

OUR NEXT NAVAL HERO.

Admiral Sampson's Home Life and His Happy Family.

HIS SNUG HARBOR AT GLEN RIDGE

Mrs. Sampson's Love of Home Life—Her Sentiments Regarding It—The Admiral's Two Boys, Who Are Proud of Their Father—Battleship Iowa Was Their Ideal—Story of Sampson's Mascot.

Within a half hour's ride of New York lives Mrs. Sampson, wife of Rear Admiral Sampson, and her interesting family of sons and daughters. No wonder that the home life of the man on whom the eyes of the country are at present focused is so little known to the public, for the entire family is absolutely conservative in its tastes. While they are all tremendously proud of the admiral and not in the least surprised that the public wants to know all about him, they prefer to shine by reflected glory and keep out of the public eye as much as possible.

The admiral's home at Glen Ridge, N. J., is a tasteful brown cottage, with piazzas running the entire length of the house and surrounded by a trim lawn. Everything about the place has the wholesome quality of thoroughbred simplicity. It is ideally homelike and comfortable. A glance about this delightful snug harbor, where every chair and lounge and stool is invitingly comfortable, immediately explains why Rear Admiral Sampson prefers his home to his club. Glen Ridge is full of spring blossoms just now, and one of the admiral's pretty daughters had taken a great bunch of apple blossoms and put it in front of her father's picture. The picture was going to enjoy some of the spring gladness even if the original was away fighting for his country.

The family at Glen Ridge consists of Mrs. Sampson, her two stepdaughters, Olive Farrington and Hannah, commonly called Nan, and the two boys, who are Mrs. Sampson's own sons—Ralph and Harold. There are two married daughters, who are also the children of Admiral Sampson's first wife, Margaret, the elder, is the wife of Lieutenant Roy C. Smith, and Kate, the second, is the wife of Ensign H. H. Jackson, who distinguished himself in Samoa at the time of the great storm that drove American warships ashore.

Mrs. Sampson was Miss Elizabeth Burling of Rochester. She is a handsome woman, considerably above the average height and has an unusually fine carriage. She has none of the restlessness that seems to be the portion of nine-tenths of modern women. Home and family fill her life to the exclusion of broad fields and human missions. She is of the Roman matron type of woman, and you will not find her duplicate at the woman's clubs or any place where the fair sex is wont to congregate and discuss the bliss of achieving careers. She is, pre-eminently the wife of Rear Admiral Sampson. She is content with the name and position he has given her. That is sufficient individuality for Elizabeth Sampson. For this reason she has never permitted her picture to be published in the papers, nor will she allow anything like personal interviews. Like the sensible woman that she is, she realizes that the public interest in her husband must be gratified, and any information about the admiral she will give most cheerfully, but if the reporter, encouraged by this, begins to take an interest in the home life of the Glen Ridge cottage, the lady kindly but firmly begs to be excused. "We must keep our home life to ourselves. Any information that I have about my husband's service I will be delighted to give you, but a public man should not be expected to share his home with the public." Such are the sentiments that have kept the little brown cottage at Glen Ridge out of reach of the public.

Mrs. Sampson is completely wrapped up in her two boys—Ralph, aged 11, and Harold, aged 8. Both of them are as fine specimens of American boyhood as it would be possible to find. Ralph is a ruggedly built little chap, who is worried about the way his brother Harold, three years his junior, is catching up to him in point of height. Both boys fully understand the importance of being a distinguished father, and both intend to join the navy just as soon as it is possible.

Ralph sports a huge patriotic decoration on the left lapel of his coat representing Uncle Sam, a creation of red, white and blue metal, in the act of stepping over to Cuba. So huge is this patriotic emblem that it not only occupies every available scrap of Master Ralph's coat lapel, but the bounding feet of Uncle Sam stretch out across his shirt bosom. In all probability a small silken banner originally accompanied Uncle Sam, consigning Spain to a hotter quarter than Cuba. At all events, Master Harold, examining the badge the other evening, exclaimed, "Where is the 'To' with Spain' part?"

