

THE COUNTY RECORD.

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—AT—
KINGSTREE, SOUTH CAROLINA,
—BY—
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Editor and Proprietor.

A Down East schoolboy defined sound money as money that made a jingling sound when dropped on the floor, a definition which his teacher accepted, though deeming it not quite adequate.

It is said that on the average, throughout England and Wales, one person in 73 is a Smith, one in 76 a Jones, one in 115 a Williams, one in 148 a Taylor, one in 162 a Davies and one in 174 a Brown.

The Swiss government is making efforts to protect useful birds, but nothing can be done without Italian co-operation, and the Italians, even in Switzerland, continue to slaughter birds in the most ruthless manner.

The Boston Herald kindly explains that "a ptomaine is an alkaloid substance resulting from the activities of micro-organisms which disintegrate and decompose the animal tissues after death." Now you know what not to eat.

The largest wild-beast-bounty payment ever made in any state is now being made at Helena, Montana. It amounts to \$50,000, and represents the balance due on the state's payment on the skins of 16,638 wolves and coyotes killed in 1897.

"The dead-line" for intellectual workers, who live as they ought, should not be drawn before seventy-five years. Up to that time a scholar may do his best work without over-fatigue. After that, over-expenditure of vital energy cannot easily be made up. Gladstone, Bismarck, and Leo XIII have been exceptions to this rule.

WEEKLY CROP BULLETIN.

Farm Work Made Rapid Progress During the Past Week.

The Crop Bulletin, as issued by J. W. Bauer, Section Director, is in part as follows:

The first portion of the week with its high temperature, light winds and bright sunshine, was extremely favorable to crop growth and made a noticeable improvement in the appearance of field crops generally.

During this time farm work made rapid progress. The latter portion of the week, however, was below the active growing temperature for some of the principal crops cultivated in this State, for instance cotton which will not grow or thrive under 55 degrees.

Corn has improved generally, although its condition is extremely varied and in but few places entirely satisfactory. Stands in many places are very irregular owing to replanting, and cut worms have destroyed stands in many places.

Early corn on sandy lands is doing fairly well. In the western counties a considerable area remains to be planted while in York county fields planted to cotton and which failed to come up to satisfactory stands have been plowed over and planted to corn.

Corn that is up has received its first and second cultivation. The cool weather recently has given it a yellow cast.

Cotton did fairly well during the first of the week, especially on sandy soils, where it is up to fine stands and in the more easterly counties is being cultivated and chopped out. On stiff lands the surface is so crusted and baked that cotton cannot come up readily.

The recent cool weather gave cotton a severe set-back and a number of correspondents reported the plants dying.

Transplanting tobacco is being rushed to completion. The weather has, on the whole, been too cool for young plants to grow well, but this crop has received no serious set-back, although in some places cut worms and grasshoppers damaged it more or less.

Sweet potato sets are being transplanted, but not as yet to any great extent. Draws are not very plentiful. Irish potatoes appear to be doing finely, except in Charleston and Beaufort counties, where they will not yield more than one-fourth of a crop.

Melons have not shown much, if any, improvement and have not made satisfactory growth, except in Williamsburg county, where the vines are growing nicely.

Fruit prospects vary greatly throughout the State, being exceedingly promising in places, while in other places there will be none. Pears appear to be dropping badly and doing poorly. Peaches give promise of a fair average crop generally, and in Greenwood county the trees are overloaded.

The winds of the week shook much fruit off the trees, although it is thought to the advantage of the fruit remaining on the trees. The crop of wild berries promises to be quite plentiful.

Gardens are backward but are looking well and yielding seasonable vegetables in abundance.

Large shipments of garden truck and berries continue from the Charleston, Williamsburg and Florence truck raising districts.

Chinch bugs have made their appearance on all grains in Chester and York counties in those sections where they did so much damage during 1897.

First shade—What ails that hump-shouldered fellow that just arrived last week? I rarely see him at his seat lately. Second shade—He claims to have been a bicycle crank while on earth; but what that may have been I know not. At any rate, he has constructed a very peculiar machine with a couple of old halos.—Puck.

SAN JUAN REDUCED.

Admiral Sampson's Fleet Subjects Porto Rico's Capital to a Terrific Bombardment.

