

The Nebraska Independent.

Wealth Makers and Lincoln Independent Consolidated.

VOL. X.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY JUNE 2, 1898.

NO. 3.

SHARP MIDNIGHT FIGHT

Spanish Torpedo Boats Tried to Attack Schley's Ships But

Failed

STOPPED IN NICK OF TIME

Discovered by the Texas, the Little Craft Fled Under the Fire of Two Battleships.

Sharp Lookout on Our Ships.

PORT ANTONIO, JUNE 2.—The first engagement between Commodore Schley's squadron and the Spanish ships of Cervera took place Sunday night about midnight. Two torpedo boats made a desperate effort to destroy the American ships. They were stopped in the nick of time, owing to the vigilance of the men under Captain Phillip of the Texas.

The torpedo boats had cleared the harbor and were creeping along in the shadow of the castle Morro and the mountain at the entrance of the harbor. They had traveled two miles to the westward when the officer of the deck on the Texas sighted them through his night glasses.

Two of the searchlights of the Texas were turned on them and the next instant the men who had been sleeping at the loaded guns were aroused and at work.

The flashing of the lights told the Spaniards that they were discovered, and they made a quick rush with all speed on toward the Brooklyn and the Texas. Before their bows had swung around the crews of the port batteries were pumping steel at them. The rapid fire guns were used.

The din of the guns of the Texas alarmed the whole fleet. The machine guns of the Brooklyn were at work a few seconds after the Texas started in. The other ships were lying farther off shore. The call to general quarters was sounded on each of them in the belief that all of Cervera's fleet was coming out in a desperate effort to escape. Searchlights were played on the waters by all the ships.

The Texas and the Brooklyn poured such a furious shower of small shells at the torpedo boats that the latter were forced to turn about and seek safety in the harbor. What damage they sustained is unknown. They took shelter under the forts and no attempt to pursue them was made.

Early Sunday morning the Marblehead ventured within two miles of the harbor and positively recognized the cruiser Cristobal Colon and two cruisers of the Vizcaya type and the dismantled cruiser Reina Mercedes, upon which guns have been mounted, making her a floating fort. This leaves only two of the ships of the Cape Verde squadron unaccounted for, but Commodore Schley is sure they are further up the bay.

All the ships were originally in such a position in the harbor that they could not be seen from the outside, but on the appearance of American warships they betrayed their presence, moving across the entrance to sweep it with broadsides.

THE STORY FROM HAVANA.

Spaniards Claim That No Damage Has Been Done.

HAVANA, June 2.—The following Spanish account of the reported engagement off Santiago de Cuba has been issued here: The American fleet, consisting of the Iowa, Massachusetts, Brooklyn, Texas, Marblehead, Minneapolis and another cruiser, in addition to six small vessels, took up a position yesterday on the western side of the mouth of Santiago de Cuba channel, the first five vessels opening fire.

The Spanish cruiser Cristobal Colon was anchored toward Punta Gorda, and could be seen from the open sea.

The fire of the American fleet was answered by Morro, Socapa and Punta Gorda batteries and by the cruiser Cristobal Colon. The American fleet fired seventy shots, "with projectiles of 12," without causing the least damage.

The bombardment lasted ninety minutes, and the American fleet retired with a transatlantic steamer (auxiliary cruiser) damaged. Two shells were seen to explode on the Iowa's stern, and there was fire on board another battleship. Several projectiles fell inside the harbor near the Spanish war ships.

There is great enthusiasm at Santiago de Cuba and here.

THE SHIPS IN SCHLEY'S FLEET.

Vessels Supposed to Be With the American Commander Off Santiago.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—No official list of the ships with Schley has been given out. As far as can be learned Schley's fleet is made up as follows: First class battle ships Iowa and Massachusetts, second class battle ship

Texas, first class cruiser Brooklyn, second class cruiser Marblehead, the converted yacht Vixen and torpedo boat Dupont.

TO RUN DOWN SPIES.

