

GREAT NAVAL VICTORY.

"Fighting Bob" Evans Graphically Describes the Annihilation of Cervera's Proud Fleet.

The battleship Iowa was the first ship to see the Spanish fleet coming out of the harbor on the morning of July 3. Somebody on the bridge shouted: "What's that black thing coming out of the harbor?" A moment later the Iowa was at general quarters and the signal was hoisted that the enemy ships were coming out. A gun was fired to attract the attention of the fleet at 9:33 a. m. "Fighting Bob" Evans, the commander of the Iowa, was sitting in his cabin, talking to his son, a cadet on the Massachusetts, who, luckily, had been left behind in a picket launch when the Massachusetts went to Guantanamo to coal at dawn.

Capt. Evans' Story.

Capt. Evans' account of the battle as told in the cabin of the Iowa to a correspondent of the Associated Press, is intensely interesting. He said: "At the time 'general quarters' was sounded the engine bell rang full speed ahead, and I put the helm to starboard and the Iowa crossed the bows of the Infanta Maria Teresa, the first ship



"FIGHTING BOB" EVANS.

As the Spanish admiral swung to the westward the 12-inch shells from the forward turret of the Iowa seemed to strike him fair in the bow, and the fight was a spectacle. As the squadron came out in column, the ships beautifully spaced as to distance and gradually increasing their speed to thirteen knots, it was superb. The Iowa from this moment kept up a steady fire from her heavy guns, heading all the time to keep the Infanta Maria Teresa on her starboard bow and hoping to ram one of the leading ships. In the meantime the Oregon, Indiana, Brooklyn and Texas were doing excellent work with their heavy guns. In a very short space of time the enemy's ships were all clear of the harbor mouth, and it became evidently impossible for the Iowa to ram either the first or the second ship on account of their speed.

Fighting at 2,000 Yards.

The range at this time was 2,000 yards from the leading ship. The Iowa's helm was immediately put hard to the starboard and the entire starboard broadside was poured into the Infanta Maria Teresa. The helm was then quickly shifted to port and the ship went across the stern of the Teresa in an effort to head off the Oquendo. All the time the engines were driving at full speed ahead. A perfect torrent of shells from the enemy passed over the smokestacks and superstructure of the ship, but none struck her. The Cristobal Colon, being much faster than the rest of the Spanish ships, passed rapidly to the front in an effort to escape. In passing the Iowa the Colon placed two 6-inch shells fairly on our starboard bow. One passed through the cofferdam and dispensary, wrecking the latter and bursting on the berth deck, doing considerable damage. The other passed through the side at the water line within the cofferdam, where it still remains.

The Duel with the Oquendo.

"As it was now obviously impossible to ram any of the Spanish ships on account of their superior speed, the Iowa's helm was put to the starboard and she ran on a course parallel with the enemy. Being then abreast of the Almirante Oquendo, at a distance of

1,100 yards, the Iowa's entire battery, including the rapid-fire guns, was opened on Oquendo. The punishment was terrific. Many 12 and 8 inch shells were seen to explode inside of her and smoke came out through her hatches. Twelve-inch shells from the Iowa pierced the Almirante Oquendo at the same moment, one forward and the other aft. The Oquendo seemed to stop her engines for a moment and lost headway, but she immediately resumed her speed and gradually drew ahead of the Iowa and came under the terrific fire of the Oregon and Texas.

Torpedo Boats Sighted.

"At this moment the alarm of 'torpedo boats' was sounded, and two torpedo boat destroyers were discovered in the starboard quarter at a distance of 4,000 yards. Fire was at once opened on them with the after battery and a 12-inch shell cut the stern of one destroyer squarely off. As the shell struck a small torpedo boat fired back at the battleship, sending a shell within a few feet of my head. I said to Executive Officer Rogers: "That little chap has got a lot of cheek." Rogers shouted back: "She shoots very well, a little same."

Darting of the Gloucester.

