

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHERN, Established June, 1849

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TRIUMPHAL INVASION

Military Expedition Successfully Landed in Cuba.

Key West, Fla., May 31.—Over 400 men, with a pack train and a large quantity of arms and ammunition, sailed for Cuba on the Plant Line steamer Florida on the night of May 21. These men and the equipment constituted an expedition able to operate independently and to defend itself against any body of Spanish troops which might oppose it.

The expedition was under the command of Colonel Jose Lacer, formerly insurgent commander in Matanzas province. He assumed the direction of affairs immediately on the landing of the expedition—until then, General Joaquin Castillo was in control.

In the landing of the expedition the United States army was represented by Captain J. A. Dorst, and Thomas Estrada Palma was represented by J. E. Carayna, who has been the leading agent of nearly every filibustering expedition for more than a year. Messrs. Castillo, Carayna and Dorst will return to Key West.

General Julio Sanguilly, on the way to report to General Maximo Gomez, was also on the boat.

This is the most powerful anti-Spanish expedition ever sent to Cuba. About three hundred of the men are Cubans; the others are Americans. The engineer corps of the expedition is composed entirely of Americans, under American leadership.

The men were dressed in canvas uniforms furnished by the United States government, and the commissary department had rations enough to last fifteen days after the landing.

The pack train consisted of seventy-five mules and twenty-five horses. The expedition carried 7,000,000 rounds of ammunition, for General Calixto Garcia.

The expedition is composed of hardy young fellows, who looked fit for anything.

The expedition was conveyed by the cruiser Marblehead, the torpedo boat destroyer Eagle and other warships.

Two younger brothers of the late General Nestor Aranguren are with the expedition.

The expedition was landed on the coast of Cuba on Thursday morning, May 26.

When the Florida, escorted by the Osceola, drew up close to the shore at the place selected for the landing, sent scouts to see if all was clear. These scouts were greeted by Generals Ferra and Rojas, with some 1,500 armed insurgents.

Consequently, far from there being any hostile demonstration upon the part of the Spaniards, the landing of the expedition was in the nature of a triumphal invasion. The Cubans who were in waiting for the party had a brass band and welcomed the new comers with national airs.

The Great Bank of Spain May Collapse and End War.

Madrid, June 1, 5 P. M.—The Attention of the public to-day is absorbed in the condition of the Bank of Spain, which is considered more serious than any reverse of the war, inasmuch as the impossibility of the bank to help the government means impossibility to continue the war.

There was a long procession at the bank during the day. All classes of people were represented and many women were in line, waiting to change notes into silver, fearing the notes would soon be subjected to a discount.

If the run continues there is danger of the bank's stock of silver becoming exhausted, which would compel the government to resort to a forced currency, issuing notes of small denomination. It is hoped, however, that the panic will subside, leaving the bank a margin of silver.

The financial outlook of Spain is rather dark. The Government has entrusted the bank of Spain with the negotiations for a loan of 1,000,000,000 pesetas at 4 per cent., which sum is to be raised when required. The bank will endeavor to raise the loan at home and abroad.

Three Armies go Together.

Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines to be Occupied.

Washington, June 1.—For the first time since the beginning of hostilities, there appears to be something in the nature of an official statement of the plan of campaign of the United States government. This is contained in a letter of Secretary Alger to the Speaker of the House, transmitting certain recommendations and statements of General Ludlow which disclosed the purpose of the war department to send 70,000 men to Cuba, 20,000 to start at once and the remainder just as soon as they can be made ready for departure. Then there was an estimate for establishing electrical communications in connection with the army "in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines," showing for the first time officially an implied intention on the part of the government to land troops in Porto Rico. Of course all these movements have been anticipated by the press, but nevertheless a strong element of doubt existed, and therefore the official statement of the government's purpose, made even in this indirect fashion, created a profound sensation here. The three are to go together, Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, and pass into the military occupation of the United States troops.