Navy Department Has Summoned W. A. Pinkerton to Washington.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—William A. Pinkerton, son of the famous detective and government spy, Allan Pinkerton, has been called into the government secret service to hunt for Spanish spies. Mr. Pinkerton was called to Washington in much the same way that Allan Pinkerton was summoned by President Lincoln thirty-seven years ago. He started on almost the first train after receiving the message.

SPAIN'S RESERVE FLEET.

Dispatch That Came Via Bayonne Gives Its Composition.

LONDON, June 2.—The Madrid correspondent of the Standard, telegraphing Sunday by way of Bayonne, says: "The reserve squadron now undergoing speed trials and gun trials outside Cadiz is composed of the battleship Pelayo, with 821 men; the armored cruiser Emperor Carlos V., with 417 men; the cruiser Alfonso XIII., with 361 men; the auxiliary cruisers Patriota and Rapido, each with 175 men, and 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."

SPANIARDS SUE FOR PEACE.

Madrid Journal Says There Is No Hope of Success for Them.

MADRID, June 2.—The Epoca says: There are two parties in Spain. One is seeking for peace, the other for war, and both are inspired by the same idea, which is benefit of Spain. The former says the only palliative of our ills is peace. In prolonging the war there is no possibility of a favorable issue for us. Let us be practical and give up ideas. Let us look at the reality and not attempt impossibilities, for it is impossible that we can break a mathematical and logical law which demonstrates, without romance, that one is less than ten.

RESERVE FLEET IS DELAYED.

Spanish Torpedo Boats Found to Be in Need of Repairs.

GIJON, June 2.—Advice received here from Cadiz says that all the guns of both the batteries and the forts are being replaced by heavier guns. It is reported that the departure of Admiral Camara's fleet has been delayed by defects discovered in the torpedo boats.

Saved Brigham Young's Life.

CHILICOTHE, Mo., June 2.—Robert Feniston, a pioneer settler, died last evening in Samsel township in the 85th year of his age. The deceased was born in Jessamine county, Kentucky, and had lived in Missouri sixty-eight years, and was a soldier in the Black Hawk and Missouri Mormon wars, and in a riot at Gallatin in 1873 between Mormons and citizens, he saved the life of Brigham Young by wresting a butcher knife from the hands of an enraged Missourian in the act of plunging it into the heart of the great Mormon apostle. Soon after that event he enlisted in the state troops and helped drive the Saints out of Missouri, but he often said he never regretted saving Brigham Young's life.

Paying Armies of Invasion.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—Paymaster General Stanton, of the army, has directed that \$1,000,000 be placed to the credit of the representative of his office at San Francisco to pay the officers and men who are to go to Manila one month's wages in advance. This also applies to the soldiers destined for Cuba and Porto Rico. Paymaster General Stanton authorizes a special denial of the reported negotiations for the acquisition of a large number of Mexican dollars for the payment of troops to be sent to the Philippines.

Spanish Are Very Active.

New York, June 2.—A dispatch from Lisbon says: The Spaniards are sending troops from all the provinces to Cadiz and Algeciras. The intention is said to be to dispatch these soldiers to the Philippines as soon as the squadron is ready to convey them. But it appears that no squadron can be dispatched for a week or more, as all the warships are short of ammunition and some of them have not even mounted guns.

A \$100,000 Mining Deal.

WEEK CITY, Mo., June 2.—A New York syndicate has purchased the McKinley lease and the Spot Cash and Bulldog plants, on the Connor land, in South Carterville. The consideration was \$100,000, spot cash.

CORPORATION VICTORY

The United States Senate Refuses to Tax Corporations for War Expenses.

BATTLE FOR BONDS NOW ON

Republican Senators Oppose Issuing of Greenbacks as "Dangerous."

Facts for the People to Note.

A conflict is now being fought on the floor of the United States senate of more importance to the people of the nation than the evolutions of Sampson and Schley or the battle in Manila harbor.

