

Lincoln County Leader

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TOLEDO.....OREGON

EPITOME OF THE DISPATCHES

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

Santiago is on the verge of starvation. All the food has been seized for the army and navy, and troops and sailors are on half rations.

The president has in contemplation the submission of a special message to congress calling for the immediate annexation of Hawaii as a military necessity.

The Marblehead on Monday, when the insurgents had pressed forward west of Santiago, shelled the Spaniards, who fled to the mountains, checking the path followed in their retreat with dead and wounded.

Word has been received from Ottawa, Canada, that a messenger has left there with notice of the expulsion from Canada of Lieutenant Caranza and Senor Du Bose, the Spanish officers, who were recently attached to the Spanish legation at Washington.

The Marblehead engaged and drove a Spanish gunboat into Guantanamo harbor and shelled and reduced the anti-quated fortifications. The insurgents co-operated on the land side. The place is being held until troops arrive. It is contemplated to establish a general base there.

Sampson has officially declared that the purpose of the bombardment of Santiago was to clear the way for the troops. The object has been attained. He personally commended Ensign Palmer for approaching within 150 yards of the Spanish battery at night, and learning that the Spaniards were mounting guns.

Suspected of having furnished the United States with information regarding San Juan harbor, Walter Bett, secretary of the British consulate at that port, has received his passports and has been banished from Porto Rico by order of Governor-General Manclias. Bett was imprisoned in a dungeon for 56 hours, and during that time he was subjected to gross maltreatment. British Consul-General Crawford has made a formal protest to his government and serious international complications are imminent.

The American naval commander is anxious to bring about the exchange of Lieutenant Hobson and his gallant companions from the Merrimac. The admiral sent the Vixen with a flag of truce to the entrance of the harbor Wednesday offering to exchange for the lieutenant and his party some prisoners taken from a prize of the Marblehead off Cienfuegos. Carrera considered the matter all night, and sent word today that he is powerless to act. He referred the matter to the military governor, who later in turn referred it to Blanco. A long delay is probable.

In addition to Dewey's fleet eight foreign vessels are stationed in Manila bay.

The Masonic festival in San Francisco has among numerous interesting exhibitions a sword cane presented to George Washington by General Lafayette.

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

President McKinley received a press dispatch to the effect that Captain Phillips, of the battleship Texas, had been killed by a Spanish shell at Santiago. He said there was no reason to believe it true, and cited Sampson's official dispatch announcing no casualties.

A special from Kingston, Jamaica, reports that the Spanish cruiser Vizcaya and the torpedo-boat destroyer Furor were badly damaged during the bombardment of Monday. A shell from the Brooklyn is said to have burst under the Vizcaya's port quarter, dismounting a gun, injuring the cruiser's rudder and wounding several sailors.

The Spanish forces have been defeated with heavy loss in a battle at Jiguani, province of Santiago. After six hours' fighting the Spaniards raised a flag of truce and expressed themselves as willing to surrender, and the Cubans took as prisoners one Spanish colonel, seven captains and several other officers, besides 168 soldiers. The Spanish loss amounted to 76 dead and a large number of wounded. Included in the Spanish losses were 13 officers.

Assistant Secretary Melick Johnson has chartered the steamships Indiana, Morgan City and City of Para for the transportation of troops to the Philippines. He has closed a contract for the Victoria, Olympia and Arizona, of the North Pacific steamship line and secure the privilege of acquiring the Tacoma and Columbia if needed, all five on condition that they are given American register. He also has ordered impressed into service the steamer Queen and City of Puebla, of the Pacific Steamship Company, if found satisfactory.

LATER NEWS.

The steamer Skagit Chief ran against a rock in the Stickeen river and was wrecked.

The three Philippine expeditions are to unite at Honolulu and conclude their voyage in company.

The war department has no intention of further increasing the strength of the Manila expedition.

From 10,000 to 15,000 troops conveyed by Sampson's battle-ships are expected to constitute the invading expedition to Porto Rico.

Mrs. A. Kummer, wife of Chief Engineer Kummer, of the steamer Wildwood, committed suicide at Port Townsend by jumping off the wharf into the Sound.

Word has been received at the navy department at Washington from a high though unofficial source that Admiral Camara's Cadiz fleet has been found unfit for sea.

The president signed the war revenue bill Monday. The measure having been signed previously by Vice-President Hobart and Speaker Reed, is now a law.

In response to an inquiry, General Linares, of the Spanish army at Santiago, cabled the following reply: "Hobson and the other seven prisoners are well, and are in receipt of all cablegrams sent them."

When the Dauntless left Guantanamo bay Monday morning the cable steamer Adria was grappling for the Haytian cable. The cable is to be spliced and Sampson will hold it for direct communication with Washington.

Immediately upon information from the White House that the war revenue bill had been signed by the president, Secretary Gage issued a circular explaining to the public the proposed bond issue. That circular invites subscriptions for \$200,000,000 of 3 per cent bonds.

