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Miscellaneous Reading.

SPAIN'S STARVING MEN.

The Story One of Her Soldiers Told at Camp McCalla.

The following is a Camp McCalla cablegram of last Wednesday, published in the New York Sun of Friday:

It has been repeatedly asserted by the Spanish government that the blockade of Cuba was not effective, and that little difficulty was experienced in landing supplies of provisions on the island for the use of the troops. This assertion was not supported by an incident that occurred here today, which goes to show that the Spanish troops in this part of the island, at least, are famishing, owing to the impossibility of their government getting supply ships to Cuba.

Early this morning a Spanish soldier stepped from the brush close to where one of the sentinels was pacing back and forth. The Spaniard hailed the guard; but the latter did not understand him. The sentinel, however, could see that the stranger's intentions were peaceful, for though he had two rifles, they were carried muzzle down. A bag of cartridges was slung across his shoulder. Finding that he was not understood, he motioned that he wanted to go into the camp.

The sentinel called out, and Sergeant Glass, of Company C, with a Cuban, was sent to see what was wanted. In a short time the sergeant returned with the Spaniard, who had told, through the interpreter, that he desired to surrender to the Americans.

The fellow was a poor, miserable looking specimen of humanity. He limped as he walked, and from his general appearance it was surmised that he was starving. He was so weak that he could scarcely stagger along.

Sergeant Glass took the man to Lieutenant Colonel Huntington, the commander of the camp. Through the interpreter the Spaniard described the condition of the Spanish troops and gave some valuable information concerning the intended movements of the enemy.

He said that he surrendered because the Spaniards had so little to eat that most of them were in a starving condition. The only rations which the garrison at Caimanera had had for a week were fat pork and sweet potatoes in small quantities. Hundreds of the Spanish troops, he declared, were ready to surrender if they were assured that they would not be killed. Before he came in he had a talk with his party, which was watching the camp from the crest of the hill. They told him that he would be killed by the Americans if he surrendered; but he persisted in his plan to give himself up. He afterwards crept up a bridge path until he came to the sentinel, to whom he had waved his hat as a sign of peace.

The man is a member of the regular Spanish army. He told Colonel Huntington that he had been in Tuesday's fight, and that after the Spanish defeat they had retreated to a fort which is six or seven miles from the camp. He said that 150 Spaniards were killed in the engagement.

CAIMANERA FORTS.

They are Demolished by Texas, Marblehead and Suwanee.

Compiled from Cable Dispatches.