The conflict is that of the corporations vs. the common people. Two things are necessary to carry on war—men and money. The first has been called for by volunteering and from the great patriotic masses has come a response spontaneous and unanimous. The first call for 125,000 volunteers has already been filled and already thousands are crowding forward to offer their services for the second call of 75,000.

There is no lack of men willing to face bullets and fever, willing to leave good jobs and comfortable homes for the pay of a private and a blanket on the bosom of Mother-Earth. Thousands and thousands of men have made sacrifices of pecuniary prospects and other sacrifices that cannot be measured in money to go to the front in this war. Most of these men are in moderate circumstances. Many of them are poor. Yet with glad hearts they freely offer all they have at their country's call.

So much for flesh and blood. How is it with dollars? There are two ways of paying for a war—running in debt for it and taxing for it. When men, living men, are giving up homes and friends and prospects and lives for war it would appear as though capital might give up dollars. It would seem that corporations might be willing to pay war taxes. Yet from the moment the proposition for war taxes has been pending before congress the clamor has gone up from nearly every corporation in the country against paying their share.

In the senate of the United States last week the first vote was reached on the questions raised by the proposed taxation of corporations. Mr. Aldrich of Rhode Island, one of the republican members of the finance committee, entered a motion to lay the corporation tax amendment proposed by the majority of the finance committee on the table. It was realized that this was the first test of the strength of the opposing elements in the senate, and the roll call was followed with deep interest. The result was decisive. The amendment was laid on the table—41 to 27. The following gives the vote in detail:

Yeas—Aldrich, Allison, Bacon, Caffery, Carter, Cullom, Davis, Deboe, Elkins, Fairbanks, Frye, Gallinger, Gear, Gorman, Hale, Hanna, Hansborough, Kyle, Lindsay, McBride, McEnery, McMillan, Mason, Mitchell, Morrill, Murphy, Nelson, Penrose, Perkins, Platt of Connecticut, Pritchard, Proctor, Quay, Sewell, Shoup, Spooner, Warren, Wellington, Wetmore and Wolcott—41.

Nays—Allen, Bate, Berry, Butler, Cannon, Chilton, Clay, Coakley, Daniel, Falkner, Harris, Helfferich, Jones of Arkansas, Jones of Nevada, McLaurin, Mallory, Maults, Money, Morgan, Pasco, Pettigrew, Rawlins, Stewart, Tillman, Turley, Turpie and White—27.

The following democrats voted with the republicans to lay on the table: Senators Bacon, Caffery, Gorman, Lindsay, McEnery, Mitchell and Murphy—7.

One populist senator, Kyle of South Dakota, voted to lay on the table, as did Senator Shoup, of Idaho. Senator Wolcott and Carter, all republicans claiming to favor the free coinage of silver, if these men or even the seven democrats and one populist had voted for the corporation tax it would have prevailed. This test vote emphasizes the fact that corporations work in all parties—that votes is what they want and they are willing to go anywhere to get them.

A hot debate preceded this vote. Senator Teller said that he did not believe the war would be of long duration, and said no vast appropriations would be necessary to its conduct. He said there was not under the circumstances the justice of taxing future generations to pay for the war, as it was not, as was the civil war, for self preservation.

He asserted that the bond feature of the bill was in no wise organized of a revenue measure, and said it was only attached for the purpose of taking advantage of the war exigency to secure authority for a bond issue. The proceeding was without precedent in the history of our country.

Mr. Teller took up the amendments for greenbacks, the coinage of the silver, the corporation tax and supported them at some length.

Mr. Teller said he did not believe there should be a line drawn between state and national taxation. If this line were drawn the states might render it impossible to conduct a great war. As for himself, he would not only tax corporations, he would also include producing individuals. He would not put a tax upon the poor, he would put it upon the rich. He would put a tax on salaries, as well upon those of senators as upon others.

Senator White of California, entered

upon a long discussion of the proposed corporation tax which he earnestly supported. He maintained that the corporations owed something to the country not only for their creation, but also for the privileges other than the partnership in business and before the law. If it were not so corporations would not be formed.