OUR GUNS WELL HANDLED

The Place No Longer a Fortified Base For the Use of Spain's Fleet.

The Vessels of Our Squadron Steamed in an Ellipse, Blazing Away at the Forts and Paying Particular Attention to Morro Castle—They Made Three Circuits and the Bombardment Lasted Three Hours—The Spaniards Fired Fast and Furious, But Their Marksmanship Was Bad—Our Losses Were One Killed and Four Wounded—Only the New York and Iowa Were Hit and No Harm Was Done—Having Inflicted Punishment Upon the Forts Our Fleet Steamed Away.

St. Thomas, Danish West Indies (By Cable).—San Juan, Porto Rico, is no longer a fortified base. Part of Rear Admiral Sampson's fleet poured for three hours shot and shell into the fortifications, which, though not silenced, were rendered ineffective. The Spanish squadron from Cape Verde must look to some other fortified port for any aid in its efforts to be victorious over the war ships of the United States.



ADMIRAL SAMPSON.

Though the fortifications were not completely demolished, Rear Admiral Sampson regards his mission to San Juan as successful. The bombardment was terrific. It gave the men on the war ships an admirable experience and enabled them to test their marksmanship in action, which was desired before giving battle to the armoured clads of Spain. They are now better prepared than ever to meet the foe, having the additional confidence that comes from having been under fire.

The American sailors would like to have continued shelling the San Juan fortifications until they were completely shattered. But Admiral Sampson decided that sufficient damage had been done to make the port useless as a fortified base.

The Killed and Wounded. In the bombardment two of our men were killed and seven injured. How heavy



THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S PALACE AND AN ANGLE OF THE SAN JUAN FORTIFICATIONS REDUCED BY ADMIRAL SAMPSON'S FLEET.

was the loss among the Spaniards is not known, but it is believed to have been severe. The two men killed were: Frank Widemark, seaman of the cruiser New York; William Ross, gunner's mate of the monitor Amphitrite. This is a list of the injured: John Mitchell, seaman of the battleship Iowa; Raymond Hill, apprentice on the Iowa; George Merkle, a private marine on the Iowa; Michael Murphy, seaman on the cruiser New York; Samuel Feltman, a seaman on the New York; Edward Earle, seaman on the New York; John Miller, seaman on the New York. Splinters from bursting shells or fragments of the shells themselves caused most of the injuries. Ross, gunner's mate of the Amphitrite, dropped dead beside his

Over Fifty Thousand Volunteers. WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—Reports received at Adjutant General Corbin's office show that 54,752 of the volunteers have been accepted as having the necessary qualifications for soldiers and have been mustered into the United States service.

Victims of Fire. Three double frame dwellings at the Lytle colliery, near Minersville, Penn., were destroyed by fire. Mr. and Mrs. Michael Tolt and a six-year-old daughter of John Polish were burned to death. The fire is thought to have been of incendiary origin.

PORTO RICO AND THE SCENE OF NAVAL OPERATIONS.



gun, the shock and excitement evidently being too much for his heart.

Two Ships Bear Scars. The enemy did some damage to the battleship Iowa and the cruiser New York, but neither of these ships came out of the conflict with any serious scars. The other ships were unscathed. Nearly all the shots from the Spaniards went wide of their mark. The enemy appeared to be entirely deficient in the use of the guns. This made our ships indifferent to their reckless and



STREET SCENE IN SAN JUAN, NEAR THE FORTIFICATIONS.

ineffective cannonade, whose only redeeming feature was its spiritlessness.

Admiral Sampson's fleet lay within sight of San Juan de Porto Rico all of Wednesday night. At 3 o'clock on Thursday morning the batteries on all the ships were called. For an hour and a half each ship was the scene of an orderly confusion as the two thousand sailors stripped their ships, their guns and themselves.

By 4:30 everything was in readiness for the battle to begin—the second great engagement of the war. At 5 a. m. came the call to "quarters," and instantly every man was at his post and ready and eager to strike a blow in atonement for the Maine.

Morro, of course, was to be the centre of attack. In it were the seven six-inch guns which Spain sent over as soon as the war became certain, and which had been hastily mounted and manned with the best gunners in the colonial army.