"Well up among the advancing cruisers, spitting shots at one and then another, was the little Gloucester, shooting first at a cruiser and then at a torpedo boat, and hitting a head wherever she saw it. The marvel was that she was not destroyed by the rain of shells. In the meantime the Vizcaya was slowly drawing ahead of the Iowa, and for the space of fifteen minutes it was given and taken between the two ships. The Vizcaya fired rapidly but wildly, not one shot taking effect on the Iowa, while the shells from the Iowa were tearing great rents in the sides of the Vizcaya. As the latter passed ahead of the Iowa she came under the murderous fire of the Oregon. At this time the Infanta Maria Teresa and the Almirante Oquendo, leading the enemy's column, were seen to be heading for the beach and in flames. The Texas, Oregon, and Iowa pounded them unmercifully. They ceased to reply to the fire and in a few moments the Spanish cruisers were a mass of flames and on the rocks with their colors down, the Teresa flying a white flag at the fore.

Enemy's Crews Jump Overboard.

"The crews of the enemy's ships stripped themselves and began jumping overboard, and one of the smaller magazines began to explode. Meantime the Brooklyn and the Cristobal Colon were exchanging compliments in lively fashion at apparently long range, and the Oregon, with her locomotive speed, was hanging well on the Colon, also paying attention to the Vizcaya. The Teresa and the Oquendo were in flames on the beach just twenty minutes after the first shot was fired. Fifty minutes after the first shot was fired the Vizcaya put her helm to port with a great burst of flame from the afterpart of the ship, and headed slowly for the rocks at Accoradores, where she found her last resting place. As it was apparent that the Iowa could not possibly catch the Cristobal Colon, and that the Oregon and Brooklyn undoubtedly would, and as the fast New York was also in her trail, I decided that the calls of humanity should be answered and attention given to the twelve or fifteen hundred Spanish officers and men who had struck their colors to the American squadron commanded by Admiral Sampson.

Saving the Beaten Spaniards.

"I therefore headed for the wreck of the Vizcaya, now burning furiously fore and aft. When I was in as far as the depth of water would admit I lowered all my boats and sent them at once to the assistance of the unfortunate men, who were being drowned by dozens or roasted on the decks. I soon discovered that the insurgent Cubans from the shore were shooting on men who were struggling in the water after having surrendered to us. I imme-

diately put a stop to this, but I could not put a stop to the mutilation of many bodies by the sharks inside the reef. These creatures had become excited by the blood from the wounded mixing in the water. My boat's crew worked manfully and succeeded in saving many of the wounded from the burning ship. One man, who will be recommended for promotion, clambered up the side of the Vizcaya and saved three men from burning to death. The smaller magazines of the Vizcaya were exploding with magnificent cloud effects. The boats were coming alongside in a steady string and willing hands were helping the lacerated Spanish officers and sailors onto the Iowa's quarter-deck. All the Spaniards were absolutely without clothes. Some had their legs torn off by fragments of shells. Others were mutilated in every conceivable way.

Bottom Deep in the Boats.

"The bottoms of the boats held two or three inches of blood. In many cases dead men were lying in the blood. Five poor chaps died on the way to the ship. They were afterward buried with military honors from the Iowa. Some examples of heroism, or more properly devotion to discipline and duty, could never be surpassed. One man on the lost Vizcaya had his left arm almost shot off just below the shoulder. The fragments were hanging by a small piece of skin. But he climbed unass-

isted over the side and saluted as if on a visit of ceremony. Immediately after him came a strong-hearted sailor whose left leg had been shot off above the knee. He was hoisted on board the Iowa with a tackle, but never a whimper came from him. Gradually the mangled bodies and naked men accumulated until it would have been almost difficult to recognize the Iowa as a United States battleship. Blood was all over her usually white quarter-deck, and 272 naked men were being supplied with water and food by those who a few minutes before had been using a rapid-fire battery on them.

Receiving Capt. Eulate.

"Finally came the boats with Capt. Eulate, commander of the Vizcaya, for whom a chair was lowered over the side, as he was evidently wounded. The captain's guard of marines was drawn up on the quarterdeck to salute him, and I stood waiting to welcome him. As the chair was placed on the deck the marines presented arms. Capt. Eulate slowly raised himself in the chair, saluted me with grave dignity, unbuckled his swordbelt and, holding the hilt of the sword before him, kissed it reverently, with tears in his eyes, and then surrendered it to me. Of course I declined to receive his sword, and as the crew of the Iowa saw this they cheered like wild men. As I started to take Capt. Eulate into the cabin to let the doctors examine his wounds the magazines on board the Vizcaya exploded with a tremendous burst of flame. Capt. Eulate, extending his hands, said:

High Praise for Cervera.