He regretted that there was a manifest disposition among the republican senators to oppose the plan of any tax upon any corporation.

In conclusion Mr. White declared that it would be the plain people who would not only offer up their lives in defense of the national honor, but would also pay the bulk of the taxes for the conduct of the war.

Senator Wolcott, of Colorado, betrayed his position and his people in the same breath when he said:

"Mr. President, I am shocked and surprised now at men, who I know, are not of that populist element that simply wants the coinage of silver, tin or anything else for the sake of having more money men of the rock-ribbed democratic party, a party that has always been a hard money party, and continuously declared itself desirous of only gold and silver, as the money of the constitution, voting now to put out \$150,000,000 of greenbacks without a dollar of gold or silver to back it up."

Concluding his speech, Mr. Wolcott supported the minority bond provision providing for a bond issue in the nature of a popular loan, which could be taken by the people generally. He contended such a loan would be readily taken by popular subscription.

Senator Knute Nelson, of Minnesota, denounced an issue of greenbacks for war expenses—practically repudiating the republican policy and doctrine of Abraham Lincoln, Salmon P. Chase, Oliver P. Morton, Thaddeus Stevens and Pigron Kelley. Among other things he said:

"The greenback issues of the war were non-interest-bearing forced loans, not payable on demand. The government in effect said: we can not redeem these notes till the war is over and we have recuperated from its effects, but in the meantime we will accept them as payment for all government dues except customs."

This loan arose from and was justified by the necessities of the war, but there is no doubt of it that the burden of it, prior to the resumption of specie payment, resulting from its depreciation in value, was far greater than the interest saved by its circulation. Of all our war loans, from first to last, it was no doubt the most expensive. Its justification was that for the time being it filled a gap that could not have been easily supplied by a time loan.

But this war issue furnishes us no precedent for the issue proposed by the majority of the committee. The war greenback was an indefinite time loan, and it did not at that time and juncture involve the maintenance of the parity of our money, for at that time we were on a pure paper basis. No reasonable man now wants such a greenback. We want a greenback payable on demand in our standard money. Our past custom and experience show that an additional issue of \$150,000,000 of treasury notes would involve and require an additional permanent gold redemption fund of \$13,000,000, so that the net amount of circulation derived from this issue of notes would not be over \$107,000,000 at any time."

This debate and this vote marks a political era in the United States. It proves that the republican party of today has repudiated the financial policy of its republican forefathers and it shows that the democratic party has enough traitors to the people's interests in its ranks to carry out the corporation's will. It foreshadows the adoption of the bond policy and the saddling of the expense of this war upon the shoulders of the common people.

THE CADIZ FLEET A JOKE.

Half of the Spanish Reserve Vessels Are Antiquated and Broken Down Tubs.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—The frequent reports from Spain, through other countries, to the effect that a formidable fleet is being prepared at Cadiz to sail for the West Indies in aid of Cervera causes little apprehension here. Naval officers, through private means of communication, have pretty well satisfied themselves that the Cadiz fleet is a paper fleet. In other words, its offensive power is altogether illusory. More than half of the vessels whose names appear so frequently in the press dispatches as formidable war craft are of antiquated type and in a state of disorder. The old Numancia is an example. She is rated as a battleship of the first class. In her day she was a battleship, but she has not a turret nor a sponson, and would be little more than sport for a modern ironclad.

In addition to being antiquated, most of these vessels are broken down to engines and boilers. In their reckless disregard of the simplest precautions for the preservation of the complex machinery of a warship, the Spaniards are excelled by no people, and it is well known that they have been obliged to hire British engineers to run their engines whenever they did run.

There are some vessels, although a very few, of Cadiz, of modern type, but they are not numerous or powerful enough to give our navy any serious concern.

A Superb Aggravation.

