

The Morning Herald

VOLUME IV.

HEMINGFORD, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, JULY 20, 1898.

NUMBER 24.

LANDING TROOPS

GENERAL MILES FINALLY GETS TO THE FRONT.

PORTO RICAN EXPEDITION

DISPARAGING REPORTS ABOUT CUBANS DISCREDITED.

Reports From Shafter, Sampson and Other Military and Naval Officers at the Front—Yellow Fever Situation.

Washington, July 25.—General Miles' expedition in all probability is now in the Mona passage between Hayti and Porto Rico and in sight of the landing point this morning. While this is the expectation of Secretary Alger, for prudential reasons the war department declines to make any comment as to the accuracy of the guesses that have been made in the effort to ascertain just what point has been selected for the landing place.

There is likely to be a lapse of a day or two between the arrival of the expedition and the notification of the fact to the department unless some merchant vessel crosses the straits. It is believed that the American fleet should sight the American flotilla. After that, however, the department will be in the closest communication with General Miles, for it will possess itself of a cable connecting General Miles' headquarters directly with the department.

The Porto Rican expedition has been fixed for its departure, but in view of the difficulties in handling large bodies of men and the supplies for them this is not surprising. Thus, the troops got away only yesterday from Tampa, while the most numerous detachment of the whole expedition, the First division, under General Brooke, will not be able to clear from Newport News before today. Still, it is believed they will arrive at Porto Rico in good season and it will certainly facilitate an orderly and comfortable landing of the troops to have them land in detachments instead of in one vast army, as in the case of Shafter's army at Santiago.

Doubt is cast upon reports of recent exciting events among the Cubans at or near Santiago, owing to the failure of General Shafter to make any report upon them and inasmuch as he has made less important subjects matter for dispatches, it is hard to understand why he should fail to mention an event of such importance as the reported attack by Garcia upon Spanish troops on their way to surrender to Shafter.

Some of the papers have come from Sampson, but to the great disappointment of the navy department the report was closed on the day before the famous battle. Still, it is believed that the reports contained in them will be given to the public in the course of a day or two, but they will relate only to the several fights between the squadron and the shore batteries.

It is the purpose of the war department to begin the execution of the plans devised by Secretary Alger for the creation of reserve camps and boards of staff officers are now engaged in various localities looking after suitable camp sites and making preliminary arrangements for acquiring the right to use those places and arranging for water supplies. The intention is not to be caught through any contingency with large numbers of troops at central points in the midst of an epidemic of any kind, with no place to remove them.

The state department has completed the engrossment of the joint resolution adopted by congress extending the thanks of that branch of the government to Admiral Dewey for his achievements in the Philippines. They were transmitted to the navy department, which will forward them to the admiral along with the degree of LL.D., conferred on him by the University of Pennsylvania.

Important advices from the front and of the departure of the troops for Porto Rico reached the war department. There were two dispatches from General Shafter. One announced the practical acquiescence of the Cuban surrender of the three remaining garrisons in that district, Guantanamo, Sagua and Baracoa. Sunday or Monday officers will be jointly sent out by the American and Spanish commanders to receive the surrender of the garrisons.

The other dispatch from General Shafter told of the death of three men of yellow fever and announced also that there were 1,500 soldiers sick with fever. Precautions were taken by the authorities at Santiago to check the epidemic and a general shifting of the troops took place to get them away from the infected section.

Official announcements also came of the departure of five transports from Port Tampa for Porto Rico. A second installment of this portion of the expedition left this morning and will overtake these transports on the high seas. This expedition is under the command of General Schwan and comprises seventy-three officers and 21,825 enlisted men.

They probably will reach the point of debarkation, joining the other portions of the Porto Rican expeditionary force next Friday, possibly Thursday. Sailing is possible in knots an hour, it is expected they will cover the 1,200 miles distance in six days at least.

The war department authorities say the situation yesterday among the troops, as shown by tonight's dispatch, is less serious than they had expected. With 27,000 men before Santiago, the officials say that with the conditions considered, the proportion of victims and of sick is less than have been expected. Adjutant General Corbin said tonight that the men were largely affected by exhaustion and overexposure. "There is not," he said, "one regiment that is not infected, and for that reason none of the men from the command at Santiago will be taken on the Porto Rican expedition."

Secretary Alger states there is no foundation to the report that Cubans have been cut off from rations. Up to the present time not a word has been heard from General Shafter concerning the letter General Garcia had written him, and pending any report the cabinet will not discuss the question. Confidence is felt that all friction will be removed.