Inasmuch as the secretary says that the second contingent of troops is to go forward as soon as they can be prepared, a good deal of interest attaches to an order that was made to-day at the war department providing for the organization of the 75,000 additional volunteers called for. The order officially established the statement heretofore made in these dispatches that a large proportion of the new men are to be used to fill up the existing regiments of volunteers, which are in most cases deficient in numbers. It is to be presumed from to-day's order that the volunteer regiments collected under the first call will be detained until they are filled up in this fashion, so that the order has some bearing upon the plan of campaign.

The war department received a dispatch to-day from General Brooke, in command of the forces at Chickamauga, setting at rest the reports as to inadequate food and water supply there. When these reports were circulated recently, Secretary Alger telegraphed an inquiry to General Brooke, whose reply is as follows: "There is no reason whatever for complaint as to the quality and kind of food furnished the troops in this camp. Some regulars arrived here with food rations only, but defects of this kind are quickly remedied and the vegetable component immediately provided. The water question is being solved as to quantity, and it has always been good as to quality."

NO WORD FROM SCHLEY.

The naval officials have been considerably mystified throughout the day by the reports of an engagement off Santiago. At the outset there was complete scepticism and a disposition to treat the reported action as a myth. Gradually, as the day advanced, the corroborative evidence coming from many quarters, including the official announcements from Havana and Madrid, led the officials to concede that some engagement had taken place, although they did not regard it as a serious one. No bulletins were issued by the department during the day, and at the close of office hours it was stated that no dispatches from Commodore Schley had been received during the day. There is reason to believe, however, that the department received indirect advices through the State department, possibly not bearing out the detailed press dispatches, but sufficient to indicate that an engagement of some kind had occurred at Santiago. The impression obtained during the afternoon that in execution of the general instructions to all United States naval commanders on the Cuban coast to prevent the construction or strengthening of batteries by the Spaniards, Commodore Schley, observing work of this kind going on at Morro Castle, had drawn his fleet up close enough to stop it. It is not believed for an instant that he made any real attempt to enter the harbor, although it is entirely conceivable that while engaged in the task of shelling the shore batteries, finding the Cristobal Colon in range, he could not resist the temptation to try a few shots at her.

SPAIN'S FINANCIAL FLIGHT.

The statement from Madrid, in what seemed to be almost semi-official form, of the acuteness of the financial stringency there, and the plain intimation that the Bank of Spain, and consequently Spain, were nearing the end of their financial resources, was regarded at the State department as of more real significance than many of the stories of battles on land and sea that have

been coming over the cables for the past few weeks. The effect of this notice may be to hasten the operations against Porto Rico, lest the prize slip from our grasp through a sudden and unexpected termination of the war.

An additional evidence that the actual forward movement of the army and navy has begun was given in the action of the foreign naval and military observers. They have been sojourning leisurely in Washington for some time, but within the last week all of them have started for Florida. The British naval and military attaches were the first to leave, and now they have been followed by the German, Austrian, Russian, Swedish, Norwegian and Japanese observers. The government of Norway and Sweden has no less than six military and naval experts to observe various branches of the warfare.

Spain's Reserve Fleet.

London, June 1.—The Madrid correspondent of The Standard, telegraphing Sunday by way of Bayonne, says:

"The reserve squadron now undergoing speed trial and gun trial outside Cadiz is composed of the battleship Pelayo and 821 men, the armored cruiser Emperador Carlos V. with 471 men, the cruiser Alfonso XIII with 361 men, the auxiliary cruiser Patriota and Rapido each 175 men, four torpedo boat destroyers each with 120 men. When these vessels are ready to start Admiral Camara hopes to take with them seven trans-Atlantic steamers, now preparing at Cadiz. They are armed with Krupp guns and quick firing guns and carry 250 men each. They will serve at the same time as carriers of coal and war stores for the squadron, which will also carry a strong force of marines and provisions for six months."