"Mamma would not let me read it any more," sighed the young martyr to discipline. Harold has no badge, but he has a full repertoire of patriotic songs at his command, which he sings while he is making his toilet, with the sad result that the toilet often lasts from two to three hours.

Both boys frankly confess that they wish they were old enough to join the fight, without waiting to grow up. "Just think!" said Harold. "When we are old enough to join the navy, papa will be old enough to retire! It would be such loads of fun if we were all there together!"

The boys are both reconciled now to their father leaving the battleship Iowa, but it was a severe blow to them at first. Squadron or no squadron, they preferred that their father should command the Iowa. The little chaps loved every inch of the big fighter, and they were

never so happy as on the occasions when they were allowed to go aboard her.

Whenever they played at naval battles in their back yard it was always the Iowa that licked everything in sight. Therefore when they learned that their father was no longer in command of their ideal they went off and had a real good cry about it, but they have at last realized that the command of a squadron is a greater honor even than the command of the Iowa.

Admiral Sampson understands boys just as well as his hands-on-hips and torpedoes. When on shore duty, he is never so happy as when he is off on some expedition with these two replicas of himself. All three of them are the best possible chums, and the boys are never weary of telling stories of papa. "No, we are not a bit scared about anything happening to papa," Harold said to a neighbor the other day. "Why, during the last war he was blown up into the air 100 feet; his boat, the Patapoco, was blown up, you know, and he landed right in the water, but he was fighting the next day, just as if nothing had happened."

The boys own a wonderful white kitten now. There has been no dog in the Sampson household since Andy turned on Ralph a little while ago, but him and had to be chloroformed in consequence. "Yes, he's the one that the dog bit," Harold explained half anxiously to a visitor the other day, designating his older brother. Harold is always willing to share the family honors with Ralph, but it was a little trying that the dog biting episode should confer a hold on his older brother individually. On that memorable occasion, when old Andy, who had been the constant companion of the boys since they could remember, turned on Ralph and bit him severely in the face, the little man behaved himself as his father's son should. No one was at home but Mrs. Sampson, and to look out for mother and the girls was the first lesson that the admiral ever taught his boys. With his mother's help Ralph shut up old Andy in one of the ground floor rooms and then started up stairs to wash the blood off his face. Andy had to be chloroformed, and since his death there has been no dog to share in the romps of the boys.

But Tabs does all she can to supply the loss. Tabs is a snow white kitten, with the most beautifully kept coat that ever fell to the lot of a feline. She is of French descent, her grandmother having been born in France. Tabs herself was born on the 4th of March. Listen to the patriotic record of her family, and then you will understand why she was sent from Washington to Mrs. Sampson soon after her husband took command of his fleet. Her mother was born on the Fourth of July and her grandmother was born on Washington's birthday. Is it any wonder that Tabs was sent all the way from Washington to the Sampson family? Tabs rules the house. Miss Olive Sampson puts up with all manner of sauciness from this privileged kitten, and the kitten's preference for Miss Olive denotes excellent judgment on the part of the mascot. It is the fashion to refer to the daughters of all prominent men as beautiful. In this case it happens to be true, for there is not a handsomer girl in Greater New York than Olive Farrington Sampson. Tall, beautifully proportioned, and with a damask rose complexion, she is a veritable young Hebe. She has that charming vivacity of manner that has ever made American girls irresistible. Miss Olive just adores her father, and her enthusiasm in speaking of him quite equals that of the boys.

What is the boy's ruling characteristic? "Some one asked her the other day, 'Why, Ralph and Harold of course,'" she answered, laughing. Hannah, the second unmarried daughter, is named for Admiral Sampson's mother. She is known as Nan in the home circle and is a smaller, less Junoesque edition of her sister. It must be terribly hard for a man to take the hazards of war when he has such a family as this at home. When he gives the grim order to clear the decks for action, will the little brown cottage at Glen Ridge rise before his eyes, with the two boys playing at sea battles in the cozy sitting room and his wife reading his last letter, though she knows its every word by heart, and his two beautiful daughters wondering what papa is doing now? Well, it is a beautiful picture, and when the decks are cleared it will cheer him on to victory.—New York World.