Percival, company F, Thirty-third Michigan. On the 21st: Sergeant J. Britton, troop G, First cavalry; William J. Howe, teamster; Paul Sullivan, company E, Seventh Infantry.

"No deaths at the front have been reported as yet. Complete report will be sent in morning. The situation is not alarming, though there are many sick with fever, about 1,500 extra number will be given in morning. Only a small part of those sick are down with yellow fever, about 10 per cent—150 in all. Slight changes of all the troops have been made to get them on fresh ground. The 21st and 22nd regiments have been moved about three miles."

"SHAFTER."

GARCIA TO SHAFER.

Cuban General Explains Why He Withdraws to the Interior.

New York, July 25.—A dispatch from Santiago gives the following as being a letter sent by General Garcia to General Shafter:

Sir—On May 12 the government of the republic of Cuba ordered me as commander of the Cuban army in the east to co-operate with the American army, following the plans and obeying the orders of its commander. I have done my best, sir, to fulfill the wishes of my government, and I have been one of your most faithful subordinates, honoring myself in carrying out your orders so far as my powers have allowed me to do it.

The city of Santiago surrendered to the American army and news of that important event was given to me by persons entirely foreign to your staff. I have not been honored with a single word from yourself informing me about the negotiations for peace or the terms of the capitulation by the Spaniards. The important ceremony of the surrender of the Spanish army and the taking possession of the city by yourself took place later and I only knew of both events by public reports.

I was neither honored, sir, with a kind word from you inviting myself nor any officer of my staff to represent the Cuban army on that memorable occasion.

Finally, I know that you have left in power at Santiago the same Spanish authorities that for three years I have fought as the enemies of the independence of Cuba. I beg to say that these authorities have never been elected at Santiago by the residents of the city, but were appointed by royal decrees of the queen of Spain.

I would agree, sir, that the army under your command should have taken possession of the city, the garrison and the forts. I would give my co-operation to any measure you may have deemed best under American military law to hold the city for your army and preserve public order until the time comes to fulfill the solemn pledge of the people of the United States to establish in Cuba a free and independent government. But when the question arises of appointing authorities in Santiago de Cuba, under the peculiar circumstances of our thirty years' strife against Spanish rule, I cannot see but with the deepest regret that such authorities are not elected by the Cuban people, but are the same ones selected by the queen of Spain, and hence are ministers to defend against the Cubans the Spanish sovereignty.

A rumor too absurd to believe, general, ascribes the reason of your measures, and of the orders forbidding my army to go into Santiago for fear of massacres and revenge against the Spaniards. Allow me, sir, to protest against the shadow of such an idea. We are not savages, ignoring the rules of civilized warfare. We are a poor, ragged army, as ragged and as poor as the army of your forefathers in their noble war for independence, and as did the heroes of Saratoga and Yorktown, we respect too deeply our cause to disgrace it with barbarism and cowardice. In view of all these considerations, I sincerely regret to be unable to fulfill any longer the orders of my government, and therefore I have today tendered to the commander-in-chief of the Cuban army, Major General Maximo Gomez, my resignation as commander of this section of our army.

Awaiting his resolution, I withdraw my force to the interior. Very respectfully yours, CALIXTO GARCIA.

Washington.—Special: The letter written by Garcia was read and discussed at some length at the cabinet meeting today, and the opinion was expressed that it was evidently based upon a wrong conception of the motives of our people. These, it was said, should long ago have been fully explained to all the Cuban leaders. If it was true, as had been reported, a member of the cabinet said Garcia was not invited to participate in the ceremonies attending the raising of the American flag over Santiago, it was a mistake. Everything reasonable, he said, should be done to win and keep the friendship of the insurgent Cubans and they should be made to know that the only purpose of the United States in waging war against Spain was to secure to the people of Cuba relief from the oppression of Spanish rule and a satisfactory government established by the people themselves.

Of course, it was added, it is not the intention of this government to drive the Spaniards out and then burn the island over to the insurgents or any other particular class or faction. This government had never intimated such a purpose, but on the contrary it was well understood that a stable government for and by all the people of Cuba, had been the only purpose and end sought to be attained. The details of the establishment of such a government, it was said, have never been discussed by the cabinet at any great length, but there could be no very great difference of opinion as to the general plan.

All the people of the island, it was declared, must be given an opportunity to express their views as to the character of the constitution under which they were to live and as to the men who would make and execute the law. The insurgent Cubans certainly could not consistently ask for more than this.

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MORE PEACE TALK

THERE IS NO PEACE, AND BUT RUMORS OF PEACE.

THE BIG EUROPEAN POWERS

GRUMBLING BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT IN IT.