The Engagement Opens. The fleet, looking for the Spanish ships steamed to the harbor, the men at quarters, the decks sanded, the speed five knots an hour. They held in until the Detroit was less than a mile from the old fort.

The gunners in the old fort opened on the Iowa. The squadron was ordered to return the fire.

The Iowa's forward turret guns fired first at the west angle of the fort; then she swung around her after guns and let go her starboard broadside.

The Detroit at her lowest speed began broadside firing. The Indiana steamed up, firing. The Detroit drove the gunners away again and again.

The Iowa selected one fort and as the ships approached each opened, firing turret and broadside guns. The Detroit in her exposed position pluckily kept in short range and her guns did terrific execution.

Except the Detroit and the Montgomery, which were ordered out of range, the ships steamed in an ellipse in front of the forts three times.

On the first round they shot too low, but they got the elevation on the second round, and the shots hit the forts and passed over the hills, falling in the town.

An eight-inch shell exploded in the New York's aft port whaleboat davit at the end of the third round. Fragments fell among the crew of the port broadside eight-inch gun. Frank Widemark, seaman, was struck in the head and killed.

At 7 o'clock the day had become furiously hot, so hot that men were fainting below the decks and at the guns. One man, a gunner's mate on the Amphitrite, was overcome and died in a few hours.

The burning flames from burning houses close to the shore, and behind the fortifica-

tions, made the Americans know that their work was not as vain as the frenzied firing of the Spaniards.

In the old part of the town of San Juan, adjoining the fortifications, whole blocks were blazing. Many of the shells flew over and burst among the ancient buildings from which the population had fled at dawn.

So fierce was the American fire that had the intention been to bombard the residence part of old San Juan, the damage could hardly have been greater. The lighthouses were demolished soon after the firing began. Later on the houses in Ballaja square, in St. Christopher street, in San Jose street and in San Sebastian street were in flames. The St. Catherine

Chicago's Great Loss. Grain elevator D, at Chicago, was destroyed by fire. Losses on building and contents will aggregate about \$1,200,000. The elevator contained 1,115,000 bushels of grain, valued at \$890,000, the property of P. D. Armour. The grain was fully insured.

The Time at Manila. The difference in Washington time and that of the Philippine islands is thirteen hours and sixteen minutes; therefore, according to our time, the battle of Manila was fought at 3:44 p. m., Saturday, April 30.

Our Flag Hoisted in Cuba. KEY WEST, Fla. (Special).—Ensign Willard, of the Machias, was the first to hoist the American flag on the island of Cuba. While the Wilmington, Winslow and Hudson were engaging Cardenas, the Machias demolished a battery and blockhouse at Diana City, two miles away. An armed boat's crew then went ashore and the ensign hoisted the Stars and Stripes on the blockhouse flagpole.

Rioting in Spain. Rioters at Alicante, Spain, burned the bonded warehouses after taking all the wheat they contained.

Spanish Troops Slaughtered. HAVANA, Cuba (By Cable).—Five thousand Spanish troops in Puerto Principe started for Moron under a flag of truce to engage against the United States. The Spaniards refused to respect the flag of truce, and 900 Spaniards were killed. President Maso has called Generals Gomez and Garcia to a conference on the Moron trocha, where the Cuban army will be concentrated.

Prizes Released. The Prize Court at Key West will recommend the release of the steamers Bratsberg and Miguel Jover.

FIRST AMERICAN DEAD.

Ensign Bagley and Four Men Perish on the Winslow.

FATAL BATTLE AT CARDENAS.

Fired on by a Masked Battery While Seeking Spanish Gunboats in the Harbor—Spaniards Suffered, Too—The Ensign and His Men Fought the Enemy to the Last—Rescued by the Hudson.

KEY WEST, Fla. (Special).—The first American bloodshed in the war between the United States and Spain occurred during an engagement in the harbor of Cardenas, Cuba, where Ensign Bagley and four men lost their lives and Lieutenant Bernadou and several men were wounded. All were on board the torpedo boat Winslow, which bore the brunt of a terrific fire from a deftly-masked battery for over three-quarters of an hour. The dead and wounded are:



ENSIGN WORTH BAGLEY. (First American killed in the war with Spain.)

