

FIGHTING NEAR SANTIAGO

SPANIARDS MAKE A DESPERATE RESISTANCE.

Thrilling Account of Two Days' Fighting by Our Brave Soldiers on Cuban Soil—Many are Killed and Wounded.

San Juan Hill, overlooking Santiago, July 4.—Friday and Saturday, two days of the most terrific fighting, in which more than 800 of our brave soldiers have been killed and wounded, have not sufficed to force the Spaniards to lay down their arms.

The Spanish soldiers are fighting like demons, but our men are forcing them back constantly, mowing them down by hundreds and never yielding the inch of ground that is gained now and again.

At this hour Morro castle looks more like a heap of ruins than massive fortifications. The batteries have been all but silenced. The Spanish flag, which still floats over Morro, hangs in tatters, and is the only one in sight.

TWO DAYS' FIGHTING.

To give a complete account of these two days of incessant fighting is all but impossible, but the Journal correspondents have advanced steadily with the line of battle, observing closely every movement of Shafter's heroic army and following with equal care the dogged retreat of the enemy's lines.

The doomed city lies six miles from the sea at the head of the harbor, surrounded on all sides by high mountains starting up from the sea in ridges.

The American army had the city practically surrounded by Thursday. The plan of attack which had been agreed upon after a council of war, at which all the great leaders were present, was for a joint movement of the fleet and army on Aguadores.

Just at sunrise Captain Capron fired the first gun, the signal for the first day's terrible battle. At 6 o'clock the fighting began in earnest. The sharp rattle of musketry resounded over the hillsides, punctuated with the roar of the big guns.

ONSET OF THE CUBANS.

The Cuban insurgents, who were deployed in front of the attacking army, were led by the belief that the Spaniards were under attack. A thousand Cubans, under Garcia and Castillo, hurried along the road toward Caney to head off the retreating Spaniards.

In the meantime, Captain Capron's battery kept up an incessant firing. Twenty-seven shots were fired, with never an answer from the enemy.

At the twenty-eighth shot the Spaniards opened fire with their heavy guns. A sharp whistle near Capron's battery, followed by an explosion, was the first Spanish shell hurled from the Reina Mercedes battery.

EVERY SHELL TELLS.

Now the American battery began sending shells in trickier succession, straight at the enemy's earthworks. Every shot told. After the first few shots the enemy's fire improved vastly.

In the meantime Grimes' battery at El Pazo fired on the enemy, sending shell after shell across the gulch to the hill below San Juan. The enemy made no reply till the tenth shot.

The Tenth cavalry and the rough riders were lying along the hillside, under cover of the bushes. Shell and shrapnel were raining over them while they cracked jokes at each other.

cloud of yellow dust, thrown up by the shells. Still they continued to fire too high.

At the expiration of a half hour the Spanish position got too hot for comfort. Their battery was suddenly silenced, and when the dust cleared not a Spaniard was to be seen.

The rough riders, the Tenth and First cavalry were ordered to make a detour and take the hill where the Spanish battery had been planted. Then began the real battle of the day.

Roosevelt, mounted, led the Tenth cavalry, which was lined alongside the rough riders. The Spanish fire grew fiercer and hotter. The heroic men began to drop in twos and threes by the time they came to the open, smooth hillside, which offered no protection from the enemy's deadly volleys.

A perfect storm of shot and shell swept the hillside. There was a moment's hesitation along the line. Then the order was "forward, charge." Roosevelt was in the lead, waving his sword. Out into the open and up the hill where death seemed certain, in the face of the continuous crackle of the Mausers, came the rough riders with the Tenth cavalry.

Roosevelt was a hundred feet ahead of his troops, yelling like a Sioux, while his own men and the colored cavalry cheered as they charged up the hill. There was no stopping as their neighbors fell, but on they went, faster and faster.

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The slaughter at close range would have been appalling. The daring of the Americans dazed them. Their fire drove to nothing. They wavered and then ran. Our fellows dropped and knelt and picked them off like partridges in the brush.

The trenches were full of dead Spaniards, but in some of our companies there were not over twenty or twenty-five men who had not received wounds. This tells the story of one of the fiercest fights of the war.

DUFFIELD AT AGUADORES.

General Duffield and his forces had done their part at Aguadores, aided by the fleet. The Swaine started firing on the fortifications to the eastward and the Gloucester blazed away at everything.

The fighting began at 5 o'clock in the morning again. The Spaniards opened the day with a desperate attempt to recapture San Juan. As soon as they came on they were driven back with awful losses.

When the last couriers left the front fighting part at Aguadores, the whole line. We were driving the Spaniards back inch by inch into Santiago.

At 6:40 the Oregon left the line, and sailed deliberately in until she was fairly in the harbor entrance. The Indiana swung into the east of the Oregon. She brought every gun possible to bear on the shells that were falling on that east battery until it seemed that there could not remain one stone upon another.

The Oregon, just across the harbor south, had marked the Morro for her target. The tremendous ship from the Pacific knocked great holes in the picturesque old castle.

The ships kept battering away at the seaside fortification and all the shells seemed to land among them. Once more the whole hill was clouded with dust of flying earthworks.

Captain Clark was detailed by General Chaffee to take a block house off to the left. He did it with a single company, advancing under an awful fire up and over the entrenchments. The Spaniards fled. The battle was won.

The Seventy-first had been following Lawton toward Caney. They found the road taken by the Twenty-fourth and turned off to join the Sixth and Sixteenth of the First division of the Fifth army corps.

