

THE TWO FLEETS POUNDRING AWAY

A Combined Attack on Santiago By Sampson and Schley--Five Thousand Insurgents Will Strike From the Land Side.

CAPE HAYTIEN, June 2.—A report which is considered reliable states that the combined fleets of Sampson and Schley are hammering away with their strongest guns at the defenses at Santiago.

Advices received here are to the effect that the two fleets formed a junction near Santiago last night. There was a conference on board Sampson's flag-ship, with the result that this morning at 10 o'clock a combined attack was begun. There were said to be sixteen warships in the combined fleets.

Up to a late hour no report had been received here as to the outcome of the battle, or whether the mined entrance to the harbor had been forced.

A significant feature of the bombardment was that the insurgents who were armed and equipped were co-operating with the Americans and were attacking the city from the land side. Their number is variously estimated at from three to five thousand.

THE PROGRAM UNMASKED.

The Publication of General Alger's Letter Throws Light on the Question of Invasion.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—The unexpected publication of Secretary Alger's letter to the speaker of the house yesterday, in which he outlined the plan for the invasion of Cuba and Porto Rico, has practically unmasked the program of the war department. The publication of that letter was a grave mistake, due, perhaps, to the failure of the clerks in the war department who inclosed it, to signify that it was a confidential communication on the envelope. But the damage is done now, and the public advised officially of matters which the war department would not have hesitated to deny but for the existence of the secretary's letter.

It has practically demonstrated, too, that the administration has purposely subjected itself to criticism by permitting semi-official publication of the alleged fact that the Cuban invasion has been indefinitely postponed, notwithstanding the harsh comment which followed the news of the supposed abandonment of the Cuban expedition.

No word would have been permitted to leak out from official sources concerning the plans of the invasion but for the premature publication of that letter.

Today it is admitted, however, that a large body of troops has already departed for the purpose of landing in the province of Santiago. The exact time of their departure is still kept a secret, and whether these troops have already landed or will be able to land before Saturday, is known only to the authorities who arranged for their transportation.

The distance between Tampa and the harbor of Santiago is about eight hundred miles. At least fifty-four hours would be required to move transports from the Florida coast to the doomed city, if all transports are moderately speedy vessels.

In the meantime a report reaches Washington, by way of New York, that Schley has again bombarded Santiago today and that he is being supported

from the land side by a large body of insurgents. In view of the fact that Schley has been advised that Sampson is on the way to reinforce him, the department is not disposed to credit this report.

It is said by naval officers that if there has been an engagement, it is due to an attempt having been made by some of Cervera's ships to escape. There is no question now that the insurgents are prepared to mass all of their forces in the province of Santiago, around the town of that name, and to afford all possible aid to the American land force when the real work of the attack begins. The authorities here, however, do not believe that there will be anything more than a skirmish between the Americans and the Spanish before Sunday at the earliest.

LEFT TO DIE ON AN ICY TRAIL

Cruel Abandonment of an Aged Klondiker on His Way Home, by Other Members of His Party.

SIoux CITY, Ia., June 2.—Loaded with wealth, but deserted and starving, Jon Rochel, once a well-known manufacturer of this city, perished last April on the trail between Dawson and Dyes, Alaska. The news of his death reached here in a letter to his widow by Richard Hendrickson, from Seattle.

The details of Rochel's death are meager, but from what can be gleaned it appears that he was returning from the mines after disposing of a valuable claim. His party was short of provisions, and as Rochel, who was quite an old man, delayed the march, it was decided to abandon him.

Rochel had been engaged here in the manufacture of brick, but was tempted by the stories of immense wealth in Alaska. From all accounts he was among the luckiest of the miners at Dawson, but was unable to bring his winnings back to civilization. His body will be brought here for burial.

Real Estate Sale.

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VICTORY EXPECTED AT ANY TIME

Purpose to Hold Naval Force in Check Till Infantry Arrives Abandoned.

Little Uneasiness is Felt About the Cadiz Fleet Coming to West Indies—It is More Likely to Turn Its Attention to the Philippines.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—The navy department is waiting anxiously for news of the big battle at Santiago. According to the belief of the naval officials familiar with the instructions sent to Sampson and Schley, an engagement probably occurred today. It is evident that the purpose of holding the naval force in check, until the military force arrives, has been abandoned, and under Sampson's directions, the United States warships will again be permitted to engage the shore batteries, and, if possible, attempt to run through the mines to engage Cervera in the harbor.