Dead. Worth Bagley, ensign. John Denfee, fireman. George B. Meek, fireman. Elijah B. Tunnell, cook. John Varveres, oiler.

Wounded. Lieutenant John B. Bernadou, commander of the Winslow; injured in the thigh by a flying splinter. William Patterson, fireman; flesh wound in the leg from splinter. R. E. Cox, gunner's mate; slightly hurt by fragment of shell. Daniel McKeown, quartermaster; slightly injured by shell. F. Gray, able seaman.

The Winslow, Wilmington and Hudson were cruising off Cardenas, and about 1 o'clock in the afternoon the little torpedo boat moved in close to shore. She could see the main batteries some mile and a half ahead, but had no thought of a masked battery. She reached a point nearly 500 yards from shore when suddenly the shrubbery parted, and heavy cannon boomed out. The Spanish were too close to miss. Heavy solid shot and shell hit all about the torpedo boat. A solid shot tore through her hull, and the forward boiler blew up, but her men did not flinch.

Another shot tore away her rudder, and she drifted helplessly. The Hudson steamed into the harbor, and took the Winslow in tow.

TO RULE THE PHILIPPINES. General Merritt Will Act as Military Governor of the Islands. WASHINGTON (Special).—With all possible dispatch Rear Admiral Dewey's possession of the Philippines is to be strengthened by additional ships and by a military force adequate to overcome the Spanish troops left on the islands, to maintain order and protect the lives and interests of foreign residents, and to assert the authority of the United States through a military government, with Major General Wesley Merritt as its head. General Merritt held a long consultation with the Secretary of War and the Adjutant General, and returned to New York to complete his preparations for proceeding to Manila.

It has been definitely decided to concentrate at San Francisco an army of 12,000 men, consisting of both volunteers and regulars. Besides the States of California and Washington, which will furnish their entire quota of volunteer troops, these States will furnish men for the expedition: Wyoming, one battalion of infantry; Colorado, one regiment of infantry; Kansas, one regiment of infantry; Montana, one regiment of infantry; Nebraska, one regiment of infantry; Utah, two light batteries of artillery and one troop of cavalry, and North Dakota and Idaho, each two battalions of infantry.

This army will constitute the First Corps of the United States Army. It will be divided into three divisions, the first of which will consist of 7000 men, and will form the first detachment sent to the relief of Rear Admiral Dewey.

In order that the expedition may leave as soon as possible General Merritt has been given authority to take with him, at his own discretion, the first 7000 men who report at San Francisco.

A CABLEGRAM FROM DEWEY.

The Situation at Manila Since the Bombardment is Unchanged. WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—A dispatch came Friday to the Navy Department from Admiral Dewey, at Manila. It was dated Hong Kong. It was as follows:

HONG KONG, May 12. Secretary of the Navy: There is little change in the situation since my last telegram. I am transferring to transports steel breech-loading rifles from sunken Spanish men-of-war. Also stores from arsenal in my possession. I am maintaining strict blockade. Add Argos to list of destroyed vessels. El Correo, probably El Cano.

DEWEY. Other despatches describe the situation in the Philippines as unchanged since the bombardment.

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Prizes Released. The Prize Court at Key West will recommend the release of the steamers Bratsberg and Miguel Jover.

Population of Navassa Finds Safety. Seventy-five American refugees, the entire population of the island of Navassa, southeast of Cuba, arrived at Key West, Fla. They were all men, eleven of them whites. They were taken off by the gunboat Castine. Navassa Island is owned by the Baltimore Phosphate Company, and the Americans who are employed by the owners of the island feared attack and massacre by the Spaniards.

Korea to Be Independent. Japan and Russia have both agreed to recognize the independence of Korea.

slightly injured in the left leg, and several others of the Winslow's wounded sailors. The Hudson shows the effect of the fight. Her smokestack is punctured with bullet holes and her cabin and decks are smashed and splintered. The Winslow is almost a wreck.

Ensign Worth Bagley, who was killed, is a native of North Carolina. His mother, Mrs. W. H. Bagley, resides at 125 South street, Raleigh, N. C. She is a widow and an invalid. Half an hour before she was informed of her death, Mrs. Bagley received a letter from her son, dated "On board the Winslow, May 8, 1898," in which he wrote, seeking to reassure her, "Have no fear for me; I am in perfect safety."