More Fast Steamers Have Been Secured.

Washington, June 2.—Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn of the war department to-day secured additional transports of capacity approximating 5,000 men, of the Cuban army of invasion. This swells the total number of available vessels to over 30 with a carrying capacity of nearly 30,000 men. The ships secured to-day will be sent to Florida ports, chiefly Tampa, as fast as practicable and prepared for service. The vessels are:

The Comanche of the Clyde line, now at New York, capacity 1,200 men; the Louisiana and the Knickerbocker of the Cromwell line, one of which is at New York and the other at New Orleans, 600 men each. The Specialist and the Unionist belong to a foreign line and which before the war plied between Mobile, Ala., and Porto Rico, estimated to carry 1,000 men each. They are now at Mobile. The charter of the last two named vessels is subject to the granting by congress of an American register for which the assistant secretary will ask that body.

At the same time, Mr Meiklejohn announced that the Mantea, a small vessel now at one of the Gulf ports was ready for service and she will proceed to Tampa immediately. Her capacity is 200 men.

The chartering of the additional ships at this time is taken as an indication of the promptness with which the war department proposes to undertake the offensive operations against the Spanish in the West Indies and of the intention to carry out the plan indicated by Secretary Alger in his letter to the house asking for more money to be immediately available.

Havana, June 2.—A serious famine prevails in this city and dire starvation is feared. Serious riots, requiring the interference of the troops, occur daily. The mass of the people are suffering the utmost hardships and only the rich can obtain the comforts of life at the most exorbitant prices. The internal situation is more serious than the danger from attack from the American fleet from without.

Washington, June 2.—The transports have left Tampa for Santiago with a large body of troops and a number of siege guns of heavy calibre and a full supply of ammunition. This force will occupy the hills surrounding Santiago and co-operate with the fleet and the insurgents, who have gathered in force near the city.

Cape Haytien, June 1.—The condition of the population of Santiago since the beginning of the blockade has grown rapidly worse, and it is now said to be nearly desperate. Food is very scarce and the poor people are finding it almost impossible to obtain any because of the enormous prices.

The expectation is general that Santiago must soon fall into the hands of the Americans.

If you want a good, honest sewing machine trade, see Randle.

DEADLY WORK AT SANTIAGO.

The Story of the Attack Apparently Obtained From Officers of One of the Ships Engaged.

New York, June 1.—An Evening Journal special from Cape Haytien says:

The torpedo boat Porter arrived at Mole, St. Nicholas at 1 o'clock this morning with dispatches for Washington. She left immediately. But before going to sea the following story of the bombardment of Santiago de Cuba, the refuge of Admiral Cervera and the Spanish fleet, was obtained by your correspondent at the Mole:

The American squadron, augmented by the torpedo boat Porter, the auxiliary cruiser St. Paul and the protected cruiser New Orleans, formerly the Amazonas, approached the entrance to the harbor of Santiago de Cuba at 1 30 p. m., the Iowa leading.

Inside the entrance to the harbor was seen one of the warships of Cervera's fleet striped for action.

As the American fleet drew near the New Orleans was detached and steamed far ahead of the Iowa, Texas and Massachusetts. One of the forts opened fire on her and she replied, the other ships directing their fire at the battery on the Punta Gorda within the harbor and to the westward of the position occupied by the Spanish ship. The latter replied to the fire and immediately became a target for all the American ships engaged in the battle. She retired behind a protecting headland and was not seen again during the engagement.

The Iowa, directed by Captain "Fighting Bob" Evans; the Massachusetts, Captain F. J. Higginson; Texas, Captain J. W. Phillips, and the New Orleans, Captain W. M. Folger; kept up their terrific fire against the Morro, Socapa and Punta Gorda forts for two hours, their projectiles of enormous size, doing tremendous damage to the defences of the harbor.