"I took Admiral Cervera aboard the Iowa from the Gloucester, which had rescued him from the sea, and received him with a full admiral's guard. The crew of the Iowa crowded aft over the turrets, half-naked and black with powder, as Cervera stepped over the side bare-headed. Over his undershirt he wore a thin suit of flannel, borrowed from Lieutenant-Commander Wainwright of the Gloucester. The crew cheered vociferously. Cervera is every inch an admiral, even if he had not any hat. He submitted to the fortunes of war with a grace that proclaimed him a thoroughbred."

Capt. Evans is intensely proud of his ship and her men. The Iowa fired thirty-one 12-inch, forty-eight 8-inch, 270 4-inch, 1,000, 6-pound, and 120 1-pound shots.

Fearful Havoc on the Vizcaya.

The officers of the Vizcaya said they simply could not hold their crews at the guns on account of the rapid fire poured upon them. The decks were flooded with water from the fire hose and blood from the wounded made this a dark red. Fragments of bodies floated in this along the gun deck. Every instant the crack of exploding shells told of new havoc. One of the 12-inch shells from the Iowa exploded a torpedo in the Vizcaya's bow, blowing twenty-one men against the deck above and dropping them dead and mangled into the sea which at once started below. The torpedo boat Erlanson was sent by the flagship to the help of the Iowa in the rescue of the Vizcaya's crew. Her men saw a terrible sight. The flames leaping out from the huge shot holes in the Vizcaya's sides licked up the decks, stealing the flesh of the wounded who were lying there shrieking for help. Between the frequent explosions there came awful cries and groans from the men pinned in below. This carnage was chiefly due to the rapidity of the American's fire. The Spaniards say that no torpedo boats ever came out to attack Admiral Samp-

son's fleet. The Pluton and Terror, they say, kept guard every night inside the harbor.

The Indiana was hit only twice. She fired no armor-piercing shells except from the smokeless powder six-pounders. The Oregon was hit three times, twice by fragments of shells. The Iowa was struck nine times.

Wonderful Ore Specimen.

Contains Ten Pounds of Gold and is Worth \$2,160.

The finest specimen of quartz gold ore ever sent to the State Bureau of Mines, the finest specimen ever seen in Colorado, and probably the finest specimen in existence for that kind of ore was received from the Smuggler-Union mine, Telluride, San Miguel county, last week. It was immediately sent to the lapidary's, from where it emerged neatly cut in two sections, says the Denver Times. The shape of the specimen is that of a triangle, being 8½ inches on a side and 4½ inches thick, maximum dimensions. Its weight is 13½ pounds, of which, experts say, 10 pounds is pure gold. This, at \$18 per ounce, makes the value of this one piece of ore \$2,160. The cutting required three whole days—Saturday, Monday and Tuesday—and four carats of diamond dust were used on it. This, at the wholesale cost of \$5 per carat, which the lapidaries pay, makes the

Mrs. Leslie in Business Again.

An interesting news item to the publishing world is the reorganization and incorporation, on July 1, of the Frank Leslie Publishing house, founded in 1855 by Frank Leslie, and since 1880 the exclusive property of Mrs. Frank Leslie. The president of the new company is Mrs. Frank Leslie, while Mr. Frederic L. Colver, who has managed the property for the past three years, is secretary and treasurer. Extensive improvements will be made in the printing plant and in all departments of Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly this fall.

A Philippine Heroine.

One of the Philippine insurgent leaders is a beautiful woman whose life seems to be charmed. Frequently we see people in this country whose lives seem charmed also, but the only charm about it is that they keep up their strength and vitalize their blood with that celebrated remedy, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters.

One of the sublimest things in the world is plain truth.

Don't Tobacco Quit and Smoke Your Life Away. To quit tobacco easily and forever, be magnetic, full of life, nerve and vigor, take No-To-Bac, the wonder-worker, that makes weak men strong. All druggists, 50c or \$1. Cure guaranteed. Booklet and sample free. Address: Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or New York.

If you have plenty of dust it is an easy matter to blind the public eye.

Important to Mothers.

