

UNDER A GALLING FIRE

SPANISH FORTIFICATIONS DEMOLISHED EASY.

Two Americans Killed and Several Wounded—An Omaha Man Was On Deck—Spaniards Scattered Like Chickens.

Key West, Fla., May 17.—In the early dawn of last Wednesday the cruisers Marblehead and Nashville and the converted cruiser Windom completely destroyed the fortifications of Cienfuegos in a three hours' battle.

At 5 o'clock in the morning Commander McCulla ordered the Nashville to lower a boat for the purpose of cutting the cable between Cienfuegos and Manzanillo. The ships were lying within three miles of the shore, and the expedition was attended with great danger.

At a range of two miles the Marblehead opened the batteries at Punta Colorado were well banked with sand, but at the first shot from the Marblehead a great cloud arose from the eastern battery and a ton of sand and stones choked one of the gun ports.

The Nashville and Windom joined in and the firing became lively on both sides. The Marblehead used her four-inch shells with great effect.

A few minutes later a fragment of shrapnel cut the front of Captain Maynard's uniform from side to side, above the heart, without injuring him.

There was a tall, gray lighthouse on the point, looming up almost in the center of the batteries. A shot from the Marblehead brought it down with a great rumble and roar.

Down on the beach a frenzied woman walked up and down, heedless of shot and shell, screaming and wringing her hands.

One of the heavy cannon was struck near the muzzle and hurled upward as though by the force of an earthquake.

Far inland the citizens of Cienfuegos could be seen taking to the woods with their household goods, and in the rear of the town near the palm woods the shrill rattle of rifles told where the insurgents had crept from their burrows like gaunt, gray rats, and were nipping the Spaniards in the rear.

The fire was kept up for three hours. One by one the batteries were destroyed, and the Spanish cannon ceased firing, and the surviving Spaniards took to their heels.

At 9 o'clock the last shot was fired. Then the ships withdrew. None of them had been injured.

Sampson and Schley to Combine. Porto Plata, Hayti, May 17.—Admiral Sampson's fleet, in search of the Spanish armada, is steaming westward from this port.

Secretary Long asserts positively that the navy department has received assurance of the presence at Porto Plata, north of Hayti, of Sampson's squadron, while the Spaniards are at Curaca, Venezuela.

Key West, Fla., May 16.—Major Alfredo Lima of the Cuban army, accompanied by an aide and two boatmen, arrived here today on the torpedo boat Ericsson.

Major Lima explained that he was bearer of important dispatches to the junta here and had been sent by General Cardenas of Havana province to make arrangements for co-operation of the insurgent forces with the United States.

Rev. Judson Smith, one of the deputation of the American board of China, writes that he feels far more hopeful about the Chinese as a race and about the Christian work of the board among them than he did before he left this country.

AN EXPOSITION HOLIDAY.

June 1 is So Proclaimed By Governor Holcomb.

Lincoln, Neb., May 17.—Governor Holcomb today issued his proclamation making June 1, 1898, a public holiday and designating it "Exposition day" to fittingly celebrate the opening of the Trans-Mississippi and International exposition at Omaha.

By the Governor—A Proclamation to the People of the State of Nebraska! The beginning of a new epoch in the history of the Trans-Mississippi country, and especially of Nebraska, will be marked by the opening of the Trans-Mississippi and International exposition at Omaha the first day of June, the present year.

This great enterprise had its inception in the action of the Trans-Mississippi congress of 1895, attended by accredited delegates from twenty-four states and territories. To the end that friendly ties and closer commercial relations might be promoted between the different states and territories, and that the progress of this great section of our country and its marvelous opportunities might be displayed advantageously, it was determined to hold an exposition of the products and resources, the manufactures, arts and industries of the west at Omaha during the present year.

Now, therefore, I, Silas A. Holcomb, governor of the state of Nebraska, do hereby designate and proclaim Wednesday, June 1, A. D. 1898, a public holiday and to designate it "Exposition Day."

By the governor, W. F. PORTER, Secretary of State.

RELIGIOUS. The Christian Endeavor army now numbers 3,163,020. The food of the idols in a single temple of India costs \$15,900 a year.

The Young Men's Christian association has decided to establish headquarters at all military camps of the United States.

A California congregation has agreed to fit out its pastor for a two years' trip in the Klondike on the understanding that if he makes a strike he pay off the church debt.

Protestant missions in China have greatly prospered since the close of the China-Japan war. All restrictions against foreign missionaries have been removed and they can now acquire and hold property in any part of the empire.

The advance states that there are 1,700 Mormon missionaries outside of Utah and a large proportion of them are in the central and southern states.