The masonry on Socapa and Morro was battered into dust and the forms of Spanish artillerymen and infantry could be seen fleeing to safety behind the neighboring hills.

The auxiliary cruiser which joined Schley's fleet just before the battle took place was hit by shells from the forts, and it is thought that she has been seriously damaged by the shells. After seeking the protection of a jutting headland the Spanish warships continued to fire projectiles over the hills toward the fleet, but they had no range, not even direction to their shot and the shell fell harmlessly into the sea.

That the number of killed on the Spanish side is enormous no one doubts, for time and again the American shells hit the batteries squarely, and among the flying masonry and dismantled guns the forms of men were desecrated.

The damage done to the American fleet cannot be leaned, but it is not thought any person was killed, if, indeed, anyone was wounded.

SPANIARDS CLAIM VICTORY.

Madrid, June 1.—5 p. m.—The following undated official dispatch from Havana has been received here:

"The American squadron commanded by Commodore Schley, composed of large ironclads and cruisers, attacked the fortifications at the entrance of Santiago de Cuba. Our ironclad, Cristobal Colon, closing the mouth of the port, and supported by the fire of the forts, repulsed the attack, causing damage to the enemy."

(Signed) "MANTEROLA"
Admiral Manterola is the officer in command of the regular Spanish fleet in Cuban waters.

SIGNAL TO INSURGENTS.

Port Au-Prince, Hayti, June 1, 10:15 p. m.—According to the latest advices from Santiago de Cuba, when the Spanish cruiser Cristobal Colon emerged from the harbor yesterday to the entrance of the channel she was welcomed by such a furious fire, as soon as the American squadron sighted her, that she was compelled to return into the bay.

The American squadron, which left Santiago waters at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon returned in front of the entrance of the bay this morning, and fired two cannon shots, which are believed to have been a signal arranged with the Cuban troops, massed 6,000 strong, five kilometres (about three miles) from the city. Everybody expects grave results.

Good sewing machine from \$10 up at Randle's.

Wisdom to-day means comfort to-morrow. To prove it buy a "White" and use it.

THE CONFEDERACY RECOGNIZED.

TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES

Washington, May 31.—An opinion was rendered in the United States Supreme Court in the case of Mary Anne G. Baldy vs. John H. Hunter, administrator, affirming the validity of an investment in Confederate bonds during the civil war. In rendering the opinion Justice Harlan said:

"The transactions between persons actually residing within the territory dominated by the Government of the Confederate States were not invalid for the reason only that they occurred under the sanction of the laws of that Government, or any local government recognizing its authority. The preservation of order, the maintenance of police regulations, the prosecution of crimes, the protection of property, the enforcement of contracts, the celebration of marriages, the settlement of estates, the transfer and descent of property and similar or kindred subjects were, during the war, under the control of the local governments constituting the so-called Confederate States. What occurred or was done in respect of such matters under the authority of the laws of the local de facto governments should not be disregarded or held invalid merely because the governments were organized in hostility to the union, established by the national Constitution, because the existence of the war did not relieve those with in the insurrectionary lines from the necessity of civil obedience nor destroy the bonds of society."

The case came to this Court on a writ of error from the Court of Georgia, and the opinion of that Court was affirmed.

Getting Ready For Next Campaign.

The State Democratic executive committee will meet to-night at 8:30 o'clock in the office of the secretary of state. This meeting will be presided over by Col. Willie Jones, chairman of the committee, and will bring together a number of prominent men from the different parts of the State.

It will be an important meeting, as matters of interest to the people will be discussed and acted upon. First of all, the whole plan of the coming State campaign will have to be agreed on, and a schedule adopted for the meetings at which the candidates will address the people. This is likely to evoke considerable discussion. Then the rules for the State primary election will have to be looked after and the assessments for the various candidates will come before the committee for action and decision. In short, there is much to be attended to at this meeting, and it is quite likely that the session will be a long one.