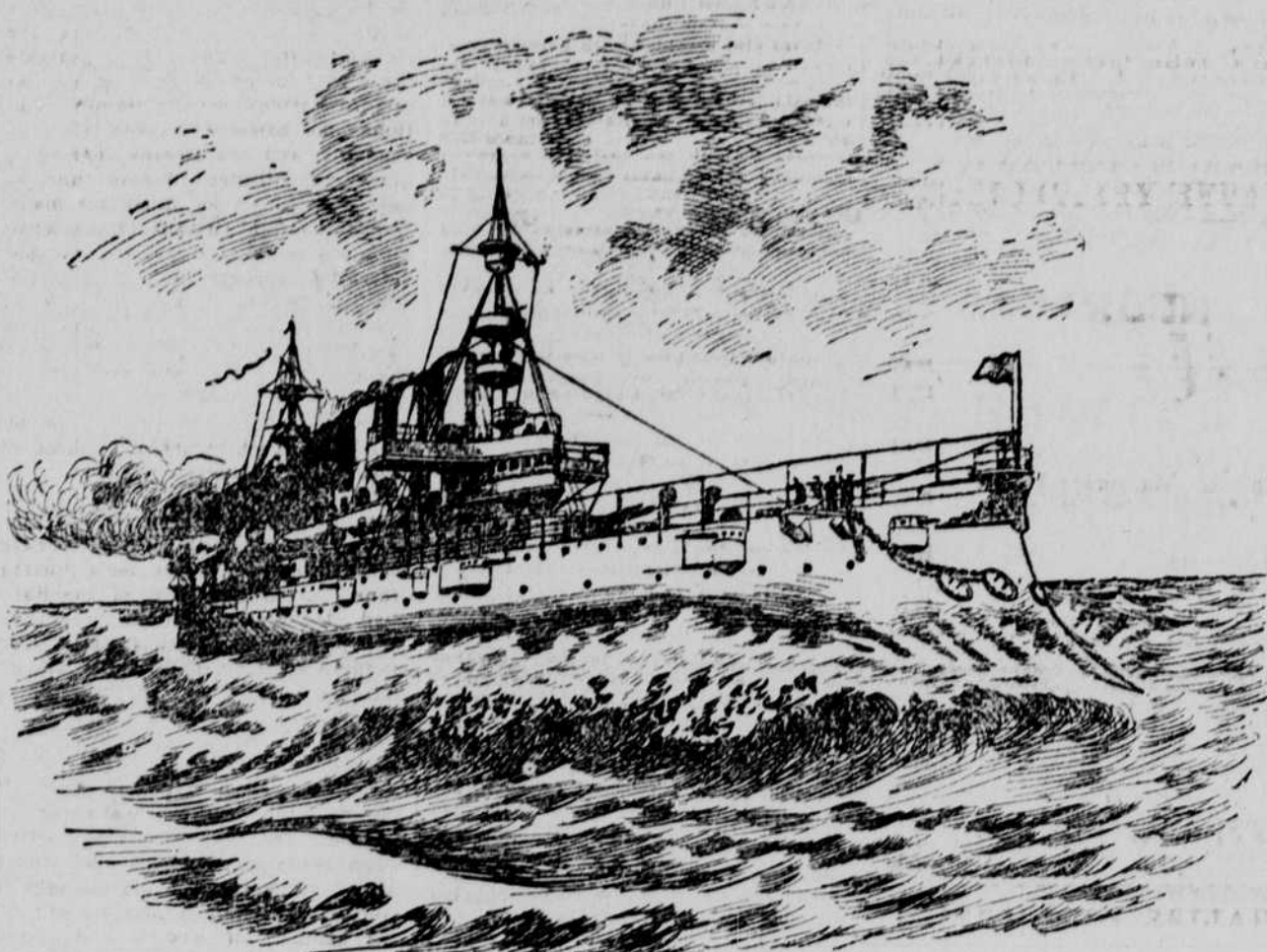
The manufacturers of Castoria have been compelled to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to familiarize the public with the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. This has been necessitated by reason of pirates counterfeiting the Castoria trade mark. This counterfeiting is a crime not only against the proprietors of Castoria, but against the growing generation. All persons should be careful to see that Castoria bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher, if they would guard the health of their children. Parents and mothers, in particular, ought to carefully examine the Castoria advertisements which have been appearing in this paper, and to remember that the wrapper of every bottle of genuine Castoria bears the fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher, under whose supervision it has been manufactured continuously for over thirty years.