Pocket Bibles in War.

Every girl should give her soldier boy sweetheart a pocket Bible to carry in his vest pocket. Statistics gathered from religious periodicals and women's magazines will show that fully half the bullets fired in the late war were turned out by a pocket Bible given him by his weeping sweetheart or his mother.

Spaniard to Fight Spain.

Private Bernardo went into camp with the volunteers from Junction City at Topeka recently shouting the battle-cry "Remember the Maine!" He is a native Spaniard, and no one is more anxious to fight the mother country. He and his brother came from Spain together, and his brother joined the navy and went down with the Maine.—Kansas City Times.

A Friendly Prophecy.

Without pretending to the knowledge of experts, we look upon it as a law that when Anglo-Saxons open fire upon the water their flag will be found flying after the engagement.—London Spectator.

When a man is suffering from an aching head—a sluggish body—when his muscles are lax and lazy—his brain dull and his stomach disclimbing—feel he will, if wise heed these warnings and resort to the right remedy, before it is too late. "PARKER'S SANSAPARILLA," the "KING OF BLOOD PURIFIERS," makes the appetite keen and hearty, invigorates the liver, purifies the blood and fills it with life giving elements of the food. It is a wonderful blood maker and flesh builder. Sold by B. W. Hargrave.

PUERTO RICO ISLAND.

ITS PRESENT STRATEGIC VALUE TO THE UNITED STATES.

It Is Spain's Only Available Spot In North American Waters at Which to Strengthen the Sineas of War—The Island's Future Great Value In Peace.

Puerto Rico's direct value to the United States while the war with Spain lasts is strategic. Even in the old days of sailing ships this island, and especially its capital, the fortified and strong harbor of San Juan de Puerto Rico, were the objective points of almost every British expedition against the Spanish West Indies. That was because a fleet of sailing warships had to own a place where damages could be repaired, where fresh provisions could be obtained and where the sick and wounded men could be treated. Now, in the day of the steamship, the possession of a fortified harbor near the scene of any considerable naval action is a necessity. The most desperate personal bravery is useless without it. The need simply has been changed from that of the old days to a new and paramount one, that of coal. Without coal a modern fleet is helpless.

In the whole western world Spain has no coaling bases when she is deprived of Cuban and Puerto Rican ports. The possession of Puerto Rico, then, at this time, even though its direct value to us were not great, is of enormous indirect benefit because it cripples Spain. Without Puerto Rico as a port of call and a supply base the Spanish vessels must steam more than 1,000 miles farther west to reach the next port, that of Havana, and every mile that they steam in this direction means a mile farther into a possible trap from which they never may emerge. They can reach Puerto Rico from the open sea, where at least they have an even chance to maneuver and a fair chance to run if they must, for their squadron speed is good. But let them once be forced to steam farther west, and they are in a network of islands and channels where a battle means that they must take it or when it is offered by the enemy and where defeat means surrender or destruction.

Puerto Rico is the most eastern of the Greater Antilles. Stretching westward and northward thence like a big chain are Santo Domingo, an independent and neutral island; Jamaica, a British and neutral possession, and Cuba, a hornet's nest, blockaded from the sea and inimical on shore except in a few harbors which may be in the possession of the United States at any time. If the Spanish fleet gives unsuccessful battle inside of these islands, its only way back to Spain or to the Canaries, the nearest port at which it can refit, is through the narrow Windward passage between Cuba and Santo Domingo or through the still more narrow Mona passage between Santo Domingo and Puerto Rico. The only other way out of the trap would be the southern course, through the Caribbean sea, and thence through the maze of the Leeward islands, which are owned by Great Britain, a notion distinctly in favor of the United States. There are few coaling stations great enough to supply any considerable number of ships there, and it would take much coal to re-fuel a fleet at top speed, as a fleeing fleet would have to go.