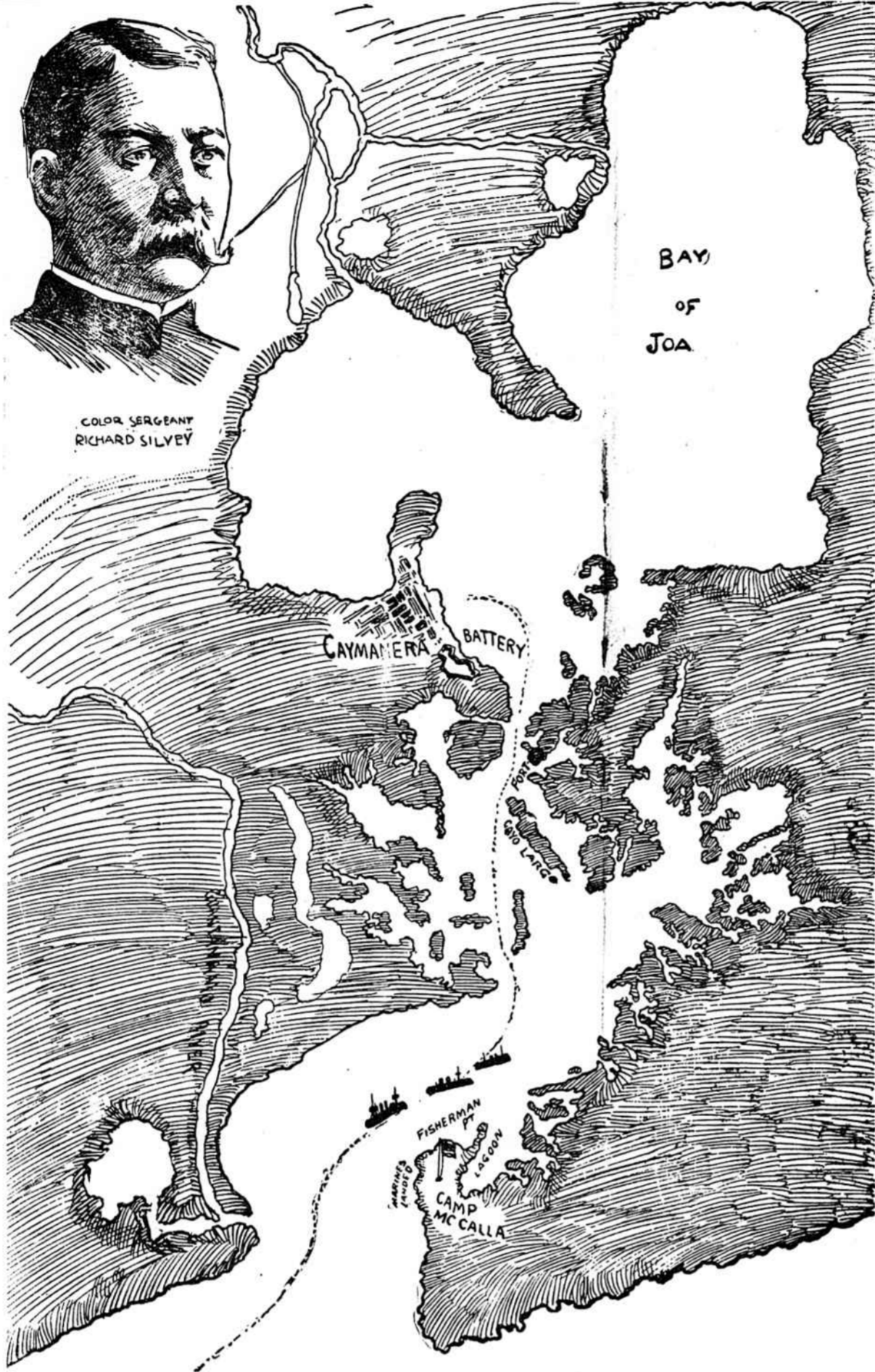
After thrashing the Spanish regulars and bushwhackers who had been annoying them so much at Camp McCalla last week, the American marines had an opportunity to investigate the shores of Guantanamo bay and the general conditions surrounding, with the result that they discovered that the principal base of operations of the Spaniards were the town of Caimanera, and some outlying fortifications.

Caimanera is at the terminus of the Santiago and Guantanamo railroad, about 12 miles from Guantanamo. It is on the opposite side of the bay from Camp McCalla, and it was learned that bodies of soldiers were coming down from Guantanamo, being ferried across the bay, and re-enforcing the bushwhackers who were so distressing the marines.

The defeat of the Spanish forces already in the vicinity only gave temporary relief. With their base of operations still in good condition, there was nothing to hinder the coming of other re-enforcements and making necessary a repetition of what the marines had just had to go through. Therefore, it was deemed advisable to destroy all the fortifications and earthworks in the vicinity of Caimanera.

This condition of affairs was represented to Admiral Sampson by Captain Philip, of the Texas. While coaling his ship in Guantanamo bay, Captain Philip, was fired upon by riflemen from the shore, and when he informed Admiral Sampson, before Santiago, Admiral Sampson told him to go back and destroy all fortifications to be found, and also to capture or destroy some Spanish gunboats that were known to be hiding somewhere in the harbor.

At about 1 o'clock, Wednesday afternoon, the Texas entered Guantanamo bay, followed by the Marblehead and the little Suwanee. Caimanera is about five miles up the bay from Camp McCalla. To reach a point where the forts could be shelled to advantage, it was necessary to pass through a long, narrow channel, fringed on either side with thick undergrowth. For much of the distance, the vessels were within 150 yards of the shore, and men on



OUR BASE AT GUANTANAMO BAY.

The above map of Guantanamo bay shows the landing place of the 600 marines from the transport Panther. The cruiser Marblehead, the Panther and the torpedo boat Porter lay off Fisherman's point, and under cover of their guns Camp McCalla, named in honor of Commander McCalla of the Marblehead, was established on the point. The cable station at Fisherman's point is in the hands of Lieutenant Colonel Huntington's marines, and the United States flag was hoisted by Color Sergeant Richard Silvey. Guantanamo bay is about 30 miles east of the entrance to Santiago bay and about 60 miles by land from Santiago if the route is around Guantanamo bay.

their decks would have afforded good targets for the hidden riflemen; but if there were any riflemen along the route they did not show themselves.

