

SAMPSON HAS SAILED

Blockading Fleet Leaves from Front of Havana Harbor.

IMPORTANT BATTLE EXPECTED SOON

Supposed Intention is to Head Off the Spanish Flotilla.

DEWEY IS NOT TO HAVE ALL THE GLORY

None but the Smaller Vessels Left to Keep Up the Blockade.

DECISION TO STRIKE A DECISIVE BLOW

First Clash of Modern Ships of Somewhere Near Equal Strength Likely to be Reported Soon.

Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company. KEY WEST, May 4.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The dispatch boat Triton sailed from here with Admiral Sampson's war ships today and left Havana with them. It is expected that the war ships will sail immediately east from here, the destination probably being Porto Rico.

The fact that the big battleships and monitors sailed to the fullest capacity before steaming away is taken to indicate the plan of occupying considerable time. The blockade is still rigidly kept up by the smaller cruisers under the temporary command of Captain Converse of the Montgomery.

Admiral Sampson has divided his fleet as a result of a prolonged conflict between the ships held almost under the guns of Morro castle, and after assigning the rest of his command to maintain the blockade, he headed across into Key West Monday night, which brought the battleships Iowa and Indiana, the cruisers Cincinnati and Detroit, and the dispatch boat Mayflower trailing along after him. All have been coaling here ever since and when they started coast today had their bunkers filled to their utmost capacity.

Off the Cuban coast they will be joined by two of the three monitors turned monitors probably the Puritan and the Amphitrite, and then Admiral Sampson will open the sealed orders which were delivered to him yesterday.

It is pretty generally understood that he made as strong a protest as an admiral could do going to sea blindfold. The second time he has received voluminous replies from headquarters, but they directed him simply to take on all the coal he could accept and sail. These instructions are taken to mean that the government has decided to permit some of the smaller vessels of the fleet to come to the aid of the big battleships to head off Spain's formidable squadron, which Portugal pushed from the Cape Verde Islands a few days ago.

It is possible that before Admiral Sampson leaves Cuban waters he may stop at Matanzas and complete the work of destruction he began last Wednesday. The government is showing its intention to limit supplies there by keeping the Panther's army of blue jackets on board, as well as by arranging for the prompt transportation of the land forces now at camp at Tampa, when that is necessary.

The government is still holding consultations with the insurgent leaders. A party of half a dozen influential Cubans selected by General Emello Nunez, the famous filibuster, have left here in the government tug Leyden to be landed in Cuba somewhere east of Matanzas. They are expected to reach Gomez with important dispatches by Thursday night. Their mission is to tell Gomez where and how and when supplies, guns and ammunition will reach them.

The crew of the swift United States steamer Eagle, formerly the yacht Army, is positive that one Spanish gunboat was sunk in the fight at Cienfuegos, and a torpedo boat badly damaged, as it was necessary to stop the Spaniard's gunnery, which was surprisingly excellent. One shot knocked two feet off the Eagle's bowsprit and two feet away its deck. The gunboat was sunk at the beginning, and the Spanish probably had ten boats, but the little ship edged in as close as possible. The Eagle's people say the Spaniards did excellent shooting. The cruiser Marchese, steaming up, set a warm reception, but made the Spanish run in short order. Both the ships fired over 100 shots.

BAD CONDITIONS IN PORTO RICO.

Rebels Revolt in Liable to Break Out at Any Time.

ST. THOMAS, Danish West Indies, May 4.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—On the steamship Mercouria, which arrived here from Ponce, Porto Rico, is Senora Honna, mother of the president of the Porto Rican Junta, who has been compelled to leave by the persecution of the Spanish officials. The lady goes to report the garrison at Ponce depleted to defend other parts on the Spanish coast, and it is claimed that a small body of insurgents could take the town. The rebels expect the arrival of Colonel Lanrot tomorrow to inaugurate a revolt. The government is distributing arms, but refuses any to natives, who are suspected of rebel tendencies. The price of food is still advancing. Rice has gone up 200 per cent and the papers are commenting bitterly on the rapacity of the food speculators. A dynamite movement was expected to cause a break in prices. Officials have confiscated the coal supply of the Ponce gas works, but the manager has been ordered to continue the light service in spite of the confiscation. The prisons are filled with political suspects, including Jose Barbosa, the liberal leader. Three women are in jail, the wives of suspected insurgents arrested in Havana by Blanco's orders. Several editors have been expelled. GEORGE BRONSON REA.

Queen Regent May Resign.