In peace Puerto Rico is of great value to the United States in two ways—one as a rich and productive possession and the other as a key to the Caribbean sea, a sea which will control the great Nicaragua canal. It is settled as a matter of the highest policy that this great canal must not be left uncontrolled and that no nation except the United States must be permitted to hold that control. We cannot exercise the authority without a foothold in the West Indies, and the only really good position in the West Indies is the group known as the Greater Antilles. In that group Great Britain owns a fine coaling station and military, naval and commercial base in the island of Jamaica. Santo Domingo is controlled by the two independent republics of Santo Domingo and Haiti. Cuba will be free, and whatever influence her position will have on the control of the canal and the commerce through it will be almost directly under the hand of the United States. The possession of Puerto Rico thus will complete a chain of defense which will bring the control of the waterway directly under the two great Anglo-Saxon nations of the world.

Apart from the importance of the island in this respect, Puerto Rico should be a profitable addition to the territory of the United States, for it is not only healthy, but its climate is much more healthy and supportable than that of other West Indian islands. Its shores are mountainous, and there is comparatively little fever in its cities. Harbors are not abundant, but they are good, and its principal city, San Juan de Puerto Rico, could be made a great trading port if it were in the hands of a thriving commonwealth instead of in the grasp of a bankrupt and selfish nation that cares only for the last bitter cent which it can grind out of the country.

The island is a beautiful one and makes a delightful place to visit. It is as large as two Rhode Islands, having an area of 3,550 square miles. It is about 100 miles long and 36 miles wide. Its population numbers about 800,000, of which there are about 23,000 in the pretty capital of San Juan de Puerto Rico.

Dotting the rich mountain sides that face the lazy seas are many sugar, coffee and tobacco plantations. There is gold "In a minute" one dose of HART'S ESSENCE OF GINGER will relieve any ordinary case of Colic, Cramps or Nausea. An unexcelled remedy for Diarrhoea, Cholera Morbus, Summer complaints and all internal pains. Sold by B. W. Hargrave.

on the island, as there is in most of the West Indies, and this particular one was the scene of much fighting in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries on account of the stories of its wonderful wealth.—New York Press.

BURIAL BLANKETS.

Antiseptic Coverings For the Soldiers Who Die In Cuba.

From the quartermaster general's office of the war department an order was placed recently with a Tampa (Fla.) firm for a large quantity of antiseptic blankets for use of the army of invasion in Cuba, and by which the bodies of soldiers fallen in battle may be protected from decomposition. It is the intention of war department officials that the blankets shall be used by the soldiers in the field to sleep upon in camp and to protect the bodies of those who meet death while in transport to America for burial. When the ends of the blankets are fastened together, the coverings become a sort of casket in which the dead bodies will be in no danger of decomposition until such time as burial will be practicable.

The officials of the war department decided upon making the purchase only after a thorough test, which was completed the other day, and which proved to the complete satisfaction of the quartermaster general's department that the value and utility of the blankets could not have been exaggerated. In making the test the body of a dog belonging to Commandant Norton of the navy yard, and which had been dead nearly two weeks, was used. It was stated that the carcass would not decompose if allowed to remain in the blanket one month, which was the purpose of the experiment. The dog's body was not subjected to any preparation before being placed in the blanket, so as to be in keeping with what would be the fate of the soldier who falls in battle. Owing to the expected movement of the troops, however, the officials in charge of the test consented to a two weeks' limit. When the body of the dog was uncovered, it was found to be in a perfect state of preservation, whereupon the order for the blankets was immediately placed.—Washington Cor. Chicago Tribune.

IT WAS ONCE DEUEUA.

The Name of the Hero of Manila Said to Be of French Extraction.

Orville Thomas Dewey, the vice president of a Cincinnati insurance corporation, is a first cousin of the hero of Manila, and he recently corrected some errors in publications concerning that much talked about gentleman.

