

The Dalles Chronicle.

VOL. XI

THE DALLES, OREGON. TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 3, 1898.

NO 41

ANOTHER PRIZE TAKEN

The Spanish Mail Steamer Venezuela Captured—Valuable Letters Found.

KEY WESN, May 3.—The gun boat Nashville captured the valuable Spanish mail steamer Venezuela last night and a brief encounter between three American warships and nine Spanish gun boats has taken place. A large number of Spanish officers and soldiers have been taken and held as prisoners of war, while valuable letters have been discovered in the mail which was carried by the captured vessel.

REPORT OF DEWEY'S VICTORY CONFIRMED

Manila. It Is Thought, Has Been Captured—Spanish Will Intercept the Oregon if It is Possible.

ANOTHER BATTLE IS EXPECTED

Victory Seems to Be on the Side of the United States—Both Squadrons. It Is Declared, May Make Some Decided Movement Tonight.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—The navy department may be said to be at sea tonight. No official word has been received from Admiral Dewey concerning the destruction of the Spanish fleet or the bombardment of Manila. The department, however, has semi-officially advised from English authorities which confirm the reports of Dewey's victory and also convince the authorities that Manila has been bombarded as reported in the press telegrams. It is the firm belief of the navy department that Admiral Dewey has succeeded in absolutely silencing the guns, protecting the harbor of Manila and that he has been successful in capturing the city. The fact that he has failed to communicate directly with the department causes no surprise, because it is supposed that he will firmly establish himself before assuming control of the cable. It is even thought quite probable that the Spaniards having sustained such heavy losses will attempt, if they have not already done so, to prevent communication with Hong Kong and through that port with the rest of the world. Of course the Spanish fleet which left the Cape Verde Islands on Friday can have no knowledge of the severe reverse which Spain has sustained within the past forty-eight hours so that it is impossible for the Spanish admiral in command of that fleet to govern himself by news from Manila. The authorities are convinced that it is the intention of the admiral to intercept the Oregon some where off the northern coast of South America. Experts in the navy department after computations today have come to the conclusion that the point of meeting is likely to be somewhere off the mouth of the Essequibo River, somewhere in the

neighborhood of one or two hundred miles from the coast of Guinea. Upon this hypothesis Admiral Sampson has been ordered to have three or four most powerful vessels of his squadron in readiness to sail at instant notice to a point about fifty-one or fifty-two degrees off west longitude and ten or twelve degrees off north latitude. Admiral Schley, in command of the flying squadron, has similar orders, and at this writing it is understood both squadrons will start for this rendezvous some time during the night. Of course these orders may be changed. Secretary Long and Captain Croninshield will be virtually on duty in their offices all night. They have arranged for clear wires to Key West and Norfolk, and Commodore Schley, who has greater distance to sail, can be reached by wire within thirty minutes. It will take a little longer to get word to Admiral Sampson, but not very much; so that should it be necessary to change orders in any manner, two principal fleets of the United States on the Atlantic can get orders from Washington inside of four hours at the most.

Naval authorities here confidently expect that a great Atlantic battle will occur off the coast of Venezuela within the next three days, and of course they look for victory as emphatic as that reported to the credit of Admiral Dewey off Manila yesterday.

SPAIN COMING TO HER SENSES

The People Have Been Duped—Minister of Colonies Attacked by a Mob.

MADRID, May 2.—A spirit of false elation prevailing yesterday, based on ministerial representation regarding the battle at Manila, has yielded to great indignation. Now that the true facts are known, people became fully aware that the Spanish squadron has been lost and the situation is hopeless. They expect momentarily to hear that Manila has been captured. The continued action of the government in whole truth and losses sustained, is goading the population into dangerous temper, and exhortations to calmness only increase impatience. The public, realizing how they have been bamboozled, seek for a scapegoat, and Mort, the minister of the colonies, has been chosen the victim. Mobs today repeatedly tried to assault Mort's house, and have only been held under by a strong police force. Similar precautions have been taken at residences of the other ministers and the government buildings. Troops are kept in the barracks under arms. This evening the militia took charge of the city.

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HOW DEWEY'S FLEET WON ITS VICTORY

Details of the Great Naval Battle Off Manila so Far as They are at Present Known.

NEW YORK, May 2.—A dispatch to the Herald from London says: The Asiatic squadron of the United States, commodore Dewey commanding, on Sunday engaged and completely defeated the Asiatic squadron of Spain in the harbor of Manila, in the Philippine islands. All the news of the great naval battle thus far is coming from Spanish sources. This shows conclusively that Manila has not yet been taken by the American forces, and that the cable lines are still under the control of Spain. From the fact that even the advices received from Madrid show that American warships fared the best, there is hardly any doubt that when complete details are obtained it will be learned that it is a crushing defeat for Spain.

Reports of the battle thus far are coming in piecemeal. During the two engagements that took place, Commodore Montejó, commanding the Spanish fleet, lost three of his largest ships. His flagship, the steel cruiser Reina Christina and the armored cruiser Castilla were burned, and the cruiser Don Juan de Austria was blown up. Several other Spanish vessels were badly damaged. One report adds that several other Spanish ships were sunk by their commanders to prevent their falling into the hands of the Americans.

There was a heavy loss of life among the Spanish. Captain Darzo, commanding the Reina Christina, was killed. Commodore Montejó, commanding the fleet, shifted his flag from the Reina Christina to the Isle de Cuba, a much smaller steel-protected cruiser, just before the Christina sank.