SUICIDE OF A SPANISH SPY. George Downing Hanged Himself in His Cell at Washington.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—Suicide ended the career and life of George Downing, who was imprisoned in the Washington Barracks awaiting trial by court-martial on two specific charges of being a spy in the employ of the Spanish Government. Downing hanged himself. He wore a towel in two and knotted a silk handkerchief to one end. The handkerchief formed the noose, and he adjusted it so carefully that the knot was placed under the left ear as skillfully as a professional hangman could have adjusted it.

Downing was an Englishman by birth and thirty-three years of age, and prior to coming here had been yeoman of the cruiser Brooklyn, from which ship he was discharged because of suspicion attaching to his loyalty. He swore to be revenged, and, coming to Washington, it is said, came into communication with one of the Spanish attaches, who hired him to furnish Senor Polo and his subordinates information. He was arrested by Chief Wilkie, of the Secret Service, and a search of his rooms revealed evidence which those who made the arrest expressed confidence would convict him.

The news of Downing's suicide was received by Government officials with much satisfaction, as it relieved them of the disagreeable duty of shooting him.

GENERAL HOWARD'S VIEWS.

The "Christian Soldier" Thinks the War Will Be a Long One.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (Special).—General O. O. Howard has arrived here to take charge of the religious propaganda among the troops.

"I do not believe," he said to a reporter, "that the war will have a speedy termination. I think that Spain is trying to avoid a decisive engagement, and will conduct the war by harassing our commerce and

delay matters in the hope that some of the foreign powers will interfere. I expect that international complications more or less serious will result before the war is ended."

General Howard's errand to Chattanooga is to start the work of the Christian Commission. From Chattanooga he will go to Tampa and Mobile, and he may follow the army to Cuba.

"The plan of the Christian Commission," he states, "is to get magnetic preachers to

visit the army and talk to the soldiers, and so counteract the evil influences surrounding the camps. We want volunteers for the work, which will be in charge of Dwight L. Moody."

FIRST BATTLE ON CUBAN SOIL. American Landing Party Repulsed a Force of Ambushed Spaniards.

KEY WEST, Fla. (Special).—The first United States troops were landed in Cuba Friday. The detachment consisted of two companies of the First Infantry, which left Tampa Tuesday on the steamer Gussie. The Gussie arrived off Cabanas and proceeded to land the men on an apparently desolate beach by small boats.

Three boat loads had been landed when the soldiers were attacked by Spanish concealed under the brush, which thickly fringed the shore. The Americans dashed into the woods and a lively fight occurred. The gunboats Manning and Wasp filled the woods with shrapnel.

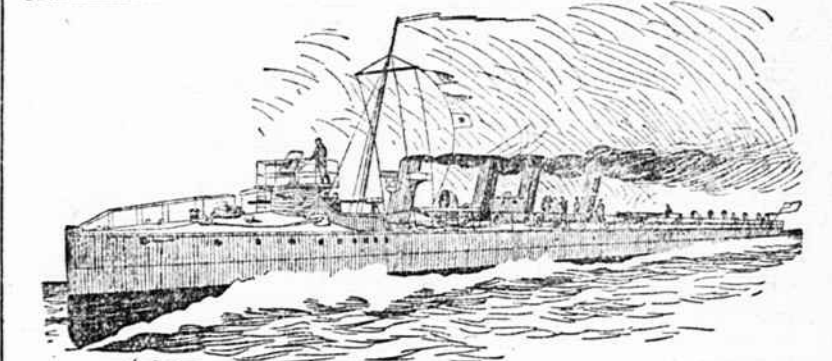
The Spanish were repulsed with the loss of ten killed and wounded. The American loss was none. After landing three Cuban scouts the soldiers re-embarked. The place was unfavorable to land arms or ammunition.

The horses of the scouts were landed by swimming. The Americans left their boats in the surf and waded ashore. They did great execution with their rifles, and three men killed, one man wounded and a prisoner.

Wheeler to Command the Cavalry. Major-General Wheeler has been ordered from Chattanooga to Tampa to command the cavalry about to leave for Cuba.

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TORPEDO BOAT WINSLOW.