A Spanish blockhouse a mile up the hill had been giving us great trouble. Away we went after it. The Sixteenth ahead, the Eighth on the left, the Seventy-first on the right, the Twenty-fourth in front, the Fifty-first on the right, the Fifty-second on the left, the Fifty-third on the right, the Fifty-fourth on the left.

Chickamauga, Chattanooga, National Military Park, Ga., July 4.—Yesterday was another quiet Sunday at the park. The sun poured down intensely hot, but the presence of a good breeze was a source of great relief from the heat.

Our losses were heavy and the enemy's were enormous. The list of our wounded includes General Linares, Colonel Ordonez and Major Amador and Araya, the latter being General Linares' aide-de-camp.

The American attack upon El Caney was severe. The position was defended by General Vera de Roy with 500 men. The enemy was at first repulsed, but ultimately renewed the attack.

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Later in the afternoon an order arrived from the war department to General Brooke to designate about 20,000 men for immediate departure to the south, and there was great excitement and bustle in the ranks.

The First division is composed of the following regiments: First Brigade—First Kentucky, Third Wisconsin, Fifth Illinois.

Second Brigade—Fourth Ohio, Third Illinois, Fourth Pennsylvania.

Third Brigade—Sixteenth Pennsylvania, Second Wisconsin, Third Kentucky.

Second Division: First Brigade—Thirty-first Michigan, One Hundred and Sixtieth Indiana, First Georgia.

Second Brigade—Sixth Ohio, One Hundred and Fifty-eighth Indiana, First West Virginia.

The regiments of the First division were inspected Sunday evening and are ready to move. They have been kept busy since the order to prepare for the field a week ago, getting rid of their excess of equipment and clothing.

In anticipation of this order, the railroads have been accumulating cars at this point for a week. The Western & Atlantic railroad is crowded with Pullman cars.

Washington, D. C., July 4.—Adjutant General Corbin voiced the feelings of every one of the officials when he said: "I don't care how the fleet was destroyed. It was destroyed. That is enough for me. It is great news for the Fourth of July."

The fleet of Admiral Cervera was one of the finest Spain possessed. The Almirante Oquendo, the Vizcaya and the Cristobal Colon were modern armored cruisers.

The Vizcaya, which visited this country soon after the Maine was sent to Havana, was of 7,000 tons displacement, 340 feet long and heavily armored, her belt armor being twelve inches in thickness and her deck armor three inches.

The Almirante Oquendo was in almost every respect a duplicate of the Vizcaya. The Cristobal Colon had a displacement of 6,840 tons, and was 323 feet long. She had six-inch armor both at the water line and at the gun positions, and 1.5 armor on her deck.

Madrid, July 4.—The government has received cipher dispatches from Cuba, the contents of which have not been made public. It is said, however, that the Spaniards offered heroic resistance to the American forces which made an attack on the outer positions at Santiago.

General Vera de Roy, commanding at El Caney, fought with the greatest courage, setting his men an example by leading the advance. It was under similar conditions that General Linares was wounded.

At noon today the enemy vigorously attacked and succeeded in taking the advance position of Lamas and San Juan after a vehement resistance lasting three hours on our part.

Our troops fought with heroic courage. The battle lasted three hours and the Spaniards were then compelled to abandon the trenches and to fall back on Santiago. The retreat was conducted in perfect order.

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Washington, July 5.—The secretary of the navy yesterday received the following: "Playa, Via Hayti, 3:15 a. m.—(Siboney, July 5.—The fleet under my command offers the nation as a Fourth of July present the destruction of the whole of Cervera's fleet. No one escaped. It attempted to escape at 9:30 a. m. and at 2 p. m., the last, the Cristobal Colon, had run ashore six miles west of Santiago and had let down its colors. The Infanta Marie Teresa, Oquendo and Vizcaya were forced ashore and were burned and blown up within twenty miles of Santiago; the Furor and Pluton were destroyed within four miles of the port. Loss one killed and two wounded.

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BACKBONE BROKEN.

ADMIRAL SAMPSON'S DISPATCH.

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Washington, July 5.—At 11:35 last night the navy department posted the appended translation of a cipher cablegram received from Commodore Watson. It is similar to that received from Admiral Sampson earlier in the day, but contains the additional information that 350 Spaniards were killed or drowned, 160 wounded and 1,600 captured. Commodore Watson's dispatch follows:

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CERVERA'S DASH FOR LIBERTY ENDS IN TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF HIS FLEET. 1,300 PRISONERS TAKEN. MADE A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO RUN THE BLOCKADE.

Another dispatch was received at the war department from Colonel Wagner, stating that Pando had not yet arrived and that his force consisted of only 5,000 men. General Garcia occupied such a position with 3,000 men as to prevent the entrance of Pando into Santiago.

From all the information at hand the authorities at the hour this dispatch is filed consider that Spain's naval power in the Atlantic has been destroyed and that Santiago de Cuba is now at the mercy of General Shafter's army and Admiral Sampson's fleet.

Spanish fleet left the harbor this morning and is reported as practically destroyed. It demanded the surrender of the city at 10 a. m. today. At this hour, 4:30 p. m., no reply has been received. Perfect quiet along the line.

"Situation has been precarious on account of difficulties of supplying command with food, and tremendous fighting capabilities shown by enemy from his almost impregnable position." "SHAFER."

This dispatch was received from Colonel Allen about 12:30 Sunday morning: "All the Spanish ships destroyed except one. They are close after her. Spanish ran their ships close to shore, set them on fire, and then they exploded." "In answer to a cable sent Colonel Allen after the receipt of the first report concerning the destruction of Admiral Cervera's fleet, this cable was received by the president at 1 o'clock this morning." "Report of destruction of Admiral Cervera's fleet confirmed. ALLEN."