Nothing is to Be Made Public Until Something Decisive is Done in the Premises—Spaniards Kept in the Dark.

Madrid, July 26.—Peace negotiations are being conducted by Duke Almodovar through the Spanish ambassador at Paris with the co-operation of the Spanish ambassadors at Vienna, Berlin, St. Petersburg and Rome. The only person in Madrid acquainted with the negotiations is Sagasta. The duke goes along cautiously, with the utmost secrecy, as the all important question is to keep the people in the dark until something decisive is done. The government aims principally to avoid paying an indemnity and to continue to retain the Philippines without conditions disagreeable for Spanish commerce and religious orders. Spain is willing to give up Porto Rico if unavoidable, because the nation and any powers insist on sacrifices for peace. The government expects that this parleying will come to a head in a few days. The negotiations will decide whether Sagasta remains in office and constructs a cabinet or makes way for Polavieja.

London, July 26.—After a lull for some days there has been again a revival of peace rumors from European capitals, but in authoritative diplomatic quarters here and in Paris inquiry by correspondents elicits nothing but professions of absolute ignorance of anything in the shape of definite overtures. It is pointed out that the recent intelligence of Aguinado's action and Garcia's severance from Shafter are calculated to give a fresh lease of life to the influence of the war party in Madrid. At the same time financial difficulties, it is believed, will impose before long an impassable bar to any communication of peace with Spain, and Sagasta seems to be working steadily and cautiously for peace.

Berlin, July 26.—"So far as the United States embassy here is concerned nothing is known of any negotiations," continued Mr. White, "there has been no question at all between this embassy and the German foreign office relative to the desire for a coaling station in the Philippines, nor for the possession of any of the islands there, nor has there been any notice of Germany's wish to secure any other Spanish colonies." To express such wishes, which we were unaware of, would be at the present moment, above all, too premature. There have been important negotiations here and in Berlin, between Germany and Geramny, but it is too early to talk about that now."

From another source the correspondent of the Associated Press hears the negotiations to which Mr. White refers in the article in the New York Times, which is unable to obtain an affirmation of this at the German foreign office.

Emperor William is kept continually informed of all events connected with the war between Spain and the United States and of the developments at Washington. Reports of the Cuban press are sent to him in regularity and he is kept informed of all the news of the war, was sent this week by special courier to Digermulion.

Baron von Buelow, the minister for foreign affairs, is absent on summer leave, but he is expected back in a fortnight. The tone of the German press this week is less friendly to the United States than the week before Washington. Many cases have been commented upon in a rather sarcastic spirit. The liberal press has adopted, generally speaking, a fair and more neutral tone. The Kosische Zeitung printed an editorial in which it intimated that it wished the United States speedy success and referred to the unbroken friendship "existing for so many years between the two countries."

Other liberal papers of importance, like the Madgeburg Zeitung and the Westphalischer Beobachter, have taken the same view. Referring to the failure of the late sugar conference and to the agreement between France and the United States regarding tariff reductions, the Kreuz Zeitung says: "Should America refuse to grant those tariff reductions to Germany and other European states as well, in spite of the most favored nation treaties, there will be serious complications. To refuse this to Germany would be all the more unfair, since America was made to share, when we concluded our commercial treaties of 1892, in the large reductions that were then in force without being asked to grant an equivalent."

Pana, Ill., July 26.—The sixth attempt to operate the three mines of Fisher, Zellers and Benvenuto, owned by the union men, and their wives were present in force. Only two miners, both residing in a house close to the mine, under guard, entered the pits. The Spres Bros., who under guard of Winchester were escorted in carriages to the mine Friday, refused to drive to the mine today. The Penwell and Pana mines were under guard also, but no miners passed the lines of the union miners and mines continue idle.

Mrs. Edward Harris of Richmond, Mo., 53 years old, has given birth to twins for the seventh time. They are all living.

It is reported that kangaroos are becoming rare, and may possibly become extinct in the not very distant future.

PLANS FOR RAISING WRECKS

Some of the Sunken Spanish Ships to Be Saved.

A GOOD SHOWING

COMMISSIONER WOLFE'S WAY OF DOING.

LOOKS LIKE A GOOD RECORD

NEARLY FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS GAINED.

The School Fund Has Struck It Rich Since the Republican Politicians Have Been Driven From Power in This State.