It was known that most of the channels of the bay were mined, and there was good reason to fear that some of the ships might be blown up. This, in fact, was the principal source of apprehension on the part of the officers and men of the warships; but by good fortune there were no explosions in their path.

Approaching to within about 2,000 yards of the Caimanera fortifications, the Texas let fly a 12-inch shell, which fell short. Then the Marblehead banged away with some 5-inch shells, which also missed. By this time, however, the Spaniards had been waked up, and they answered with five shots. They would have fired more; but the Texas now had the range. She commenced to hit the fort with her 12-inch shells, and everytime a shell would strike, there would be left a hole as large as a carriage-house door. Within four minutes after their first shot, the Spaniards ceased firing, and what was left of them scampered away. The bombardment was continued by the American vessels for more than an hour, and when they ceased firing there was no sign left of either forts or earthworks in the entire vicinity.

Next, several shots were fired into the town of Caimanera. They did tremendous damage generally and set fire to a dozen or more buildings in different quarters. The barracks of the soldiers were set on fire and destroyed.

As the Marblehead was withdrawing from the harbor, her propeller fouled a mine which had been loosened from its moorings by the commotion caused by the ships in passing through the channel and by the concussion caused by the firings. The ship was stopped as soon as possible, and the connections to the mine were cut. Investigation disclosed several other mines, and all of them were taken in tow. When they were looked into, it was found that they each contained 50 pounds of gun-cotton. Anyone of them, if exploded at the proper time, would have been sufficient to have sunk the largest vessel afloat. Why the mines were not exploded when

the ships went into the harbor is not known, though it is quite probable that those in charge of the firing station, located at some concealed point, had been previously driven away by scouting Americans or Cubans.

While the vessels were returning through the narrow channels, they were subjected to a vicious rifle fire from concealed Spaniards on the shore. The Suwanee, however, trained her small guns on the bushes and soon put the Spaniards to flight. How many Spaniards were killed during the expedition is not known; but not a single American was even wounded, and nowhere on the bay was left a formidable Spanish battery. The Spanish gunboats were not located, and their capture was left for another expedition.

COMPLETE DEVASTATION.

Scene Around the Entrance to Santiago Harbor.

An Associated Press dispatch, published in the papers of Monday morning, tells of the devastation that was wrought by the last bombardment of Wednesday night and Thursday morning.

The batteries and fortifications guarding the channels had been subjected to several bombardments, and each had did great damage. It has been the policy of Admiral Sampson, however, to proceed by degrees. Each bombardment is calculated to demoralize the enemy to a certain extent and leave him in not quite so good shape to resist the next. All the engagements have been fierce; but they were not nearly so fierce as the last. On Wednesday night the admiral signalled to the fleet that next morning he would go in to complete the work, and that is what was done.

The dynamite cruiser Vesuvius had already thrown in several shells the night before, and the result has already been reported. Wednesday night the cruiser was sent close up to the entrance of the harbor and she dropped in three more of her terrible torpedoes. One of them fell on a hill to the right, another on a hill to the left, and a third on Cayo Smith, an island battery in the centre of the channel. The dispatches say that on the spots where the charges fell were left only great

holes in the hills, and the little island was almost swept clean.

The bombardment Thursday morning was more terrific than any which has been delivered heretofore. The orders were to "First silence the batteries on the shore, and then continue firing until fortifications are reduced." It was the first time that such orders had been given. The first shot of the New York landed in a party of Spaniards engaged in mounting some guns on a hillside. It scattered them. Then the other vessels joined in with their big guns. Almost every shot went true, and in 33 minutes the order came to cease firing. There was not left a single battery or gun in sight, except those of Morro Castle. The belief is that Lieutenant Hobson and his men are imprisoned in the castle, and all along Admiral Sampson has been leaving the castle alone.

After a 13-inch shell from the Texas went over the hill into the bay, there came a most terrific explosion. At first the officers and men believed that the shell blew up the magazine of one of the western batteries in the harbor. Since there has been a growing belief that instead the shell struck and blew up one of the warships. No definite information has been procured.

