeded in disarming and imprisoning a portion of them, but they escaped when the insurgents captured Marabon.

At Zapote a whole regiment revolted at a critical moment. The authorities still use mixed forces, with the result that insurgent riflemen are frequently forced to have passed the sentries and to creep along under cover and firing on the Spaniards from behind.

The press correspondent pays a daily visit to the outposts at Tonda, Santa Ana and Malate, but there is no perceptible movement, though there is constant firing, which for the most part is a desultory fire visible among the trees. The insurgents, who fire sparingly, draw abundant Spanish volleys, and especially at night. The Spaniards incessantly squander tons of ammunition into the shadow of the

insurgents, it is believed, out of deference to Admiral Dewey, have resolved not to bombard. For several days there have been tremendous rain storms.

There was a great feast at Cavite on June 12, when a declaration of independence was formally made by Aguinaldo. He had invited the American officers to be present, but none accepted. Aguinaldo is reported to have advocated autonomy under American protectorates.

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HOBSON'S FATE.

The Prospects Are Not Bright for His Exchange.

Washington, June 22.—Word was received today from Commodore Watson to the effect that Captain-General Blanco states that the Spanish government refuses to exchange Hobson and his men.

The holding of hostages usually for ransom or for other benefit is a medieval custom. But even as hostage Hobson would be entitled to an exchange for prisoners of great rank or greater number. It is recalled that Admiral Cervera won praise the world over by his gallantry in making the first offer to exchange Hobson and his associates, so that the refusal to exchange Hobson is the more unaccountable.

It was also recalled that when Colonel Cortezo, commandant at Port McPherson, Ga., was exchanged, it was strictly on the basis of his rank, without consideration of the incidental factor of the former captain-general.

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GENERALS COMMANDING ARMIES INVADING CUBA.



GEN. JOHN J. COPPINGER. GEN. WM. R. SHAFER.

WERE SWEEPED TO THEIR DOOM

Water Submerged a Stage Which Was Crowded—Hundreds of People Immersed—Thirty-Four Bodies Have Been Recovered.

London, June 23.—During the launching of the British first-class battle-ship Albion, at Blackwell, today, by the Duchess of York, at which ceremony the United States ambassador, Colonel John Hay, and Mrs. Hay, and Lieutenant-Commander Wells, United States naval attaché, assisted, the displacement of water caused an immense mass of water to rise on all sides, completely submerging one of the lower stages of the yard, and immersing hundreds of people. It is estimated that 50 persons were drowned.

The Duchess of York, Colonel and Mrs. Hay and the remainder of the distinguished guests, did not see the accident, which occurred at the moment when three cheers were given for the successful launching, and the cries and screams of the victims were drowned by the hurrahs.

The bodies of five men, 18 women and 11 children have been recovered. The Duke and Duchess of York have telegraphed assurances of their profound regret and sympathy.

Thousands who witnessed the launching left the scene ignorant of the disaster. The staging that was destroyed had been erected for workmen near the stern of a Japanese cruiser in course of construction. It was a light structure, about 50 feet long, and notices had been posted warning the public that it was dangerous.

Despite the efforts of the police, some 200, mostly working people on a holiday, invaded the staging, which commanded a good view of the launching. Two great waves completely demolished it, and on receding, carried most of its occupants into deep water.

The water was alive with struggling people and floating debris. It was a scene of terrible confusion. The shrieks of the unfortunate people, mingled with the cheers of enthusiasm over the launching. Fortunately, there was plenty of help near in the shape of police boats and other craft. The shipbuilders, with drags, and the firemen, who participated, were all prompt in affording succor. A number of nurses who had come to witness the launching among those engulfed. Some of these and many others were revived by artificial respiration. Some were injured by colliding with the debris. About 60 of the spectators were injured and had to receive surgical treatment.

Many plucky rescues of drowning persons were made by onlookers. Heartrending scenes were witnessed when the bodies of children and other relatives of those who escaped the disaster were recovered and brought to land.

The Albion is a first-class steel battleship, of 13,950 tons, 390 feet long, 74 feet broad, and draws 25 feet 8 inches of water. She is to have 13,500 indicated horsepower, has two propellers and cost about \$4,000,000.

A municipal council in France has ordered its proceedings to be reported by phonograph.

Table with multiple columns listing names and titles, including Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, etc.

Washington, June 22.—Colonel Young, of the Second regiment of engineers, left for San Francisco today, to organize the third battalion of his regiment, which was the engineering contingent of the Philippine expedition.

The other two battalions, which are recruiting in the Middle West, will be assembled at Fort Sheridan before the end of this week by Major Richard Henry Savage, the novelist and former army engineer, and Major Pinckard, of Alabama.