The popular impression that slavery in Africa is a thing of the past is wholly erroneous. It is estimated that about 200,000,000 Africans at least 50,000,000 are slaves.

A CITY BATTERY. Torpedo boat and cutter proceeded in obedience to signals and approached to within 2,500 yards of the city, when a battery, apparently located in the center of the town, opened fire.

With her two six-pounders hot at work, the Hudson drew ahead of one of the barks just as the Winslow with her one-pounders going at their full capacity ran abreast of the other.

Albert, crown prince of Belgium, accompanied by a small retinue, arrived in Butte, Mont., last night, over the Great Northern from Seattle.

FIRST AMERICAN DEATHS

PLUCKY LITTLE WINSLOW SHOT TO PIECES.

Five Men Killed, Several Wounded—Sank a Spanish Gunboat Before She Was Disabled—Heroic Rescue by the Hudson.

Key West, Fla., May 18.—Down in the darkened dead room of an undertaking establishment on Duval street, with an American flag over his face and his shattered arms folded over his breast, lies the first man killed by the Spaniards in the present war.

These five men were killed during a terrific attempt of the torpedo boat Winslow to destroy five Spanish gunboats in Cardenas harbor.

During a two hours' engagement one of the gunboats was sunk, the Spanish signal station at Diana Key was destroyed, a portion of Cardenas was burned, the United States torpedo boat Winslow was disabled and five Americans were killed.

A RASH ATTACK. Naval men here are disposed to think that the attack on Cardenas was rash and ill-timed. It was ordered by Captain Todd of the Wilmington, the ranking officer present.

CAUGHT A LINE. This one was made fast and the cutter headed seaward, dragging her crippled consort after her, and with many scars in her ventilators she left the warm place where she had been.

Dr. Richards, of the Machias, which was fallen in with later, was assigned to accompany the Hudson here.

The Winslow was towed to Pedras Key, where she was anchored. The boat is very badly damaged.

Later reports of the fighting at Cardenas indicated a great improvement in Spanish gunnery. An officer who fought on board the Hudson has told me that a perfect hail of well-aimed projectiles was poured on the ill-fated torpedo boat Winslow.

With her two six-pounders hot at work, the Hudson drew ahead of one of the barks just as the Winslow with her one-pounders going at their full capacity ran abreast of the other.

One struck the Winslow on her starboard beam, and exploding in the boiler room disabled the starboard engine and killed her.

The vessel promptly responded and lay back and headed for the crippled boat, with shells whizzing all about her and splashing into the water on every hand.

Several of the crew of the Winslow were clustered around the midship one-pounder. Scott halted them, "Look out for the line." As one of the men turned to catch the coil, a shell cut through the after smokestack and exploded in the group, killing three men outright and mangle three others, mutilating them so terribly that they died within a half hour.

"We were within fifteen feet of the gun," said Lieutenant E. E. Mead of the forward six-pounder of the Hudson, "when that shell burst. It was the first time that our men had been under fire, and one might have thought that the spectacle would have something of a demoralizing effect; on the other hand, it seemed to drive them on and the desire of banging the Spaniards off the face of the earth. I have seen some rapid play with quick-firing guns, but I never saw anything to equal the way the crew worked. They must at least have fired a shot a second from the gun."

MEAD'S STORY. "All this time both boats were still the target for the Spanish artillery. Faint from loss of blood, Lieutenant Bernadou limped along the deck of his vessel, giving words of encouragement to his men and orders about the handling of the boat. A line was finally got aboard. As soon as the Hudson had started ahead it parted, and another one had to be run.

As good as they were when they went into action. The shot which smashed the Iowa's plate flattened against an inch armor plate, and the fire in the boat was soon extinguished.

If other people did not make so many mistakes we should be saved a great deal of unnecessary trouble.

SAMPSON TAKES SAN JUAN

WHITE FLAG FLUTTERS IN PLACE OF YELLOW RAG.

Our Fleet Not Injured--Spanish Fortifications Reduced--No Harbor For the Enemies Fleet--Insurgents Gaining Ground.

Washington, D. C., May 16.—President McKinley received a dispatch, which came through Haytian sources, announcing the complete capitulation of the city and forts of San Juan de Porto Rico.

The dispatch was immediately communicated to Secretary Long, who presented it to the naval strategy board, which was then in session.

Secretary Long would not say who sent it. He acknowledged its receipt, however, and supplemented the president's declaration of faith in its authenticity.

The strategy board immediately upon the receipt of the dispatch discussed its contents, but nothing could be learned regarding its action.