There was no more bombardment during Friday or Saturday; but it was a gruesome sight that the vicinity of the site of the Spanish fortifications furnished to the Americans. At different places squads of soldiers could be seen digging in the torn earth, evidently looking for the bodies of dead comrades, and circling around, only a short distance overhead or perched on neighboring trees, were thousands of buzzards which had been attracted by the smell of carrion.

For several hours on Friday, the Spanish flag hung at half mast over Morro castle. This is an unusual circumstance in battle, and the officers of the fleet were puzzled to know the meaning. It was a general conclusion that probably some high Spanish officer had been killed. Some suggested that it was intended as a notification to the Americans of the death of Hobson and his men; but this Admiral Sampson does not believe. All along Morro castle has been spared, and if

Hobson and his men are dead they have simply been murdered.

Cuban spies have reported to Admiral Sampson that the Spanish general, Joral, and several officers, were killed by one of the gun cotton shells of the Vesuvius, and it is likely that this is the meaning of the mourning flag over Morro castle.

THE STATE CAMPAIGN.

Progress of the Biennial Quarrel For the Offices.

The first campaign meeting, last week, was held at Orangeburg on Thursday, the second at St. George's, Dorchester county, on Friday, and the third at Charleston on Saturday.

The attendance at each of these meetings was very small, and there were few developments which seem to give promise of a very decided increase of interest as the campaign grows older.

In order to get rid of the very heavy expense connected with state campaigns—an expense which for several years past has been a dead loss to the newspapers with little chance of returns—The News and Courier, State and Register have renewed the association arrangement of two years ago and are printing identical reports. At present the reports are being made for the different papers by Mr. J. Wilson Gibbs, of the Columbia State.

At the Orangeburg meeting there were no sensational developments; but at Dochester, Colonel Watson made things pretty hot with a blistering attack on Governor Ellerbe. Colonel Watson was not all diplomatic in his language. He seemed to have lost his temper entirely, and in what he said he was decidedly personal. His remarks are summarized as follows:

WATSON'S EXCORIATION.

Colonel Watson said it was an unprecedented thing that there were seven candidates for the office of governor. Ellerbe has been backed by a United States senator and a governor and got the largest vote ever given to a candidate for governor. Why, then, was he opposed?

Colonel Watson then proceeded to attack, in the plainest words, Governor Ellerbe's record. The reason for the opposition to him was patent. Before he had been in office a year he was heartily despised. Ellerbe's friends were ashamed of him and his enemies were disgusted with him. He has been untrue to his friends and unfair to his enemies. He has sought by patronage to buy his enemies and has never remembered his friends. But for his connection with the reform faction he never would have been heard of.

He was elected with a promise that he would remove the metropolitan police from Charleston. He delayed its removal for one master, removed it for another and received the just contempt of those who elected him.

I believe it was a trade when he appointed Epton as comptroller general. The legislature rebuked him. In all his appointments it is believed he has traded from first to last. If he had been content to be W. H. Ellerbe and had not condescended to political trickstering, we would not be here today to oppose him.

Colonel Watson eloquently commended the gallant officers at the head of South Carolina's volunteer troops; but, said he, to help himself Governor Ellerbe ignored all the colonels, the Confederate veterans and sons of veterans in his appointments. He appointed only one officer from his own faction to a high office, and that man could not drill a squad. I do not know but one man in my county who will vote for him, and that one says it is because Ellerbe is going to pardon a man sentenced to be hanged. Gentlemen, you may go all over the state and you will find a consensus of opinion that he is an utter failure.

ELLERBE'S REPLY.

"Now we are going to hear it," was the remark as the governor came forward. He said he had been slandered and misrepresented and he challenged his opponents to prove one charge made against his administration. He welcomed criticism that was honest. He had always advocated the dispensary as the best solution of the liquor problem. When Colonel Tillman said the dispensary had not made any profit he misrepresented the facts.

This elicited a remark from Uncle George, who said that he had great respect for Governor Ellerbe personally, but when he in his message to the legislature said the educational system was without headship, without order and full of reduplication, and followed that with the statement that its improvement was not practicable, then he showed lack of backbone.

Governor Ellerbe combatted this and called upon Colonel Tillman to prove his statement that some men got their fertilizer without paying for the tags.

Colonel Tillman: I'll show it beyond a reasonable doubt from the facts, if you'll let me speak.

Governor Ellerbe replied that he had no time to spare; but if the proof was submitted he would retire from the race.