It was formally announced at the war department Monday morning that the first military expedition had left Key West at daybreak bound for Santiago. A large force of transports conveyed the troops under convoy of a strong squadron of warships ranging from immense battle-ships to the small gunboats and armed fast sailing yachts. Major-General Shafter, who commands the expedition, has with him a force of 778 officers and 14,534 enlisted men. Regular troops make up the greater part of the force, there being only three volunteer organizations on the ships. It was difficult to prevail upon the mounted riflemen to leave their mounts behind, but this was a matter of necessity, it is said, owing to the lack of accommodation for horses on ship board. The best the department could do at this time in the way of supplying the cavalry contingent for the expedition was to include among the troops one squad of the Second United States cavalry, fully mounted with nine officers and 250 enlisted men.

A prominent Chinese physician of Cleveland offers to enlist a company of his countrymen, take them to our newly-won Philippine possessions and teach the Chinese there that American rule is what they need.

A special from Jacksonville, Fla., says that three men were killed and Lieutenant Hart, of the engineer corps, was badly wounded by the explosion of a torpedo which was being placed in the St. Johns river about 18 miles south of Jacksonville. How the accident occurred the report does not show.

A Madrid dispatch says: A startling telegram from Governor-General Augusti caused an impression that Manila had surrendered already or was on the eve of surrendering. The latest report is that Augusti, in a fit of despair tried to commit suicide, but was prevented from killing himself by Admiral Montojo and the generals who wish to hold out. The queen regent is profoundly grieved and alarmed at the news of the progress of the war, particularly the report from the Philippines.

The war department has issued instructions for the guidance of officers of volunteers detailed to recruit their organizations to fill them to the maximum under the second call of the president for 75,000 men. Applicants for enlistment must be between 18 and 45 years old, of good character and habits, able-bodied, free from disease, and must be able to speak the English language. Married men will be only enlisted on the approval of regimental commanders. Minors must not be enlisted without the written consent of a parent or guardian. The term of service is two years.

Replying to a question in the house of commons Friday as to whether the British government or any of the European powers have any intention of intervening to secure the termination of the Spanish-American war, Balfour, the government leader, said: Her majesty's government will gladly take any favorable opportunity for promoting a cessation of hostilities and negotiations for peace, but any action upon its part for this purpose can only be undertaken if there is a reasonable prospect that it will be well received by both parties and likely to lead to an agreement between them. Unfortunately there is not sufficient grounds for believing that this condition exists."

THE FIRST ENGAGEMENT

Marines Attacked by the Spaniards.

FOUGHT ALL SATURDAY NIGHT

Our Losses Were Four Men Killed and Eleven Wounded—Assistant Surgeon Gibbs Among the Former—The Enemy's Loss Is Not Known.

Off Guantanamo, via Mole St. Nicholas, June 14—Lieutenant, R. W. Huntington's battalion of marines, which landed from the transport Panther Friday and encamped on the hill, guarding the abandoned cable station at the entrance of the harbor of Guantanamo, has been engaged in heading off a rush attack by Spanish guerrillas and regulars since 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

The fighting was almost continuous for 18 hours, until 6 o'clock this morning, when reinforcements were landed from the Marblehead.

Four of our men were killed and 11 wounded.

The advance pickets, under Lieutenants Neville and Shaw are unaccounted for.

Among the killed is Assistant Surgeon John Blair Gibbs, son of Major Gibbs, of the regular army, who fell in the Custer massacre. His home was at Richmond, Va., but he has been practicing in New York, and entered the service since the war began. He was a very popular officer.

The others killed are Sergeant Chas. H. Smith, of Smallwood; Private William Dunphy, of Gloucester, Mass., and Private James McColgan, of Stoneham, Mass.

Corporal Glass was accidentally wounded in the hand.

The Spanish loss is unknown, but it was probably considerable. The spots of blood found at daylight at the position the Spanish occupied indicate fatalities, but their comrades carried off the killed and wounded.

The engagement began with desultory firing at the pickets, 100 yards inland from the camp.

Captain Spicer's company was doing guard duty, and was driven in, finally rallying at the camp and routing the enemy by 5 o'clock.

The bodies of Private McColgan and Dunphy were found, both shot dead. The large cavities made by the bullets, which, inside a range of 500 yards, have a rotary motion, indicate that the victims were killed at close range. The bodies were stripped of shoes, hats and cartridge belts, and horribly mutilated with machetes.

When the marines were landed the whole battalion was formed on three sides of a hollow square about the camp on the hill back of the bay, where the warships were at anchor. Back of the camp is a deep ravine, and behind this are steep hills. The adjacent country is thick with bushes.

The sky was blanketed with clouds and when the sun set a gale was blowing seaward. Night fell thick and impenetrable. The Spanish squadron, concealed in the chapparal cover, had the advantage, the men furnishing a fine target against the sky. The Spanish fought from cover till midnight, discoverable only by the flashes from their guns. The repeaters sounded like crackers in a barrel.

The Marblehead's launch, with a Colt machine gun in her bow, pushed up the bay entailing the Spaniards, and it is thought that some were killed. The marines trailed much blood to the water's edge, and there lost it. Sharks are numerous in the vicinity. The ships threw their searchlights ashore, the powerful eyes sweeping the deep tropical foliage and disclosing occasionally skulking parties of Spaniards.