Sampson has joined Schley and their combined divisions comprise six powerful armor-clad and a number of other vessels. It is the understanding that if Sampson arrived yesterday an attack would begin this morning. The feeling prevails in the administration circles that the battle of Santiago may in effect end the war. The indications that Spain is anxious to sue for peace have been plentiful lately and officials evidently have some knowledge causing them to credit the reports that the Madrid government is already tired of the struggle. The Cadiz reserve fleet is not considered as a factor and the officers do not think it will ever come to the West Indies. It was considered more probable that they would go to the Philippines, but this is not believed. It is contended that with Cervera destroyed or captured, Spain would not be foolish to continue the struggle, but the conviction that Spain is about ready to give in is based largely on the reports concerning the bank of Spain, without the aid of which the government would be powerless to continue the war.

The likelihood that peace negotiations may be begun unexpectedly has caused the administration to push the campaign against Porto Rico.

Sampson was heard from yesterday, and his position at the time of the dispatch warrants officials in believing he reached Santiago last night or this morning.

All of the armor-clad vessels of the United States navy except the Indiana are at Santiago, and news of a victory may come at any moment.

KAISER'S BROTHER MADE THE APOLOGY

A Hong Kong Incident in Which the Spirit of the Hero of Manila to Be Was Demonstrated.

CHICAGO, June 2.—Charles N. Post, vice president of the Lyon & Healy Company, who has just returned from a tour of the Orient, met Admiral Dewey in Hong Kong, March 25. Mr. Post tells of a social passage at arms between Dewey and Prince Henry, a brother of Emperor William, commanding the German squadron at Hong Kong.

Prince Henry, immediately after his arrival at Hong Kong, gave a banquet to the high officers of the other fleets, among whom was Rear-Admiral Dewey. At the feast the prince proposed a toast to his own country, then to Great Britain, then to all the great powers, except the United States. Finally just before the dinner was over, the royal host proposed a toast to this country. When Rear-Admiral Dewey saw that apparently his country was to be slighted, he left the banquet without ceremony.

The next day a representative of Prince Henry sent a roundabout apology to the American commander. Dewey

sent back word to the emperor's brother that he would accept nothing but a written or personal apology from the prince. The latter then called upon Dewey and apologized, saying that in the confusion of the dinner he thoughtlessly neglected to put the American toast in its proper place on the program.

While Mr. Post was at Hong Kong, Prince Henry gave a ball, but Admiral Dewey, although invited, did not attend. The affair was not allowed to get out, and Mr. Post received it first-hand from one of the officers of the American fleet.

OLD GLORY FLOATS OVER CUBA

The Stars and Stripes Have Been Hoisted on Cuban Soil--Spaniards Powerless to Remove It.

KEY WEST, June 2.—For two weeks the American flag has been floating over Cuban soil, and the people of the Cadenas have been wild with Spanish rage, because they are powerless to haul it down. It is on the little island known as Piedras Kay, two miles from the west mouth of Cadenas harbor.

The gunboat Leyden ran in one day. Whereupon a few of the inhabitants, who were left to guard the lighthouse, rowed to mainland. Then a boat's crew went ashore and hoisted an American flag on a thirty-foot pole. With three gunboats in the harbor, the inhabitants dare not come out to attempt the recapture of the lighthouse, and are contenting themselves with towing out lighters filled with iron and stone and sinking them in the only channel unmined. The Leyden on Thursday got a shot at them, whereupon they fled.

A RASH SUICIDE NEAR ASTORIA

G. W. Dillman of the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad Blows Out His Brains at Young's Bay.

ASTORIA, June 2.—G. W. Dillman, a civil engineer employed by the A. & C. R. R., came down from Clatskanie Monday and disappeared Tuesday. Investigation by friends and the police failed to disclose his whereabouts; but this afternoon his body was found on the shore of Young's bay, south of this city, with a revolver by his side and a bullet hole in his right temple.

He has been employed for over two years in the engineering department of the A. & C. R. R., and came here from Spokane, where he is understood to have a brother prominent in politics. He was married to Mrs. Funge, of this city, about a year ago.

The reason prompting the rash act is unknown.

Hon. H. S. Wilson for Circuit Judge.

Hon. H. S. Wilson, Republican candidate for circuit judge, is a native of Vermont, in which state he received his education and resided up to the time of his removal to The Dalles. He was graduated from the University of Vermont, at Burlington, in 1881, and soon after commenced the study of law. He was admitted to the bar of Vermont, where he early won an enviable position.

Since he became a resident of Wasco county he has established for himself a reputation as an exceptionally accurate, clear and learned lawyer. His opinions upon legal questions are promptly formed and remarkably accurate. He is a man of great independence, industry and integrity.

If elected, his services will certainly prove of great value to the people of this district, and THE CHRONICLE is pleased to endorse him for this important office.

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