St. Thomas, Danish West Indies (via Fort de France, Martinique), May 16.—Additional facts concerning the bombardment of San Juan, Porto Rico, show that the firing continued for three hours, after which Admiral Sampson said:

"I am satisfied with the morning's work. I could have taken San Juan, but had no force to hold it. I merely wished to punish the Spaniards, and render the port unnavable as a refuge for the Spanish fleet. I came to destroy that fleet and not to take San Juan."

THE IOWA ALL RIGHT. As for the ships, they are practically completely demolished, Rear Admiral Sampson regards his mission to San Juan as successful. The bombardment was terrific. It gave the men on the warships an admirable experience and enabled them to test their marksmanship in action, which was desired before giving battle to the armorclad of Spain.

THE DEAD AND INJURED. In the bombardment two of our men were killed and seven injured. How heavy was the loss among the Spaniards is not known, but it is believed to have been severe.

DAMAGED THE IOWA. 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.

THE ATTACK. The American fleet approached San Juan about 3 o'clock in the morning. There were the New York, Iowa, Indiana, Terror, Amphitrite, Montgomery and Detroit. The torpedo boat Porter and the tug Wampatauck kept in the rear.

Admiral Sampson was on the Iowa. He decided to move upon the fortifications at 5 o'clock. Shortly after that hour the signal, "Clear for action," was given, then the order, "To general quarters. The attack was directed on the eastern arm of the harbor, where there was a good shore battery of six-inch guns, as well as the less effective Morro battery. The Iowa began the fighting by throwing a shell from her twelve-inch gun.

Then the fight became general. The monitors poured a frightful shower of shells into the fortifications. The Detroit took chances and apparently approached within 1,000 yards of the shore battery. The Spaniards paid considerable attention to the cruiser, but their aim was bad, and the war vessels mockingly past them in the column of attack. It was deemed advisable for the Detroit to retire from the attack after the column had passed the fortifications for the first time. The Montgomery did not participate after the first half hour of the bombardment.

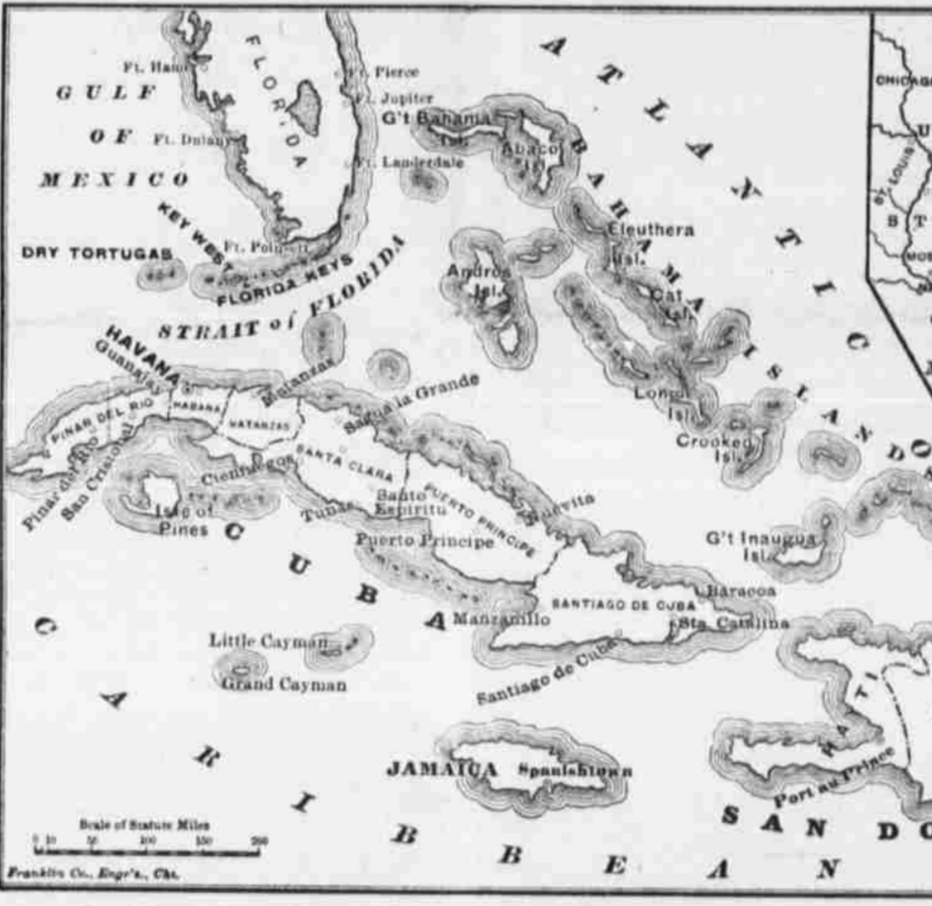
THREE TIMES. The other ships, however, were under the guns of the fortifications three times. In spite of the great clouds of smoke, it could be seen that the shells from the warships had set fire to the Morro battery in several places. These fires were extinguished by the Spaniards in a short time.