Each discovery of the enemy was greeted by the cracks of carbine fire along the edge of the camp ridge or by the long roll of the launch's machine-gun searching the thickets with leaden stream.

Shortly after midnight came the main attack. The Spaniards made a gallant charge up the southwest slope, but were met by repeated volleys from main body, and broke before they were one-third of the way up the hill, but they came so far that at points there was almost a hand-to-hand struggle. The officers fired their revolvers.

The Spaniards got through the open formation to the edge of the camp. Colonel Jose Campani, the Cuban leader, discharged his revolver and the Cubans, turning and finding themselves without support, ran helter-skelter down the reverse side of the hill.

It was during this assault that Assistant Surgeon Gibbs was killed. He was shot in the head in front of his own tent, the farthest point of attack. He fell into the arms of Private Sullivan and both dropped. A second bullet threw dust in their faces. Surgeon Gibbs lived 10 minutes, but did not regain consciousness.

FLEET IS OFF.

The Army of Invasion Sails From Key West, Shafter in Command.

Washington, June 14—Under command of General Shafter, the first division of the army sailed tonight from Key West for Santiago de Cuba to besiege and capture that town. The conveying warships, believed to number 16 or 19, will be ready for the voyage by nightfall, and with this powerful force there is no longer reason for apprehension that the transports can be attacked successfully by any Spanish warships, even if such ships had escaped the vigilant search of the naval commanders at Key West and off Havana.

It is believed here that the sally out of Havana of the three Spanish gunboats was intended to create the impression that they were prepared to attack the transports. If so, the plan miscarried, for the craft were detected immediately by Commodore Watson's cruisers and driven back pell mell into Havana harbor under the protection of the guns of the shore batteries.

Even if these boats had escaped they could have done no damage, for the size of the convoy furnished for the troops is sufficient to warrant the belief that they would have been speedily destroyed had they had the courage to make an attack upon the fleet of American ships. The Spanish boats are not of formidable character, not one of them being equal in power of the smallest American cruiser, or even of such gunboats as the little Bancroft, which may be used as General Shafter's flagship.

Every precaution has been taken by the government to insure the safety of the troops en route to Cuba. The naval war board was in session today making the final preparations for the disposition of the guardships. The transports will be kept as closely together as safe navigation will permit, and the warships will be disposed of ahead, astern and on each flank. The fleetest scouting vessels will be thrown far astern, ready to signal the heavily-armed cruisers at the first sign of an approaching foe.

The troops should arrive off Santiago by Wednesday night, supposing the fleet proceeds at eight knots speed, and landing operations should begin by Thursday, for General Shafter will not keep his men cooped up on shipboard a moment longer than necessary.

WRECK AT GLENDALE.

Brakeman Stephen D. Willis Crushed to Death.

Roseburg, Or., June 14.—North-bound freight train No. 31, pulled by a large engine, was derailed about 11:45 A. M. today near tunnel No. 25, eight miles north of Glendale. The engine, tender and five cars jumped the track. It is supposed the track spread. Stephen D. Willis, head brakeman, and Al Veatch, brakeman, were riding on the pilot. Willis evidently saw the danger as the train rounded the curve, and jumped. He was stunned by the fall and the engine turned over on him before he could escape. He was instantly killed. Veatch was thrown ahead on the track and was only slightly bruised. Engineer Dempsey and the fireman were thrown from the engine as it rolled over. Dempsey was bruised and cut about the face, not seriously. The fireman was not hurt at all.

A wrecking train, with physicians, and William R. Willis, father of the brakeman killed, left soon after the accident occurred.

LAKES ARE CLEAR.

Navigation Opened on Lindemann and Bennett.

Port Townsend, June 14.—The passengers of the steamer Cottage City, which arrived tonight from Alaska, report Lake Lindeman clear of ice. Two steamers are running day and night taking miners across. Eight scows laden with supplies were smashed in the ice on Bennett, losing everything aboard.

Three hundred men have succeeded in reaching the interior of Western Alaska via Yukutat bay. Parties arriving from there state rich diggings have been struck on Alsace river.

Speedy justice has been meted out to the murderers of Sam Roberts, a gambler, at Dyea. He was killed about three months ago, just as he was entering his cabin. Fitzpatrick received a life sentence at San Quentin, while Brooks and Corbett, his accomplices, were sentenced to 10 years.

Protection for the Troops.

Washington, June 14.—Senator Bacon, of Georgia, had a conference with the president today concerning the reported yellow fever in the South. Senator Bacon advised the president to see to it at once that the United States forces in the South be removed from the region of contagion. The matter has been referred by the president to Surgeon-General Wiman, with instructions to make a report on it at the earliest possible moment.

South African War Brewing.

London, June 14.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Malt says: War between the Transvaal and Swaziland may break out at any moment. The Swazi king has 20,000 warriors well armed and drilled, and there is much anxiety in the Transvaal.

OFF HAMPTON ROADS

Spanish Warships 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 9 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 buglers 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