Then ensued almost indescribable confusion. Colonel Tillman was endeavoring to get in a reply, with the governor talking simultaneously. Friends of both disputants crowded game chicken on the back and urging him on. The governor refused to relinquish the stand and turned towards Colonel Watson.

It was a supreme moment, for the

governor had to stand or fall according to his defence of the Saluda senator's merciless exhortation. To his credit be it said that he repelled the accusations with vigor. I dare Watson, said he, to furnish one scintilla of proof that I ever made a political deal. If his baseless charge were true I ought to be kicked out of office, but the man who robs another of his good name is worse than the thief who steals his horse from the locked stable. Aye, he is unworthy of the name of man or gentleman and is no gentleman.

It is absolutely false that I went into a contract with Charleston. I told them that whenever they gave me assurances that they would enforce the law I would remove the metropolitan police. I made that statement publicly, but I never promised any man that I would unconditionally remove it.

I had more appointments than any other governor had to make, but for every friend I made I gained a dozen enemies, yet some of these political pirates have tried to misrepresent me by saying that I traded appointments for popularity. You may defeat me, but no man under heaven shall misrepresent me to the people. I intend to run the government without fear or favor and not according to the dictates of bob-tailed politicians.

The governor's defence was roundly applauded, and his speech ended the meeting.

George D. Tillman is also inclined to pour it into Ellerbe at every opportunity. The principal "reforms" he is advocating are the sale of liquor through a high license system under constitutional regulations, and the abolition of witness fees in criminal cases. He denounces the dispensary system as corrupt and despotic and claims that the old Republican system of fees and mileage for witnesses in criminal cases is the cause of many cases that would otherwise never be heard of in court.

Featherstone is for prohibition, Archer wants a better educational system, Schumpert wants recognition of his record as a solicitor and as a man, and Walt Whitman maintains that if he is a crank, the other fellows are all fools.

GIVE UP MANILA, SAYS BRYAN.

Clad as a Colonel of Volunteers, He Talks About the War at the Exposition.

Tuesday of last week was Nebraska day at the Trans-Mississippi exposition, and W. J. Bryan was the orator of the occasion. In the presence of a large crowd and the governor's personal staff, Mr. Bryan spoke. He was arrayed in the uniform of a colonel of volunteers. After discussing the resources of Nebraska, Mr. Bryan made the following reference to the war and its results:

"History will vindicate the position taken by the United States in the war with Spain. In saying this, I assume that the principles which were invoked in the inauguration of the war will be observed in its prosecution and conclusion. If a contest undertaken for the sake of humanity degenerates into a war of conquest, we shall find it difficult to meet the charge of having added hypocrisy to greed. Is our national character so weak that we cannot withstand the temptation to appropriate the first piece of land that comes within our reach? To inflict upon the enemy all possible harm is legitimate warfare, but shall we contemplate a scheme for the colonization of the Orient merely because our fleet won a remarkable victory in the harbor of Manila? Our guns destroyed a Spanish fleet, but can they destroy that self-evident truth that governments derive their just powers not from superior force, but from the consent of the governed? Shall we abandon a just resistance to European encroachment upon the Western Hemisphere in order to mingle in the controversy of Europe and Asia?"

"Nebraska, standing midway between the oceans, will contribute her full share toward the protection of our seacoast. Her sons will support the flag at home and abroad. Wherever the honor and the interests of the nation may require, Nebraska will hold up the hands of the government while the battle rages, and when the war clouds roll away her voice will be heard pleading for the maintenance of those ideas which inspired the founders of our government and gave the nation its proud eminence among the nations of the earth. If others turn to thoughts of aggrandizement, and yield allegiance to those who clothe land-covetousness in the attractive garb of 'national destiny,' the people of Nebraska, if I mistake not their sentiments, will place themselves on the disclaimer entered by congress, and expect that good faith shall characterize the making of peace as it did the beginning of war."

Bonded Warehouse in Laurens.

Correspondence of the News and Courier: While the times are dull and anything but buoyant, yet a new enterprise has been put upon its feet in the last few days. A bonded warehouse is to be built at once, with a capital of \$20,000, for the storage of farm products, against which certificates can be issued, which will be a basis of credit, giving to producers the means of holding their crops and selling at their option. All the stock has been taken and a site secured, as well as a charter. It is thought a good thing for the farmers, city and investors.