Owing to the condition of the sea and the blinding smoke, our gunners conducted the bombardment under considerable difficulty. It was impossible for them to obtain good aim except when the smoke would clear temporarily. The marksmanship was magnificent. A shell from the shore battery struck part of the superstructure of the Iowa and sent splinters flying. These splinters caused the injuries to the men on the battleship. No disorder followed. Throughout the bombardment the sailors on all the warships conducted themselves heroically.

Rear Admiral Sampson ordered the bombardment to cease at about 7:20. The two monitors were loath to leave the battleground. They sent parting shots into the battered fortifications. It is believed that considerable damage was done to the city of San Juan. Many shells went over the batteries during the bombardment.

The United States warships hauled off shore within a few minutes after the surrender. Admiral Sampson's order to cease firing, and left San Juan in a sorry condition. The Spanish base was no longer effective, while the American ships were ready for battle at any moment.

Port Au Prince, Hayti, May 16.—San Juan, Porto Rico, is reported to have surrendered to Admiral Sampson. According to reports, Governor Maceo's hauled down the Spanish flag. As yet the Americans have not taken formal possession of the city, but are said to be cruising off the harbor, keeping up a blockade, and watching for the Spanish squadron of Admirals Corvera and Villamil, which was reported off Martinique.



HOW SAN JUAN FELL.

Story of the Bombardment of the Spanish Port.

With Rear Admiral Sampson's squadron, Off San Juan, Porto Rico (via St. Thomas, Danish West Indies), May 18.—San Juan is no longer a fortified place.

Part of Rear Admiral Sampson's fleet for three hours Friday morning poured 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 aid in its efforts to be victorious over the warships of the United States.

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 warships an admirable experience and enabled them to test their marksmanship in action, which was desired before giving battle to the armorclad of Spain.

THE DEAD AND INJURED. In the bombardment two of our men were killed and seven injured. How heavy was the loss among the Spaniards is not known, but it is believed to have been severe.

DAMAGED THE IOWA. 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.

THE ATTACK. The American fleet approached San Juan about 3 o'clock in the morning. There were the New York, Iowa, Indiana, Terror, Amphitrite, Montgomery and Detroit. The torpedo boat Porter and the tug Wampatauck kept in the rear.

Admiral Sampson was on the Iowa. He decided to move upon the fortifications at 5 o'clock. Shortly after that hour the signal, "Clear for action," was given, then the order, "To general quarters. The attack was directed on the eastern arm of the harbor, where there was a good shore battery of six-inch guns, as well as the less effective Morro battery. The Iowa began the fighting by throwing a shell from her twelve-inch gun.

Then the fight became general. The monitors poured a frightful shower of shells into the fortifications. The Detroit took chances and apparently approached within 1,000 yards of the shore battery. The Spaniards paid considerable attention to the cruiser, but their aim was bad, and the war vessels mockingly past them in the column of attack. It was deemed advisable for the Detroit to retire from the attack after the column had passed the fortifications for the first time. The Montgomery did not participate after the first half hour of the bombardment.

THREE TIMES. The other ships, however, were under the guns of the fortifications three times. In spite of the great clouds of smoke, it could be seen that the shells from the warships had set fire to the Morro battery in several places. These fires were extinguished by the Spaniards in a short time.

Owing to the condition of the sea and the blinding smoke, our gunners conducted the bombardment under considerable difficulty. It was impossible for them to obtain good aim except when the smoke would clear temporarily. The marksmanship was magnificent. A shell from the shore battery struck part of the superstructure of the Iowa and sent splinters flying. These splinters caused the injuries to the men on the battleship. No disorder followed. Throughout the bombardment the sailors on all the warships conducted themselves heroically.

Rear Admiral Sampson ordered the bombardment to cease at about 7:20. The two monitors were loath to leave the battleground. They sent parting shots into the battered fortifications. It is believed that considerable damage was done to the city of San Juan. Many shells went over the batteries during the bombardment.

The United States warships hauled off shore within a few minutes after the surrender. Admiral Sampson's order to cease firing, and left San Juan in a sorry condition. The Spanish base was no longer effective, while the American ships were ready for battle at any moment.

Port Au Prince, Hayti, May 16.—San Juan, Porto Rico, is reported to have surrendered to Admiral Sampson. According to reports, Governor Maceo's hauled down the Spanish flag. As yet the Americans have not taken formal possession of the city, but are said to be cruising off the harbor, keeping up a blockade, and watching for the Spanish squadron of Admirals Corvera and Villamil, which was reported off Martinique.