

## HOLIDAY WORK OF THIEVES

Criminal Classes Make Free with the Crowd During the Fourth.

## MANY CITIZENS REPORT LOSSES

Police Suppress the Facts as Far as Possible, but Are Unsuccessful in Keeping Everything "On the Quiet."

While the citizens of Omaha were celebrating Monday night the criminal element was very active, and its success is marked by the number of robberies reported to the police yesterday. Several cases of house-breaking early in the evening started the crime carnival. No details of three cases can be learned owing to the suppression by the police.

Two men are responsible for a series of robberies of various descriptions in the east end of the city. They first made their appearance at Dick Burdiss' saloon, Tenth and Davenport streets where they deliberately choaked Emanuel Hynes of 915 Davenport street, who was standing in the bar room and forced him to give them his money, amounting to \$15. From Burdiss' saloon the men went to the saloon at Tenth and Dodge streets where they found Lester Bancroft who was the sole occupant. Bancroft at their demand gave them his watch. They would have looted the place had not three customers entered at the time. It is believed that the two men, after leaving the saloon stole two bicycles and left, carrying away with them a brief description given them to take a bicycle belonging to J. P. Drastick from in front of the Paxton block and one of the property of Nels Nelson of 557 South Thirty-second street from the front of Kilpatrick's drug store.

Two cases where robbers were robbed in panel houses are reported. The victims were John Peterson of Benson, Neb., and John Phillips, place of residence unknown. The former lost \$15 and the latter \$15. Alice Holmes and Delta Moon are under arrest for the offenses.

James Jones of 1615 Dorcas street had his coat, which contained valuable papers, stolen. He took it off at Hascall's part to light some fireworks, and when he sought to put it on found some had taken it.

But two cases of pocket picking were made public, although it is known that this class of thief put in a most successful day on the streets and carried the money. Sixteenth Street. W. H. Alexander of 2416 Cass street lost \$2 in checks and \$25 in money in the crowd at the entrance to the theater at Fifteenth and Capitol avenue. He felt the hand in his pocket and saw the thief. He felt the hand in his pocket and saw the man dart away, but he was unable to catch him.

Fifteen men were arrested by the police on suspicion of having been implicated in the robberies, but they were released yesterday morning. Three of the men, C. McGuigan, "Doc" Wiggins and Frank Dendy, had \$130 in their possession when picked up.

## SIEGE GUNS FOR SHAFTER

Artillery Which Is Depended on to Disturb the Spaniards.

Dispatches from Santiago state that the engineer corps have cleared a road from Balquiri, where the invading army landed, to where the army's advance guard was stationed, and that along this road Shafter's siege guns were being hurried. A New York Sun reporter tried to get some definite information about these guns yesterday. While no one knows exactly what guns were sent to Shafter, some information was obtained. His siege train is composed of four batteries of four guns each. The men behind the guns were taken almost entirely from the Fifth United States artillery, the crack artillery regiment of the army. Brigadier General John L. Rodgers, chief of artillery, was the colonel of this regiment for many years, and the men of the regiment got their military training under his personal direction. One of the four siege batteries is made up of 5-inch breech-loading steel rifles, 7-inch breech-loading rifled howitzers, and 7-inch breech-loading rifled mortars. The exact make-up of the battery depends upon the works to be attacked. These guns, which are too heavy for field operation, are light enough to be transported over common roads upon the carriages from which they are fired.

The total weight of the 5-inch rifle, with its carriage, is 5,543 pounds, the rifle alone weighing 3,666 pounds. Its length is 12.15 feet. The projectile which it throws weighs forty-five pounds. Its range is about five miles. At 1,000 yards the projectile penetrates Harvey steel 4.5 inches, at 2,500 yards, 2.5 inches, and at 3,500 yards two inches.

Cervey Bears Up Bravely.

Soon after Admiral Cervera reached the shore and surrendered he was taken to the Gloucester at his own request. There was no mistaking the heart-broken expression on the old seaman's face as he took the preferred hand of Lieutenant Wainwright and was shown to the latter's cabin, but he made every effort to bear bravely the bitter defeat that had come to him. He thanked the commander of the Gloucester for the words of congratulation offered on the gallant field and then spoke earnestly of his preference for the command of his men on shore. He informed Lieutenant Wainwright that Cuban soldiers were on the hills preparing to attack his unarmed men, and said he thought his sailors had suffered enough in their battle with the American forces and that he was willing to surrender his entire command, but he asked that some protection be given to his men until they could be taken off in the American vessels. Captain Wainwright had heard similar reports from his own officers regarding the presence of Cubans in the brush, and sent a guard of armed sailors ashore to prevent the Spanish prisoners from being massacred.

"It will be remembered that Herbert Adams was selected at the time of the

Brooklyn's arrival to be the commanding officer of the gunners of the gunboats. He was chosen because he was a graduate of the Naval Academy and had been a member of the crew of the Brooklyn during her cruise in the Mediterranean.

The Brooklyn, Oregon, Massachusetts and several smaller vessels continued the chase after the Cristobal Colon, and in less than an hour were best to view the burning ships on shore. The Iowa and Texas both gave assistance to the imperiled crew of the Vizcaya. Its captain surrendered his command and their prisoners were transferred to the battleship. The Vizcaya probably lost about sixty men, as it carried a complement of 400, and only 340 were taken aboard the Iowa.

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