Facts and figures of the first eighteen months of reform work in the office of the commissioner of public lands and buildings, as compared with the first eighteen months of the preceding administration:

Every school district in the state is aware of the increased semi-annual apportionment of school money, but all do not know that nearly all this increase is due to Commissioner Wolfe's work in his office in collecting delinquent interest upon school land leases and contracts, and the large amount of school lands that he has put under lease. A great portion of the old leases were delinquent on an average of six years or more. Here are the figures showing the amount of the semi-annual apportionment of the temporary school fund derived from the school lands alone during 1895 and the first half of 1896 (under republicans) as compared with a like period under the reform administration, namely, for 1897 and the first half of 1898:

First half of 1895, republican administration \$124,210.94
First half of 1897, reform administration 195,196.19
Excess in favor of reform administration \$ 70,985.25
Second half of 1895, republican administration \$ 82,594.38
Second half of 1897, reform administration 218,127.09
Excess in favor of reform administration \$135,532.71
First half of 1896, republican administration \$105,908.19
First half of 1898, reform administration 255,721.28
Excess in favor of reform administration \$149,813.09

And, upon the lands saved by the "Uncle Jake" the revenue from the educational lands exceeded the collections for corresponding periods of 1896 in the magnificent sum of \$355,971.05.

In the first year and a half of Commissioner Wolfe's term he collected \$669,044.56, while for a similar period his republican predecessor collected only \$313,973.51.

From 1890 to 1896 inclusive, under republican commissioners, these lands yielded only an average of \$139,423.19 for each semi-annual apportionment. During the first eighteen months of Commissioner Wolfe's administration these lands yielded \$669,044.56, or an average of \$223,614.85 for each semi-annual apportionment; the same being an average of \$83,591.66 for each six months of the new administration more than the average per six months during all of the preceding seven years under republican misrule.

During the entire two years of the last republican administration of the office the total amount of school lands leased were 111,125 acres, while in the first eighteen months of Mr. Wolfe's term he leased 422,548 acres, or nearly four times the amount leased by his predecessor in two years.

And, upon the lands leased by Mr. Wolfe, he collected for the state as much above the regular lease rental \$10,296.05; this he secured as a result of personally attending the auctions held for leasing. These lands were leased on large payments of rental, as well as the average being close to five months.

Commissioner Wolfe attended in person and held auctions for leasing the school land in sixty-three counties, and with all of the consequent expenses of travel and hotel bills he has drawn, during his term, for traveling expenses, only \$217.65.

His predecessor held no auctions for leasing school land, and did no more traveling for the state than has Mr. Wolfe on like business, and yet he drew for traveling expenses \$427.95.

The former commissioner's record shows that he wrote only 6,900 letters during his two years and drew \$2,253 for postage, \$600 of which was paid after October 25, 1896, or during the last seventy-two days he was in office; he turned over to Wolfe \$30 in postage. This would leave him to account for \$470 for postage drawn the last seventy-two days he was in office, or would be an average of \$6.53 per day for his time, or 325 letters per day. The records do not show any such amount of letters to have been sent, nor, in fact, do they show much more than 325 letters during the whole of this last seventy-two days.

Commissioner Wolfe has written during his eighteen months over 13,000 letters, as shown by the press book, not counting circulars and ordinary letters, not copied, and has drawn \$850 for postage, \$150 of which has been for 10-cent registry stamps for serving notices of delinquency. These stamps were not purchased by his predecessor, as he did none of this business, but had it all done by the county treasurers, who paid the postage.

Of the 111,000 acres reported to have been leased by the last republican commissioner, 54,530 acres were leased on an average payment of only nineteen cents and a half days, and no further payments have ever been made on this 54,530 acres. This, in a great degree, holds good of the last six years of republican misrule. In fact, it seems from the records that our school lands, before Mr. Wolfe's administration, have been regarded as legitimate properties of illegitimate barter, instead of a public officer. Mr. Wolfe himself, as well as the party he represents, has reason to be proud of the record he has made, and every honest citizen of Nebraska will say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Chicago, Ill., July 26.—A quit claim deed was filed for record transferring two valuable pieces of Levi Z. Leiter's property on Adams and Washington streets, to John P. Wilson in trust for the Illinois Trust and Savings bank. The bank was a heavy creditor of Joseph Leiter during his career in the wheat trade. The property is worth in the neighborhood of \$400,000.

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FLOWER DAY IN OMAHA.

August 2 the Day set for the Great Floral Corso.

Omaha, July 25.—On August 2, the day set aside for Flower Day, Omaha is to witness a fairly like spectacle of a floral corso. To a great many "Flower day" means very little, but to those who have seen the magnificent floral parades of other cities or the famous ones at Newport, Saratoga, Lenox and other fashionable eastern resorts the word has a different meaning. It has no other day during the life of the exposition can have, and it is safe to say that no floral parade ever given has excelled this one at Omaha, for never has there been so beautiful a setting for a group of any kind as the Grand Court of the exposition.