Washington, June 22.—The senate committee on the Nicaragua canal today agreed to report a bill providing for the construction of the Nicaragua canal, but on lines very different from those of the bills previously reported. The bill authorized today practically provides for construction of the canal by the United States. The Maritime Canal Company is to be continued in existence, but all the stock is to be held by the governments of the United States, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. The bill provides for payment of \$5,000,000 to the stockholders for the work already performed.

London, June 23.—A band of brigands, according to a dispatch from Constantinople, has abducted a sister of the sultan. The princess was seized while she was walking at Kismetprakh, a few miles from Constantinople, where she resided.

Madrid, June 22.—It is believed that Augustin will ask foreign warships to land detachments to occupy Manila, on the ground that he is unable to resist the insurgents.

WITH TORCH IN HAND

Spaniards Preparing to Burn Caimanera.

ASHES FOR THE INVADERS

Gunboat Loaded With Oil Ready for the Match—People Living on Horse Flesh—Colonel Huntington Preparing for an Expected Attack.

Off Guantanamo, via Kingston, Jamaica, June 21.—Cuban scouts report today that the inhabitants of Caimanera have strewn the streets with straw and oil, with the intention of destroying the city and fleeing to the hills. Caimanera lies four miles up the bay from Camp McCalla, under the guns of the American ships, and the situation is desperate. Starving and famine-stricken, convinced of the ultimate triumph of the American arms, and without faith in the Spanish soldiery, the people are believed to have determined to leave their houses in ashes behind them and seek safety in the hills of the north. The scouts declare that the story is accurate, and say that every building of the town is being rapidly prepared for the torch.

The situation of the besieged is fearful. The people are eating horses and mules and are scouring the hills for fruits and herbs. Occasionally brief bombardments by the American fleet leave the helpless citizens terror-stricken, no preparations for defense being made. It is also stated that the Spanish gunboat at Caimanera has been loaded with inflammables, and will be burned with the city, her commander declaring that she will never become an American prize.

The scouts say the Spanish soldiers are in almost as complete a state of panic as are the civilians, and that they could easily be induced to surrender. Some of the prisoners taken by the marines say they believe the Spanish troops are on the verge of surrender, on account of the starvation.

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WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

The End of the Remarkable Letter Wheat Deal.

[Reported by Downing, Hopkins & Co., Inc., Board of Trade Brokers, 711 to 713 Chamber of Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.]

The Letter wheat deal, so-called, which was certainly one of the most remarkable business enterprises of modern times, has come to an end. Liquidation is now the order of the day, and many millions of money which were at one time profits on one side of the ledger have been wiped out by losses on the other side of that same truth-telling book.

It is the old story over again of Prometheus challenging the gods. The forces of nature are too strong for any man, and work and contrive as he may, he cannot maintain himself against that eternal decree that seed time and harvest shall not fail.

The outlook in 1897 for the purchase of wheat justified all that Mr. Letter did. There were short crops everywhere abroad, and the United States alone possessed the grain the whole world needed and must have.

As the year advanced and it became more and more apparent that the shortage was certain, the big deal began to look more and more promising, and after the December deliveries were provided for it seemed easy enough sailing for the young merchant.

Mr. Armour, who is no mean judge of such undertakings, and who has fought many a great commercial battle on the board of trade, in speaking of this splendid deal, said: "The pluck and wisdom manifested by him in the remarkable deal which he all but successfully consummated, challenged the admiration of men everywhere. I fully expected that he would carry the deal through safely, as there was merit in his position."

This is testimony from one who had felt the promise of the youthful commercial shrew, and who, in a measure, had been put to his trumpet to meet that antagonist on his own ground, and it is therefore all the more trustworthy as evidence that Mr. Letter had a strong position to begin with.

But time and time wait for no man, and ever-teeming mother earth gladly responds to the husbandman's toil. Unprecedented prices were responded to by an unprecedented crop, and bountiful nature offered to pour into Mr. Letter's lap a much greater product than he had dared to possess. He wisely closed the bins.

Vegetables—Potatoes—Yakimas, \$11 @ 12 per ton; natives, \$8 @ 10; California potatoes, \$1.50 @ 2 per 100 pounds. Beets, per sack, \$1.25; turnips, 1c; carrots, \$1.25; hot-house lettuce, 45c; radishes, 12 1/2c.

Fruit—California lemons, fancy, \$3; choice, \$2.50; seedling oranges, \$1.50 @ 1.75; California navel, fancy, \$3 @ 3.25; choice, \$2.50 @ 2.75; bananas, shipping, \$2.25 @ 2.75 per bunch; strawberries, 60