"Admiral Dewey is but 58 years old," said Mr. Dewey, "and was not born in Montpelier, Vt., as has been printed. George was born in Rochester, but settled in Montpelier at an early age. His father, my father's brother, was Dr. Orville Dewey, and he founded the National Life Insurance company of that city and state. One of the chief characteristics of the two older branches of the Dewey family which settled in the United States was their mathematical abilities. They were always noted for being exceedingly clever at figuring out problems involving great risks. Another characteristic is their independence. They have never been clamish with relatives. The name was originally spelled 'D-e-u-e-u-a' and is of French extraction. Of the two branches of the Dewey family which settled in the United States one located in New York state, the other in Vermont. It is a common name in the east. Our branch is pretty well known in the northwest. Some are in Michigan and more in Wisconsin."

The records of the family show an early ancestor to have been one of the successful generals in the Franco-Prussian war. The Orville in the name of the Cincinnati Commercial Tribune's informant is a family name, as evidenced in that of the father of the victor. The admiral has a son about 22 years of age. In appearance the Cincinnati cousin greatly resembles the pictures of the admiral printed in the newspapers.

THE ROUGH RIDERS.

Thirty-nine Society Men From New York Line Up With Cowboys.

San Antonio, Tex., May 12.—Three hundred and forty cowboys from New Mexico and 39 society leaders from New York are to test acquisitions to the Roosevelt rough riders.

Among the men from the east are Craig Wadsworth, one of the best polo players in America; Basil Ricketts, a son of the late General Ricketts, who has served a two years' apprenticeship on a Colorado cattle ranch; Hamilton Fish, Jr., another noted polo player; Horace Devereaux of Colorado Springs; and the Princeton football team; William Tiffany of New York, a social favorite and a leader of cotillions, but who can boast of a long experience of western ranch and range life; Kenneth Robinson of the Knickerbocker club; Reginald Ronalds, half back in the Yale football team, and Hollister, the Harvard sprinter.

There will be about 50 of these college and club men in all, but their wealth and influence will secure them no special consideration in the regiment. One of the late General Ricketts' commissions, and two or three are likely to be made noncommissioned officers, but the rest will serve as troopers on a perfect equality with the rest of the men.

Missionaries Forced to Flee.

Sierra Leone, West Coast of Africa, May 12.—The missionaries belonging to the American Sudan mission have arrived here from the stations in the Mar-rampa district owing to the threatening attitude of the natives.

Relief in Six Hours.

Distressing Kidney and Bladder disease relieved in six hours by "NEW GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN KIDNEY CURE." It is a great surprise on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in bladder, kidney and back, in male or female. Relieves retention of water almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure this is the remedy. Sold by E. F. Nadal, Druggist, Wilson, N. C.

CUBANS VERY HAPPY.

Lieutenant Rowan Returning With News of Garcia's Success.

NUNEZ GOES DOWN TO TAMPA

Cuban Leaders at Washington Deny That Gomez Wants to Act Single Handed in Securing the Independence of the Island.

Washington, May 12.—It is expected Lieutenant Rowan, the United States officer who made a daring and successful landing in Cuba and proceeded inland to General Garcia's camp, will arrive at Key West tomorrow. This doubtless will afford the authorities the Spanish and that the Cuban administration of the insurgents.

It is understood that Lieutenant Rowan already has stated, whether by report or otherwise is unknown, that the Cubans in General Garcia's district occupy a number of towns vacated by the Spanish and that the Cuban administration of those towns is in the hands of "fine men."

The last expression gives special satisfaction to Cubans here. They are hopeful that President Masso will remain in the western provinces and be ready to come, with the cabinet, to the first large seaport city that is occupied and there set up the civil administration of the republic of Cuba. It had been understood that he intended to move his headquarters to the eastern end of the island, where military operations are not likely to occur, but this plan is likely to be changed, so as to keep him near the points of probable occupation in the west.