Pat—No th' doctor said you hev a 'rog in yer throat, did he? Well, it's aye seem' phwat attracted th' rattle into h. Mike—An' phwat did attract it? Pat—Yer faggot mou'.—Judge.

WILL FORCE BONDS

Wall Street Minions are Quietly Working Toward That End.

REFORM PARTY ORGANIZED

Monetary Reform may be Considered at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition.

War Revenue Debate.

Peoples Press Bureau, St. Louis, Mo., May 26.

The minority parties of Ohio met at Columbus recently and formed a combination to defeat the infamous ballot law of that state, which practically shuts out every small party. The populists, free silver republicans, socialists, the liberty party and the negro protective party were all represented in the meeting and organized under the name union reform party. A state ticket was nominated and the initiative and referendum adopted as a platform.

The state board of equalization of Missouri has read the riot act to the railroad, telegraph and express companies, for not reporting their earnings as required by law. The companies will be forced to comply with the statutes.

Senator Joseph Benson Foraker, of Ohio, declares that it is now time for the government to return the rebel flags captured during the civil war. He says the stars and stripes float over a united nation and we should wipe out the marks of war.

The national convention of labor commissioners of the various states will meet at Detroit, Mich., on June 15.

All the southern pipe and foundry companies have consolidated their interests. The trusts are giving the country an object lesson in fusion that should open the eyes of all political reformers.

General Joe Wheeler of Alabama, has offered W. J. Bryan a position on his staff. It is believed that the offer will be refused and that Mr. Bryan will lead a new regiment of Nebraska troops, to the field.

Senator Allen of Nebraska made a telling speech in the senate last week against the bond proposition. The Senator always distinguishes himself when fighting the minions of plutocracy.

Senator Stewart of Nevada has introduced a bill in the senate providing for the construction of a canal across the Isthmus of Darien, by the United States government.

Congressman Jerry Simpson of Kansas has tendered his services to the government and offers to raise a regiment of 1,000 men among the populists of his state, to fight against Spain.

From all the indications there will be no hurried invasion of Cuba by the United States army. General Miles says: "No officer is fit to command troops, who, from any motive whatever, would needlessly risk his life or that of a single soldier, either from disease or the bullets of the enemy."

Statistics recently compiled, place the bonded indebtedness of the United States at \$800,000,000. The increase in 17 years has been about 15 per cent.

Congress has been having a warm time lately over the question of raising revenue for carrying on war with Spain. It is generally conceded that the Wall Street party will succeed in forcing an issue of at least \$500,000,000 of gold bonds.

The death of Edward Bellamy removes one of the most conspicuous reform writers of the century. His books is his best and most lasting monument.

The debate on the war revenue bill promises to be spun out indefinitely. Republican leaders in the house and senate are involved in a quarrel over the question of Hawaiian annexation.

More than half a million spindles are idle in Fall River, Mass., and the Dingley law is still in full blast.

J. Sterling Morton of Nebraska, who is chairman of the monetary congress has submitted a plan for the holding of a three days' financial conference to be held at the Omaha exposition during September. The plan proposes that the first day be called Silver day and that such believers in the white metal as Bryan, Towne, Bland and others be invited to speak during the day and evening. The second day is to be called Gold day and some of the more distinguished adherents to the single standard will then be given an opportunity to set forth their views. Horace White, of the New York Evening Post and Edward Atkinson of Boston are mentioned as two important speakers. The third day is to be given to Greenbackers and the National Bankers, the former having the morning and the latter the afternoon. This giving of the smallest part of the time to that unorganized party (Greenbackers) which is daily growing in size and whose beliefs will certainly dominate the next presidential campaign is but another example of that remarkable density of preception for which the Hon. J. Sterling and his like are noted. A. H.

EBRIGHT TURNED LOOSE.

Partisan Officials at Nebraska City—Deny the Case Without a Trial.

All that is now necessary to take off the padlock from Joe Bartley's cell. Ebright and Eugene Moore are at liberty. All that is necessary is to turn

Bartley loose and hang up a sign at the penitentiary "no room for republican rascals."