Mrs. H. McCall Travis has been the manager and designer of nearly all the big flower parades in the country for the last fourteen years, and she is most enthusiastic about Omaha, saying that the interest taken by Omaha people guarantees it a great success. She is brimming over with artistic ideas for trimming the different vehicles and in her room at the hotel she discusses the decoration for the parade, and even the gowns are often planned by her, for the success of this color pageant depends almost as much on the effective gowns and hats of the participants as upon the trimming of the carriages. According to Mrs. Travis the first aim in a floral corso should be brilliancy of color, harmonious combinations and massiveness. The smaller flowers, as violets, lilies of the valley and apple blossoms, are not so effective as the larger flowers, and are almost indistinguishable at a distance. In the City of Mexico, where Mrs. Travis has for two years conducted the flower parades, there is a craze for the dark, rich colors. Reds and yellows make superb effects, and the handsomest carriage in the procession is a chariot in brown, orange and red, while the girls who drove were in oriental dress, with boleros, scarfs and veils. Another was a Mephistophelean trap, all in scarlet and black, with Mephisto himself for a driver and a dainty Marguerite the occupant. Then there is a patriotic design in the red, white and blue, with the flag and shield emblazoned in red roses on the sides, and a beautiful scheme for a Victoria is a combination of the pampas plumes with delicate pink roses, the roses used for massing on the body of the carriage and the great fluffy plumes for borders. Another scheme is of scarlet poppies and spray of grain, while yet another is to have a whole carriage done in ribbon grass and white roses.

Many beautiful turnouts have been listed for this parade, and society is on the qui vive for the eventful day, and gowns and hats and color schemes are the theme of conversation at luncheons and gatherings, and the effect of a dash of color on a parasol or a bow in a hat is causing much perplexity to many a fair participant. There will be an American beauty trap, a violet trap driven by Miss Bennett, while Mrs. Joselyn's victoria will be banked with scarlet poppies. Miss Webster, with six of her friends will grace a lovely landau decorated in three shades of pink roses and drawn by four solidly colored horses. Mrs. Howard Baldrige will be very stunning in her high cart trimmed in poppies of the cerise shades, driving a tandem of handsome blacks. Another dainty trap will be Miss Andrews's epigram phonon, banked solidly in white roses, and Mrs. Kirkland's high drag will be effective in corn flowers and wheat. There will be a Russian landau banked with white chrysanthemums. The wheels will appear like those of a white chariot; white horses, white harness, white everything, with outriders all in white will be a decidedly beautiful effect. Mrs. J. E. Baum has a charming color scheme in which the glorious old gold of the California poppy will be in evidence, and boys' outriders in this chariot of the sun will make an effective turnout.

When this glorious pageant winds its way around the Court of Honor, the whole reflected in double beauty in the broad lagoon, and color schemes will be 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children. This step was taken at a meeting of the board of directors on Thursday afternoon. The object is to give the workmen and women the benefit of a reduced rate of admission at a time when they can see the exposition without losing a day's wages. If the laboring people of Omaha and surrounding towns take advantage of the reduction, as they are expected to, it is probable that the 25-cent rate will be made for other days also before the exposition closes.

A number of additional special days have been recently announced, and efforts are being made to secure low railroad rates for some of the more important occasions. Passenger representatives of all Omaha railroad lines have recommended to Chairman Caldwell that a rate of 1 cent 6 mile from all points within a radius of 150 miles of Omaha be granted for Flower Day, August 2. The rate beyond this territory to be one cent for the round trip. Rates nearly as low have been recommended for Red Men's days, August 10 and 11; Bohemian day, August 28, and for the National Firemen's tournament, September 5 to 10. Indian day will be celebrated on August 4. On this day will be inaugurated the Indian congress, which will be one of the most novel and interesting features that any exposition has ever offered. The celebration will be elaborate and appropriate.

Colored citizens of the republic will be given the freedom of the grounds on August 19, and as the congress of white and colored Americans and the National Personal Liberty league will be in session in Omaha August 17 to 19, a large attendance of prominent colored people from all parts of the country is looked for. Excursions are being arranged from Kansas City and other southern points.

Wisconsin people are said to be taking a widespread interest in the celebration of Wisconsin day, which has been fixed for September 13. Special days for some of the cities in the mid-west have been arranged as follows: August 6, Kansas City; August 13, St. Joseph; August 23, Des Moines; August 26, Sioux City; October 11, Chicago; October 8, Twin Cities (St. Paul and Minneapolis); October 20, Denver.