The courier who is on his way here with letters from General Gomez to President Palma of the Cuban delegation has stopped at Tampa and will not reach here for a day or two. General Nunez of the Cuban army, after conferring with the Cuban authorities here and with General Miles, left for Tampa tonight. Although the courier will bring detailed advice from Gomez, the Cuban officials here are well informed on the general status of the Cuban forces in the field, and this subject has been gone over fully with the war department officials.

In a general way it is stated that entire harmony exists between the Cuban authorities and the war department as to the resources and effective fighting



GENERAL GARCIA.

force of General Gomez and General Garcia. The Cuban authorities are ready and willing to have the fullest co-operation by United States troops on Cuban soil, and it is said that there is no ground for reports that General Gomez desires to act single handed in securing Cuban independence.

Naturally, it is said in high Cuban quarters, General Gomez feels some pride in having sustained a war for the last three years single handed against the organized forces of Spain and doubtless believes that in time he could achieve a complete victory. But, it is said, he is fully alive to the fact that this would take time and a large increase in the arms, ammunition, rations and medicine at his disposal. In the meantime he has only exercised a prudent course in pointing out the climatic dangers of sending a large United States force to Cuba.

Why allow yourself to be slowly tortured at the stake of disease? Chills and Fever will undermine, and eventually break down, the strongest constitution. "FERRI-CURA" (Sweet Chill Tonic of Iron) is more effective than Quinine and being combined with Iron is an excellent Tonic and Nerve Medicine. It is pleasant to take, is sold under positive guarantee to cure or money refunded. Accept no substitutes. The "just as good" kind don't effect cures. Sold by B. W. Hargrave.

Thousands in the Field.

Concerning the strength of the Cuban forces in the field the Cuban reports natives here say reports fully bear out all that the Cuban authorities have ever claimed—namely, that there are in all about 40,000 men either under arms or ready to take arms as soon as guns and ammunition, are at hand. Of this number it is said that about 15,000 lack arms and equipment, leaving about 25,000 now in the field and reasonably equipped, although additional ammunition and supplies would be most advantageous to these latter.

This 25,000 does not exist in any one camp or series of camps in the usual sense of organized military operations. On the contrary Cuban officials say their forces have adopted the tactics essential to a fight against heavy odds and have scattered their forces into small groups over an area of 3,500 square miles. These small groups are best able to carry on a guerrilla warfare which diverts Spanish attention to every part of the island.

The immediate command of Gomez is said to number 3,000 men and is located in the rich Santa Clara district. Some distance away in the province of Santiago de Cuba are the forces under General Garcia, the several bands of which are said to aggregate 15,000 men. The distance of Garcia from Gomez is said to make a junction between them impracticable, as there are no means of speedy communication.

BETTER than cure is prevention. By taking Hood's Sarsaparilla you may keep well, with pure blood, strong nerves and a good APPETITE.

GERMANY TO PROTEST

Belief That That Country Will Try to Get the Philippines.

SPANISH WARSHIP BLOWN UP

Report That a Torpedo Boat Destroyer Was Sunk With All on Board by an Internal Explosion—The Fleet at Cadiz.

London, May 12.—A story is published here to the effect that Germany is actively preparing to signify her disapproval of a lasting occupation of the Philippines by the United States. The German consul at Manila is said to have been instructed to make representations to Rear Admiral Dewey differing materially in character from those of the representatives of other powers.

Very heavy claims, it is added, are being encouraged upon the part of Germans who have suffered from the bombardment of Cavite, and Germany, it is further said, proposes to obtain control of the Philippine islands, guaranteeing the payment of Spain's indemnity. It is



EMPEROR WILLIAM.

believed this plan is acceptable to Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, and it is understood to have been passively accepted by France, which country is so strongly interested financially in the rehabilitation of Spain.

A dispatch to The Globe from Gibraltar says a British steamer, which has just arrived, reports officially that she passed yesterday evening a Spanish torpedo boat destroyer which was guarding Algebras bay and the strait. Shortly after the steamer passed her all the lights of the destroyer were suddenly extinguished, a terrific explosion followed immediately, and the destroyer disappeared.

