

## Our Washington Letter

Special to the News from our regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 16.—The greatest disappointment of the war came to Washington this week, when it became known that the Spanish fleet which Admiral Sampson was sent out to annihilate had gone to Spain, instead of coming to Cuban waters, from Cape Verde.

The news came just when almost everybody there were a few including some prominent naval officials who never believed that Spain would send the Cape Verde Fleet where Sampson could get at it—was expecting to hear of a battle between the two fleets.

The administration has received direct information from the commander of the insurgent army in Cuba which makes it evident that little aid can be given by the insurgents in the contemplated attack upon Havana. There are lots of the insurgents, but they are scattered about in inaccessible places, with no means of rapid concentration or even of rapid communication with each other. This has made it necessary to increase the strength of the army sent to Cuba. It is now contemplated to send at least 60,000 men there just as quick as possible. While the official plans are carefully guarded, it is known that the first landing of troops in Cuba is expected to be made inside of five days.

The first batch of recruits for Admiral Dewey—he was nominated and confirmed Rear Admiral this week—has already started from San Francisco on the Cruiser Charleston, and others are to go as fast as the ships to carry them can be got ready. The administration has fully decided that the Philippine Islands are to be held at all hazards during the war. What will be done with them afterwards has not been officially considered, but the sentiment in favor of retaining them permanently is rapidly growing in Congress, and one member of the Cabinet is credited with having said that he favored keeping them.

Secret service officials say there is ample evidence to secure the conviction of the ex-sailor with several names who is in a steel cage at the Washington Barracks, charged with being a Spanish spy. It is claimed that documents found on the prisoner and in his baggage leave no doubt of his guilt. He will be tried by court-martial and if found guilty will be hung.

The Senate this week adopted by a vote of 39 to 10 the resolution providing for submitting to the legislatures of the several states an amendment to the Federal constitution, changing the date for the beginning of the Presidential term from March 4th to May 4th, the change to take effect in 1901. If adopted, this would add two months to the length of the present administration, and to the terms of Senators which would otherwise expire March 3, 1901, and to the term of the House that will be elected this year. This last is regarded as the best and most important. There is not sufficient time between the first Monday in December and the 4th of March, the legal limit of the short sessions of Congress, to properly prepare the regular annual appropriation bills; consequently other important legislation is almost always neglected at the short sessions. Much could be done in the two months that this amendment would add.

In offering a concurrent resolution providing for a Congressional recess from June 6 to July 19, Representative Dockery, of Mo., made a counter move against those who

are planning for the early adjournment of Congress. Mr. Dockery thinks it would be better for Congress to take a recess, or several of them, if the war continues, than to adjourn while the war is going on, while Speaker Reed and others say there is no reason why Congress should remain in session after it has provided all the money that will be needed by the administration to carry on the war. Mr. Dockery's resolution is before the Ways and Means committee, and will probably stay there as long as the Speaker desires, but the Senate will have to be reckoned with, and it would not be surprising to see Mr. Dockery's idea carried out, even if his resolution is smothered.

The annexation of Hawaii has been much discussed this week. All of those who favor our keeping the Philippine Islands are anxious to hurry up Hawaiian annexation. The House committee on Foreign Relations has favorably reported a joint resolution providing for the annexation of Hawaii, and it will be adopted by the House, and Senators say it can be forced through the Senate in two or three weeks. The other side of the annexation question is represented by a resolution offered by Representative Johnson, of Ind., who is opposed to annexation under any circumstances or conditions, providing for the appointment of commissioners by the president to act with commissioners appointed by Great Britain, Germany, Russia, France, Austria-Hungary, Japan, and China, in formulating a plan for the permanent neutralization and independence of Hawaii, and prevention of any nation taking possession thereof either directly or indirectly. This resolution is mentioned merely as a legislative curiosity; it could not command a dozen votes in Congress.

The House has recorded itself in favor of the election of Senators by direct vote.

Two years ago R. J. Warren, a druggist at Pleasant Brook, N. Y., bought a small supply of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. He sums up the result as follows: "At that time the goods were unknown in this section; to-day Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a household word." It is the same in hundred of communities. Wherever the good qualities of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy become known the people will have nothing else. For sale by Gold Hill Drug Co.

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Perhaps the office of county superintendent is not less important than any on the ticket. The public schools are the hope of the nation. At the head of this organization is needed a man of such qualifications as will enable him to discharge the various duties intelligently, and give to every department that personal attention that is needed to insure the greatest advancement along educational lines. Such a man we believe to be G. A. Gregory candidate on the republican ticket. Mr. Gregory is well qualified and will surely be elected.

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Mrs. A. Inveen, residing at 720 Henry St., Alton, Ill., suffered with sciatic rheumatism for over eight months. She doctored for it nearly the whole of this time, using various remedies recommended by friends, and was treated by the physicians, but received no relief. She then used one and a half bottles of Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which effected a complete cure. This is published at her request, as she wants others similarly afflicted to know what cured her. The 25 and 50 cent sizes for sale by Gold Hill Drug Co.

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