The blowing up of the Don Juan de Austria was attended by a great loss of life among the crew, her commander also being killed. Commodore Dewey's squadron, leaving Subig bay, a few miles from Manila, about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, proceeded toward Manila. Under cover of darkness he entered the harbor of Manila, the batteries located there announcing his arrival.

Both fleets lined up for battle about daybreak—about 5 o'clock this morning. The guns of the American warships began firing on the fortress of Cavite and the arsenal of Manila. Under the protection of the guns of these forts the Spanish warships opened fire on the American fleet. For several hours the harbor resounded with the roar of guns, the crashing of steel and timbers, and shrieks and groans of the wounded. The clouds of smoke at times almost obscured the opposing fleets from each other.

A well-directed shot reached the iron cruiser Don Juan de Austria, a vessel of 1100 tons. A terrific explosion followed and the ship was blown up.

All the time during the engagement the American ships were under way, their maneuvering being intended to render the marksmanship of the Spanish gunners less effective. The American squadron, about 9 o'clock, drew off to the west side of the bay and took refuge behind some foreign shippings. The ships had evidently suffered considerable damage. After some hasty repairs they returned to the scene of the conflict.

During this engagement the guns at Cavite maintained a steady and stronger fire upon Commodore Dewey's ships than in the first encounter, but the American guns were being used with their telling effect. As the smoke raised it was seen that the flagship Reina

Christina was on fire. The vessel was completely burned.

In the interval between the two engagements Commodore Mantejo moved his flag from the Christina to the smaller cruiser Isla de Cuba. To the fact that he made this change he doubtless owes his life.

The cruiser Castilla, next to the flagship the largest and strongest of the Spanish squadron, was also burned. The cruiser Don Antonio de Uloa and the Mendano were badly damaged in this latter engagement.

That the American squadron received severe damage in the encounters cannot be doubted. Early reports had it that five Dewey's ships had been sunk. Later advices from Madrid put the number at two. There were undoubtedly heavy losses in men on both sides. One apparently trustworthy source says the Spanish had 500 killed and 700 wounded. Trusty details of the American loss of life can hardly be obtained until Commodore Dewey has taken Manila or has sent a vessel with dispatches to Hong Kong.

THE SPANIARD ADMITS HIS DEFEAT

The Madrid Government Acknowledges That Its Fleet at Manila Was Entirely Demolished.

MADRID, May 2.—The Spanish admiral of the Philippines acknowledges that his fleet has been completely demolished, by the United States fleet blockading Manila.

It is claimed here that no Spanish warships surrendered, and that a majority of them perished. The Spanish loss is estimated at 400 men killed.

The newspapers express the determination of the government to avenge the defeat of the Spanish fleet. The conduct of the Spanish admiral in sinking the remains of his fleet in order to prevent capture is highly extolled by the press. The newspapers, in commenting upon the defeat of the Spanish fleet, agree that it was "a sad but glorious day for Spain." They urge the people to be calm and allow nothing to shake their confidence in the future welfare of the Spanish armies.

The people are wild with rage and grief, and attribute the disaster at Manila to lack of foresight on the part of the government. Martial law will be proclaimed if there are any hostile demonstrations.

The members of the cabinet and the queen regent declare that they will never cease to fight for the honor of Spain until every resource is exhausted. A member of the cabinet this morning stated that the account of the battle sent by the governor-general of the Philippines had been completely borne out by later dispatches. The last shot was fired at 11:30, when the American warships steamed off.

A DESTRUCTIVE MORNING BLAZE

The Business Part of the Town of Wallula Almost Completely Wiped Out by Fire.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., May 2.—The town of Wallula was almost entirely destroyed by fire at 2 o'clock this morning. Five principal business houses, including the postoffice, were burned to the ground. The principal losers are Joseph Merchant, general merchandise, Sam Ash, saloon, and a Chinese restaurant. The total loss is estimated at \$5000, partially insured. The origin of the fire is unknown.

THE PACIFIC COAST DEFENSES

The Authorities Realize the Existing Condition of Affairs.

LOS ANGELES, May 2.—Senator White has telegraphed the board of trade here that the authorities at Washington realize the condition of affairs on the Pacific coast, and have assured the delegation in congress from California that all possible efforts will be made for the coast protection, and that the matter is in the hands of General Merriman.

ATTEMPT AT SPANISH TREACHERY

TAMPA, Fla., May 2.—Four Spaniards were arrested at Port Tampa today by order of Col. Randolph. It is alleged that they were caught red handed in attempting to poison the water in a large tank from which the Americans got their supply. The culprits are under guard and will be tried.

ANOTHER FIGHT IS LOOKED FOR

WASHINGTON, May 2.—Every movement of the American and Spanish fleets indicates that the next naval engagement will be fought off Porto Rico. The assumption that powers will intervene and compel Spain to yield cannot prevent one more engagement.

TO BE MOBILIZED AT SAN FRANCISCO

WASHINGTON, May 2.—The Oregon, Washington, California and Nevada volunteers, it is thought likely, will be mobilized at San Francisco in a few days and sent to the Philippines to garrison the forts there.

LOCAL REVOLUTION IS THREATENED.

MADRID, May 2.—Masses of Spanish citizens are organizing against their government and threaten a local revolution on account of the defeat of the Spanish fleet by Dewey's squadron. The mob assailed Weyler's and Sagasta's residences but were finally dispersed by the police.

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