The disaster, the dispatch from Gibraltar adds, was apparently caused by the explosion of the boilers of the torpedo boat destroyer, and it is feared that all on board of her have perished.

Are You Weakened? Weakness manifests itself in the form of trembling and aching bones. The blood is impure; the tissues are wasted—the nerves are overworked. A bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla will cure you. It is a blood purifier, soothes your nerves, builds you up, and gives you a new lease of life. It is a blood purifier, soothes your nerves, builds you up, and gives you a new lease of life. It is a blood purifier, soothes your nerves, builds you up, and gives you a new lease of life.

Spain's Ships at Cadiz. The Globe this afternoon publishes a dispatch from Cadiz which says the following: "The Spanish fleet, with the exception of the Pelayo, are at that port: The Pelayo, Victoria, Carlos V, Almirante Oquendo, Vizcaya, Maria Teresa, Cristobal Colon, Alfonso XIII, Pluton, Priscipina, Osado, Audaz, Furor, Terror and also several torpedo boats, transports and the Norfannia and the Columbia, formerly of the Hamburg-American line, which have been renamed the Patriotica and the Rapido."

The correspondent of The Globe adds that he believes the squadron sails today and says a number of troops leave for the Canary islands on May 15, while three battalions of marines are quartered at San Fernando ready for embarkation.

Lieutenant Colwell, the naval attaché of the United States embassy, said today that he was by no means convinced that the Spanish Cape Verde squadron is really at Cadiz.

On the Stock Exchange here today the report that the Spanish Cape Verde squadron had returned to Cadiz was generally discredited, though the opinion was freely expressed that if the rumor was true it indicated the intention of Spain to throw up the sponge and leave the West Indies to their fate, thus opening the way to an early peace. This is understood to be strongly desired in certain quarters, and the effect of the seeming backdown of Spain was beneficial.

Inquiries made on board ships which have recently arrived here from the Canary islands, the island of Madeira, Tenerife and Gibraltar show that nothing has been seen of the Spanish fleet. The British steamer Galca, Captain Bird, which left Cadiz on April 29, reports that the only Spanish war vessels there were the auxiliary cruisers Normannia and Columbia, two torpedo boats and an armed yacht, possibly the Girarda.

The Windward Arrives.

New York, May 12.—The steamship Windward, given by Alfred Charles Harmsworth to Explorer Peary as an aid in arctic exploration, arrived in this port today after an ocean voyage of 83 days.

Distressing Stomach Disease.

Permanently cured by the mastery powers of South American Nerve Tonic. Invalids need suffer no longer, because this great remedy can cure them all. It is a cure for the whole world of stomach weakness and indigestion. The cure begins with the first dose. The relief it brings is marvelous and surprising. It makes no failure; never disappoints. No matter how long you have suffered, your cure is certain under the use of this great health giving force. Pleasant and always safe.

Sold by E. F. Nadal, Druggist, Wilson, N. C.

KEY WEST NEEDS WATER.

Anxiety at the Place Lost the Supply Should Run Short.

Key West, May 12.—It is said here that if the report that the Spanish fleet has returned to Spain proves to be correct an active movement against Cuba may occur within 48 hours. It is possible that Rear Admiral Sampson at Puerto Rico and Commodore Remy here may strike simultaneously. If it were decided to land troops at Bahia Honda, Matanzas or any other point, the vessels here, together with the ships on the blockading station, would have no difficulty in covering a landing with the difficulty of the heavy armored fighting ships. The monitors, with their heavy guns, could stand close in and with impunity proceed to the demolition of the fortifications while the gunboats and lighter vessels poured in their shots from offshore.

Naval officers here believe the defenses at any point except Havana could be reduced by the ships now here and on the Cuban station in half an hour. Commodore Remy has the blue pennant flying from the Miantonomah and Commodore Woodcock from the Dolphin. There is no definite information here as to when the troops at Tampa will be embarked.