LONDON, May 4.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The Daily Chronicle's Vienna special says: "I have reason to believe that the idea of the resignation of the regentship by Maria Christina is being seriously considered by the queen's imperial family in Austria, with a view to an immediate dynastic movement and save the throne for the youthful king. An exchange of ideas on the subject is going on between the queen regent and her Austrian family, but the most influential members are decidedly opposed to her resignation."

Think the Cable is Lifted.

MADRID, May 4.—2 p. m.—It is believed in Spanish circles here that a vessel belonging to the fleet of Commodore Dewey has succeeded in lifting the cable in Manila bay, connecting with Hong Kong, but that the commodore has not been able to use it, as he did not have with him the necessary telegraphic apparatus. There is no confirmation of this report.

REORGANIZES THE SQUADRON

New Orleans Takes the Place of the Cruiser Columbia in Commodore Schley's Fleet.

ON BOARD FLAGSHIP BROOKLYN (off Fort Monroe), May 4.—It is the general opinion here that the flying squadron will go to sea this twenty-four hours, or as soon as the New Orleans arrives.

Commodore Schley has been notified that the cruiser Columbia has been detached from the squadron and that the New Orleans will take its place. So far as fighting ability is concerned the New Orleans is superior to the Columbia, being more heavily armed and without so much free board and upper works to act as a target.

The squadron as now constituted will consist of the Massachusetts, first class battleship; Texas, second class battleship; Brooklyn, armored cruiser; New Orleans, of the type of the Raleigh and Cincinnati, and the Scorpion, a fast armored yacht, with four five-inch and four six-pounder guns.

DAY OF EXCITEMENT IN CORTES.

Senior Canalejas Urges Union in Defense of the Fatherland.

MADRID, May 4.—Public attention centered again today in the lower houses of the Cortes. There was a repetition of the great crowds of yesterday, the police and civic guards, besides the secret police, mingling with the people. The galleries of the House were packed and many prominent senators occupied seats beside the deputies on the floor of the chamber.

Senior Reverter, minister of finance in the Canovas cabinet and hero of the ex-communication incident last fall, defended the policy of Senior Canovas. He said that the policy of the Canovas cabinet was to maintain the union of the fatherland, and that he would not waste a single peseta to give the Cubans autonomy, which would be one step toward independence.

COALS OF FIRE ON HIS HEAD.

Cuban Pilot Returns Good for Evil to a Spaniard.

KEY WEST, May 4.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—When Laborde, the Cuban pilot on the Marchese, boarded the prize ship Argonauta off Cienfuegos a Spanish officer looked at him and said: "Seems to me I have seen you before."

Laborde replied promptly: "Yes, you are the man who spat in my face when I was a prisoner in Cienfuegos, but now I've got you and you will see how differently prisoners are treated by Americans."

Cortijo did not find it convenient to continue the conversation longer. Laborde thinks he ought to have been given Cortijo's sword.

WAR SHIP OREGON LEAVES RIO.

Sails Northward, Followed by the Armored Cruiser Nieteroy.

RIO, May 4.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The Oregon and Nieteroy sailed northward this morning. The Oregon is bound for the Philippines, and the Nieteroy is bound for the United States. The Oregon is a fast armored cruiser, and the Nieteroy is a torpedo boat.

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STILL NOTHING FROM DEWEY

Navy Officers Disappointed Over the Delay in the Report.

INTERESTED NOW IN SPANISH FLEET

Report that the Vessels Are at Cadix is Disbelieved, as They Have Not Had Time to Reach that Port.

WASHINGTON, May 4.—A sensation was caused throughout the city by the news that came this morning of the arrival of a vessel, supposed to be the dispatch boat McCulloch, at Mirs bay, forty miles from Hong Kong, the cable terminus.

The officials immediately fell into an air of expectancy waiting for some word from Admiral Dewey that would not only confirm officially the stirring news of the battle, but telling what had happened since the cable was interrupted.

Up to the close of office hours no word had come from Hong Kong, and the officers who believe the McCulloch was really in Mirs bay were put to devising ingenious explanations of why the receipt of a cablegram had been delayed.

These touched upon the twelve hours difference in time, the distance from Mirs bay to Hong Kong, which had to be overcome by the messenger, and the slowness of cable communication owing to the number of relays on the enormously long circuit from Hong Kong to New York.

Some of the other naval officers, however, who steadfastly contended that Admiral Dewey would not have sent away his dispatch until he had completed his dispatch and received the acknowledgment of receipt, pointed out that if they were right in their assumption it would not be possible for the McCulloch to reach Hong Kong before tomorrow evening.