The political situation on account of the war going on, has been altogether side-tracked lately, but after the executive committee has acted and puts the machinery of the campaign in motion, politics will have its inning and will get its share of attention.—The State, June 2.

Big Drop in Flour.

New York, June 2.—The Herald says: Coincident with another sharp break in wheat yesterday (Wednesday) there was a big drop in all grades of flour, ranging from 50 to 75 cents on fancy patents and 25 cents on the cheaper grades of flour. There has been a gradual slipping away in the price of flour during the last week until yesterday the quotations were from \$1 to \$1.50 below the highest price touched on the great boom in wheat, engineered by Leiter.

As a result of the weakness there was very little demand for flour and the majority of dealers are holding off in hopes of getting in on the bottom.

Greenville, S. C. June 2.—W. W. Ball, editor of the Greenville News, will sever his connection with the paper on Saturday, the 4th of this month. A. B. Williams, the former editor, will return to Greenville and assume editorial charge. Mr. Williams will be in Greenville in a few days.

A coach load of young naval cadets passed through Columbia yesterday on their way to Key West, where they will be assigned to the battle ships and cruisers in the waters around Key West. The senior class was given its diplomas some time ago, and now the members of the junior class have been given a chance to go to the front. The fifty odd men sent out from Annapolis will be distributed among the vessels, but four of the cadets going to each of the boats.

VICE PRESIDENT CAPOTE TALKS.

STRENGTH OF THE CUBAN ARMY.

New York, June 2.—Domingo Mendez Capote, the vice president of the Cuban republic, arrived in this city at noon to-day. After going to a hotel, where he met Gen. Palma, the head of the Cuban junta, he visited Cuban headquarters, where he met a number of newspaper reporters, with whom he talked quite freely, Horatio S. Rubens, the counsel for the junta, acting as interpreter.

When asked what his mission to this country was, Senor Capote replied that before saying anything about that, he wished to thank the American press collectively for the stand it had taken in behalf of the Cuban insurgents, stating that the Cuban people and the government were deeply grateful for the support given by the American people, and for the action of this nation in coming to their support. Continuing, he said:

"My mission is not a public one. All public acts relative to the war between the United States and the Cuban republic will continue as heretofore, to be conducted by Gen. Palma. He has the thorough confidence of our people, who have a high appreciation of what he has done.

"I do not come here to negotiate any loan. I come to consult with Gen. Palma on a matter which does not concern international question or public interest. I have no present intention of calling upon President McKinley, although I probably shall make a call upon him before I return. How long I shall remain here I cannot say at this time, but shall make my stay as short as possible."

Mr Capote holds the position of judge advocate general in the insurgent army. Questioned as to the strength of the army, he said:

"Not counting those who have recently joined his forces, Garcia has about 12,000 men under him in the eastern department at Santiago and Puerto Principe. About 3,500 of these men were in the neighborhood of Santiago when I last received word. All were fully armed and equipped, and it was the intention to concentrate all of the force in the eastern portion to that point."

I cannot tell definitely how many men there are in the other provinces. Gomez has about 5,000 men at Santa Clara. Probably 30,000 men, all fully armed and equipped are in the ranks of the Cuban army. A large number, probably 20,000 more, are armed with machetes, and there are thousands of others who have recently left the towns to join the army because they could no longer live in the towns. From Puerto Principe alone, 10,000 men, women and children have left because of the scarcity of provisions, preferring to take their chances in the country, and and further influenced by the fear that at the last moment, the Spaniards driven to despair will, out of revenge resort to slaughter."

He saw Gomez in May, at which time the headquarters of the Cuban government were at Sebastopol, a town in Puerto Principe.

"We had complete dispatches from Gen. Palma," said Mr. Capote, "keeping us informed of the action of the United States and of the movements of the army and navy. Lieut Rowan saw Gomez at Ciberga, and had a conference with him concerning sailors and guides to be furnished the invading troops from the insurgents."

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