The water problem is getting serious at this place. Naval officers recognize it, and they are looking anxiously for the smoke from the stacks of the big government condenser which is promised to supply 40,000 gallons daily per contract. This plant should have started April 25. In reality it has not yet started, and the officers in charge of this station are skeptical of its ability to produce 20,000 gallons.

Key West's water resources are most primitive and limited. Every one is afraid to drink water from several shallow wells in town, all being more or less brackish and under suspicion as surface drainage. Two companies at various times have driven artesian wells 1,800 and 2,300 feet deep, but they have never secured fresh water. The town lives by cisterns and rain barrels, and the latter are only a shade less unhealthy than the wells. These cisterns are filled during the rainy season and usually run very low by the close of the dry season, which is due now.

Under these circumstances it is not surprising that the water has advanced from 15 cents to 10 cents a gallon within the past two months. All who can afford it, that is to say the newspaper correspondents and the officers, drink boiled water, and a dearth of this supply is approaching. Most of the unpretentious brands of bottled water in the past two months. All who can afford it, that is to say the newspaper correspondents and the officers, drink boiled water, and a dearth of this supply is approaching. Most of the unpretentious brands of bottled water in the past two months. All who can afford it, that is to say the newspaper correspondents and the officers, drink boiled water, and a dearth of this supply is approaching. Most of the unpretentious brands of bottled water in the past two months.

The government reservoir at the naval station, from which the engine room is supplied, contains less than 2,000 gallons of water, and it is reported among the dispatch boats that there is less than 1,000 gallons of rainwater available in town, and this supply is of a very poor quality.

TO POISON SOLDIERS.

Spanish Spies Hard at Work Around the Camp at Mobile.

Mobile, May 12.—A second dastardly attempt to poison the infantry regiments at Camp Mobile has been made. Several days ago some soldiers found in the creek which runs alongside the grounds a sack filled with absorbed cotton which had been saturated with arsenic and tied down beneath a rock which juts out into the stream at a point just above the place where the soldiers get their drinking water.

Ay accident a trooper discovered the deadly trap, removed the sack and upon the contents being revealed reported his find to the commanding officer. Strict orders were given not to mention the incident, and so the matter was hushed up. Since that day, however, the creek has been closely watched and vigilance is rewarded when Corporal John Sullivan of Company A, Sixteenth Infantry, found a poison bag loaded with arsenic and anchored down just as in the first instance.

The correspondent by chance overheard two soldiers talking about the plot to poison them and instituted an investigation. The officers preferred not to discuss the matter, but among the privates feeling is running high, and they don't fail to express themselves. Spanish spies are known to be lurking in the neighborhood, where a number of Spaniards reside. They are all under strict scrutiny, and sensational disclosures are looked for. No one doubts that agents of Spain are responsible.

Doctors Can't Cure It!

Contagious blood poison is absolutely beyond the skill of the doctors. They may dose a patient for years on their mercurial and potash remedies, but he will never be rid of the disease; on the other hand, his condition will grow steadily worse. S. S. S. is the only cure for this terrible affliction, because it is the only remedy which goes direct to the cause of the disease and forces it from the system.

I was afflicted with Blood Poison, and the best doctors did me no good, though I took their treatment faithfully. In fact, I seemed to get worse all the while. I took almost any medicine I could get, but it did me no good. I then took S. S. S., and began to improve. I continued the medicine, and it cured me completely, building up my health and increasing my appetite. Although it removed the sores, I have never yet had a sign of the disease to return.

W. E. NEWMAN, Staunton, Va.

It is like self-destruction to continue to take potash and mercury; besides totally destroying the digestion, they dry up the marrow in the bones, producing a stiffness and swelling of the joints, causing the hair to fall out, and completely wrecking the system.

S.S.S. For the Blood

is guaranteed Purely Vegetable, and is the only blood remedy free from these dangerous ingredients. It is sold in a Book on its treatment sent free by Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Ga.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.