The way in which the thing was done was an aggravation of the offense. The hearing in the case was twice postponed at the request of Ebright's attorneys. During this time Paul Jensen, county attorney, enlisted in the volunteers and resigned his office. Judge M. L. Hayward was appointed in his stead. The judge is a bitter republican partisan and candidate for governor. He refused to prosecute the case. The county judge before whom the hearing was held is also a strong republican. Senator Mutz, of the investigating committee, appeared with witnesses for the state and demanded the county attorney prosecute. Finally Hayward appointed a "substitute" in the person of Mr. Sloan. The counsel for the defense filed a motion to dismiss the case on the following grounds:

First—That the complaint does not charge any offense.

Second—That the section of the statute under which the complaint is made is illegal and void.

Third—That the information is improperly laid.

Fourth—No offense was committed in this county.

Fifth—That no crime is charged and that 18 months passed prior to the date of the filing of the complaint.

After argument, County Judge Joyce sustained the motion and the case was at an end.

It will be noticed that none of these grounds reach to the merits of the case—that they are mere technicalities such as Eugene Moore was set free upon. The young attorney who drew the complaint was hundreds of miles away wearing a blue uniform and unable to defend the document. The new counsel knew nothing about the case and the court and public prosecutor were political friends of the accused.

The people of this state are entitled to a trial of the case against Superintendent Ebright. He is charged with one of the most flagrant offenses known—robbing the blind. The expert who examined his accounts is J. W. Wise, of Plattsmouth, who examined the accounts of Ex-treasurer Hollen, of Omaha, now in the penitentiary—and largely sent there by Mr. Wise's testimony.

The documentary evidence against Ebright is complete. There has been no explanation of it by the accused or his friends. Among other things it shows that he took money from his blind pupils to buy bibles for them and about a year afterwards, state officials received statements from the New York firm from whom the bibles were purchased, asking pay for them. Fred Hollingsworth, a pupil of the institution, was employed as bell ringer at a salary of \$5 per month and drew pay quarterly, his vouchers each calling for \$15. These vouchers were signed by Mr. Ebright, and raised by some one to \$75. Hollingsworth swears that he received only \$15. Vouchers on file signed by Mr. Ebright show that Miss Lena Truedell drew pay as matron. Miss Truedell swears she never acted as matron and never drew pay as such. The investigation disclosed many other cunning devices resorted to by this man to replenish his purse, and the aggregate of his shortage is about \$1,800 none of which has been paid back into the treasury. It was with the view of protecting the tax payers, and more securely obstructing possible future raids upon the state treasury that the committee preferred criminal charges against Mr. Ebright. Senator Mutz has the evidence that will convict beyond a doubt, and only awaits an opportunity to produce it when called on by the proper authorities.

OMAHA EXPOSITION OPENS.

President McKinley Started the Machinery—100,000 Visitors Present.

OMAHA, Neb., June 2.—Amid the music of a hundred bands, the cheers of a hundred thousand people, the blasts of many whistles and the waving of innumerable flags, the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition was dedicated this morning.

At half past 9 o'clock the great civic parade started on its march from the center of the city to the grounds. The national Marine band led the way and a hundred musical organizations from the various states of the middle West contributed to the occasion. The parade was three miles long. Early the special trains had begun to unload their crowds until the railroad men estimated that at least 100,000 people had arrived. These mingled with the citizens of Omaha and formed one solid phalanx along the route of the parade for ten miles.

The Rev. Mr. Nichols of St. Louis opened the exercises at the grounds with an appeal to "Him who death all things well" to shower His blessing on the enterprise and the people of the Trans-Mississippi region, especially, President G. W. Wattles, John L. Webster of Omaha and John N. Baldwin of Council Bluffs delivered addresses.

President McKinley addressed the assembled multitude by long distance telephone, touched the electric button and the exposition was dedicated. The weather could not have been more propitious and there was not a particle of dust.

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