The Eccelesiastical Gazette tells this story: "The dean of the chapel royal was one day seated in the synod hall, at Dublin, when a scent bottle, falling from the strangers' gallery, happened to alight upon his somewhat bald cranium. Rising from his chair he asked permission to make a personal explanation. 'My lord primate,' he said, 'I am always glad to see strangers at our debates, and I feel specially honored by the presence of women. But—here he held up the scent bottle—let not their precious baits break my head.'

"Is there any danger of a bo-contractor biting me?" asked a lady visitor at the zoological gardens. "Not the least harm," cried the showman. "He never bites; he swallows his wittles whole."—Tib-Eits.

Never borrow trouble. If the eye is not to come it is useless and so much waste; if it is to come, best keep all your strength to meet it.

It's easy for the man who has no credit to keep out of debt.



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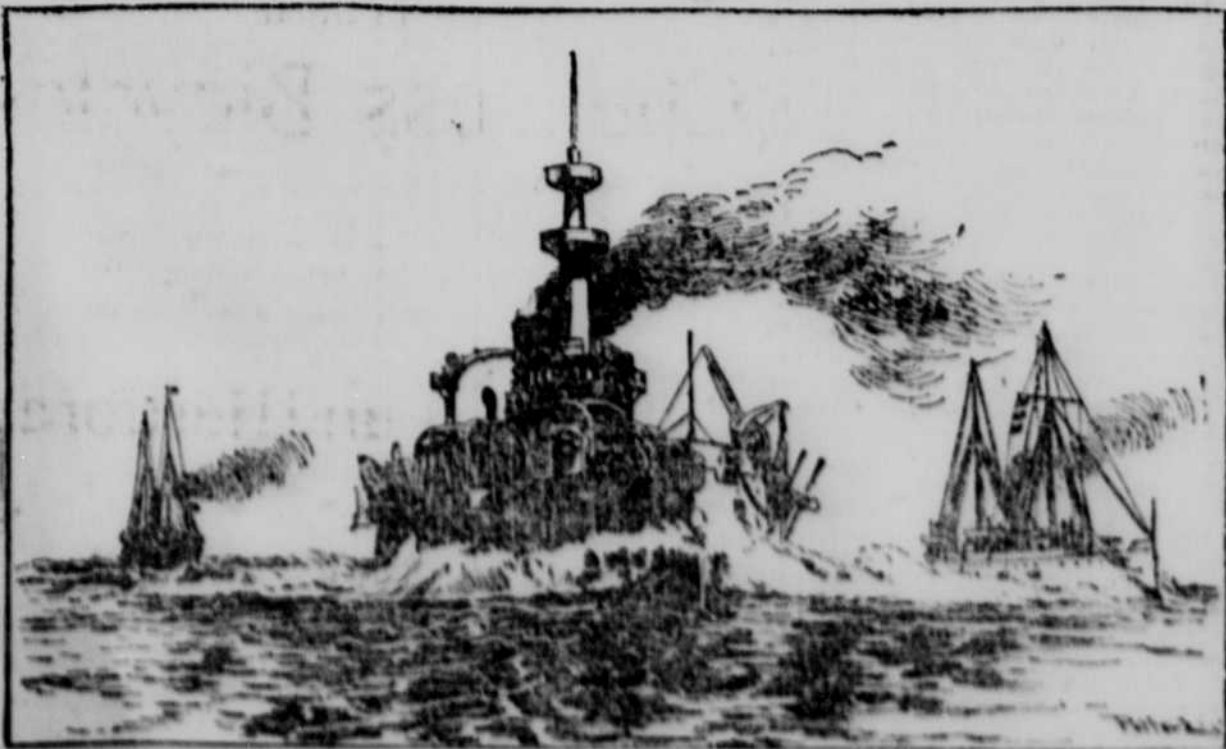
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P. S. If you go west via Omaha and the Burlington Route, you can stop off and see the Trans-Mississippi Exposition.



THE BATTLESHIP OREGON.