Great interest is felt in the reported fleet of the Spanish Cape Verde fleet, but while admiring the possibility of the fast vessels of the Spanish fleet, the navy officers were disposed to regard with great suspicion news of this kind emanating from Porto Rico, because of the recognized sympathy of the Portuguese with the Spanish side.

Value of a False Hint.

It would be worth a good deal to the Spanish admiral commanding the flying squadron, supposing he were on his way across the Atlantic, to throw us off our guard by having us believe that he had returned to Spain.

The Navy department has secured two vessels in San Francisco, the Australia and the City of Peking, which will be loaded with coal and supplies and rushed off to the Commodore Dewey's fleet. Whether or not they will carry troops will be determined positively when the commodore is heard from on this matter.

The Navy department is hurrying together an exceptionally large stock of ammunition to go forward to the City of Peking to recruit the ammunition of Commodore Dewey's fleet. The first shipment of projectiles left New York yesterday and additional shipments will be made until the full quota of powder and shot will be in San Francisco within the next ten days.

There will be a total of more than 10,000 projectiles of various caliber and weight. For the four big 8-inch guns of the Olympia there will be 500 8-inch steel armor-piercing projectiles, weighing about 800 pounds each; for the 6-inch guns of the Olympia, Baltimore and Boston, there will be 1,000 steel projectiles. The other shipments will include about 10,000 6-pound rifle balls, 2,000 5-inch shells, 3,000 3-inch balls and 3,000 1-pound balls.

The Navy department is fortunate in having laid in an ample stock of projectiles of all weights and sizes so there will be no delay in getting a full supply ready for shipment to Commodore Dewey.

The supply of powder is not so readily obtained, as powder has been distributed to the several fleet squadrons. It has come from the powder mills. But owing to the emergency in the case of the Asiatic fleet, powder intended for other uses will be forwarded to San Francisco and sent to Commodore Dewey.

Navy Department Has Powder.

The recent explosions at powder mills have not crippled the Navy department in securing supplies of powder, but they have caused some delay in filling the orders of the War department.

No official news has come to confirm the report from Hawaii that the islands have been tendered to the United States for war uses. It is said that if the incoming mail brought the proposition it would scarcely be trusted to be telegraphed here on account of its importance, but would be forwarded by the railway mails, which would bring it here in about five days.

Without exception the naval officers would welcome the possession of Hawaii at this moment, as affording a magnificent base for naval operations in the Pacific, but it is said President Dole's proposition must be submitted to congress, so it will be for the legislative branch in the end to pass on this offer.

The fine British cruiser Blake left Gibraltar today, bound straight for Rio De Janeiro, and it is supposed here that it goes to observe any engagement of the president to friendly relations with the Washington government and keeping ever in view the signal advantages she was likely one day to reap from that friendship when her great British railway is completed and she is fully ready to sail for the United States.

The combination today of a number of major general and brigadier general is an indication of the purpose of the president to avail himself of the full number of the troops called for by his proclamation and even to follow the call by another very soon, for it is evident that there are not enough commands to go around properly among the officers already nominated.

SPAIN WANTS INTERVENTION

Still Hopes that Europe Will Step in and Call the Uninvited States.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) MADRID (Via the Frontier), May 3.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Spain is anxious over the ministers and authorities of Madrid. Sagasta went twice to see the queen and offered to resign if he believed a conservative or military cabinet would be better to defend the dynasty and monarchy than the present cabinet, whose members stick to their posts now only out of a sense of loyalty to the crown and self-respect, as they don't want to be accused of abandoning the reins of state in the midst of war.

Most of all they fear popular revolutionary passions. The civil authorities in Madrid got so alarmed at the attitude of the republicans and Carlists that they frankly told Sagasta they could not answer for order much longer. Barcelona authorities also report a very serious condition of things. Republicans are working upon the masses, disoriented by the rise in price of all provisions and the close of many factories and consequent loss of Cuban money.

The queen asked Sagasta to remain in office. He consented, subject, however, to getting her permission for proclaiming a state of siege in Madrid.

Now that martial law is the rule the press is free to publish all the news of the war that can be sent to military prisons. Courts-martial were had this morning on each of the Carlist, social and military independent republican papers, which had been seized. Their editors were sentenced to terms of military imprisonment. Troops with officers are confined in barracks. Cavalry and infantry patrol the streets from night until sunrise. Inside all public buildings crowds are crowded with foot and horse police.

There are no more precautions, though less visible, are equally severe, because the court and government apprehend graver movements. If a fresh revolution occurs in Cuba or with regard to the fleet high-handed measures will be considered. The monarchy and popular classes down until the moment comes when the rulers of Spain can declare that their honor has been satisfied and the time has come to appeal to European governments to step in and mediate.

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QUESTION OF COAL CONSIDERED.

Problem Which Ever Confronts the Spanish Government.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) LONDON, May 4.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—In all Spanish naval plans to raise the Cuban blockade the question of coal is the most vital one. It is the life of the fleet. The British navy is not only a more powerful navy, but it has a more powerful navy. The British navy is not only a more powerful navy, but it has a more powerful navy.

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RAILROADS ARE UNDER FIRE

Interstate Commerce Commission Gets After the Nebraska Lines.

FEDERAL GRAND JURY TO INVESTIGATE

Special Agent of the Commission Takes Counsel with District Attorney and the Matter Will Be Thoroughly Sifted.

The federal grand jury, now in session in this city, is shortly to be called upon to consider an alleged violation of the interstate commerce law by a couple of railroads in the Burlington and the Union Pacific.

The case is being engineered by J. T. Marchand of Washington, special counsel of the Interstate Commerce commission. Attorney Marchand arrived in this city on Tuesday evening and was in consultation with United States Attorney Sawyer yesterday. After the conference it was decided to bring the matter to the attention of the grand jury at once.

The investigation may possibly begin today. One of the cases is supposed to be the one in which J. J. O'Connor charged the Burlington with leasing rebates to firms like Phil Armour and Harris Brothers of Chicago. Another of a similar character is charged against the Union Pacific railroad, it is said. Attorney Marchand himself would say nothing about the roads or the parties that will figure in the investigation. He stated simply that he had come only to look after the prosecution of certain specific charges of discrimination in violation of the interstate commerce act which had been filed with the commission.

Sanction is Promised.

There may be something of a sensational nature in the case from the fact that it is reported that the parties who make the charges are at present disinclined to push them for various reasons. It is intimated that it will therefore be Special Counsel Marchand's duty to learn just what motives possessed these men in changing their minds. At any rate, the whole matter is to be laid before the grand jury for investigation. Attorney Marchand himself expects to be called as a witness. He stated that the investigation would require a day, and possibly two days.

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THE BEE BULLETIN.

Weather Forecast for Nebraska: Rain; North.

1 Sampson's Fleet Suddenly Nothing Heard of Dewey. Getting After the Railroad. 2 Latest European Intercourse. 3 Promotions in the Army. 4 Attack on a British Coast. 5 Nebraska News. 6 Rain Descends Guards. 7 Latest Exposition News. 8 Editorial and Comment. 9 Dittors of the House. 10 Trade in the Philippines. 11 News Expected from Dewey. 12 Council Bluffs Local Matters. 13 Iowa News and Comment. 14 General News of the Farther West. 15 Sporting News of the Day. 16 Retail Work Taken on Form. 17 Burglars Still Fly Their Trade. 18 Latest Exposition News. 19 Gossett at the City Hall. 20 Judge Munger Wants Warm Room. 21 Commercial and Financial News. 22 Tales of Telegraphers. 23 Anecdotes of Artemus Ward.

Temperature at Omaha: High, 59. Low, 49. Wind, S. by E. 4 to 5. Clouds, 4 to 5. Rain, 0.00. Dew, 44. Frost, 0.00. Snow, 0.00. Ice, 0.00. Wind, S. by E. 4 to 5. Clouds, 4 to 5. Rain, 0.00. Dew, 44. Frost, 0.00. Snow, 0.00. Ice, 0.00.

Disposition of the Prisoners

Spanish Officers Are to be Confined at Fort McPherson, Ga. Until Peace is Made.

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Secretary Alger has directed that the ten Spanish officers and the ten privates and non-commissioned officers taken from the Spanish steamer Argonauta, and now at Key West, be taken to Fort McPherson, Ga., for confinement until they are either exchanged for any American officers and sailors who may be taken by the Spaniards or until some other method for their disposition is reached.

One of the cases is supposed to be the one in which J. J. O'Connor charged the Burlington with leasing rebates to firms like Phil Armour and Harris Brothers of Chicago. Another of a similar character is charged against the Union Pacific railroad, it is said. Attorney Marchand himself would say nothing about the roads or the parties that will figure in the investigation. He stated simply that he had come only to look after the prosecution of certain specific charges of discrimination in violation of the interstate commerce act which had been filed with the commission.

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