The Wilmington Messenger.

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READY FOR ACTION.

All the Plans of the Government Completed For Cuban Invasion.

OBJECTIVE POINT OF ATTACK.

A Sufficient Number of Regulars and Seasoned Volunteers Assembled for the Purpose---Preparations to Feed Families of Destitute Cubans---More Neutrality Declarations---Hastening Work on the New Battleships---To Put Mines in Manila Harbor---Generals Butler and Oates Assigned to Their Commands.

Washington, May 31.—When the cabinet meeting adjourned today it was announced that the matters under discussion were not of vital importance, nor was there anything of interest that could be given to the public. The best information obtainable from other sources, however, strongly indicates that the important military movement now in progress will be directed against Santiago and in co-operation with the fleet under Commodore Schley, and the allied insurgent forces. Our forces are expected to speedily capture the city of Santiago and the fleet or destroy both. It is also intimated from high sources that the land expedition now embarking at Key West may be divided and one division to co-operate with Admiral Sampson against Porto Rico.

It is believed that the government has a sufficient number of regulars and seasoned volunteers to carry out both of these plans to a successful issue. Troops in sufficient numbers and capacity already have been secured and it is the opinion of high officials that one or both of these plans are now being carried into execution. General Miles, who left here last night to take command of the military forces, is known to have the entire confidence of the president, who, in the course of today's cabinet meeting, said in effect that he had the utmost confidence in General Miles' ability as a soldier and and fully expected that he would prove entirely worthy of his trust. Members of the administration are agreed that the war from this time will be prosecuted at all points with the utmost vigor.

The president has begun to prepare to help the families of the insurgents and the reconcentrados who still drag out a miserable existence in the interior. The commissary general of the army has prepared an estimate of $5,000,000 for the purchase of sufficient supplies to feed 150,000 reconcentrados for six months.

For the timebeing it is felt that the great field of action is removed from Washington and is centered with the troops, and advancing under orders from here, and with our ships. The time of preparation has gone by, and it remains only for preparations to be carried into actual effect.

There will continue to be much routine detail in the maintenance of the large military and naval force, but this is now in well established channels. The more vital feature of the campaign itself has been fully matured. To a certain extent the military and naval operations will be directed from Washington and yet with General Miles in the south and Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley in Cuban waters they will have most to do with the time and circumstances of attack. The commanders, military and naval, have been given wide latitude, as the authorities here fully appreciate that battles cannot be fought in advance on paper.

MORE NEUTRALITY DECLARATIONS.

The consular reports issued today contain some additional declarations of neutrality, this time from Brazil, Japan, British Guiana, St. Lucia and Gibraltar. It is noticable that both Brazil and Japan go out of the way of the usual formal proclamation to express regret at the outbreak of hostilities between the United States and Spain. Bermuda modifies her original proclamation of April 23rd so as to make the rule relative to supplying provisions, subsistence and coal to belligerent ships conform closely to the very severe English rules on that subject. The Japanese proclamation is rather remarkable from the great exactness with which it prescribes the rules that are to govern Japanese subjects in their dealings with the belligerents and the treatment that will be accorded belligerent ships. The proclamation evidently was prepared with great care and may serve as a model for the guidance of diplomats of all nations.

HASTENING WORK ON BATTLESHIPS.

The board of naval bureau chiefs is trying to hasten the work of construction of the battleships authorized by the present naval appropriation bill. The Illinois type, upon which the new vessels are to be constructed, will occupy three years in construction. After a conference today the bureau chiefs presumably with knowledge of the constructive ability of the American shipyards capable of undertaking this work, resolved to reduce the time allowed for building the new ships to a maximum of thirty-two months.

The navy department bought another yacht today—the Inquirer—at New York for use in the auxiliary fleet by which term the mosquito fleet will be designated in accordance with the terms of the recently enacted act on the subject.

The senate in executive session today confirmed the following nominations:

To be brigadier general—Fred D. Grant, of New York, W. W. Gordon, Georgia. To be second lieutenant—Albert J. Dillon, Florida.

Oscar Straus, of New York, to be minister to Turkey.

To be commissaries of subsistence with rank of major—Robert Lee Longstreet, of Georgia; Evylin A. Garnet, of Arkansas.

FOR DEFENSE OF MANILA HARBOR.

The secretary of war sent to the house today a recommendation for funds for harbor defense and other work in carrying on the war aggregating many millions of dollars. Among other items was a significant brief one recommending an appropriation of $150,000 for torpedo defense of Manila harbor, Philippine islands, to be available until expended.

WAR BALLOONS.

General Greeley, chief signal officer, has been informed of the arrival at Tampa of a balloon designed for use in the present war.

Major General Butler, United States volunteers, will be assigned to the command of the First division of the Second army corps now in camp near Falls Church, Va. He is at his home in South Carolina, and is expected here tomorrow or next day to qualify and receive his orders.

Brigadier General Oates, ex-governor of Alabama will be assigned to duty with one of the army corps at Camp George H. Thomas, Chickamauga.

When a man is suffering with an aching head, a sluggish body, when his muscles are lax and lazy, his brain dull, and his stomach disdaining food, he will, if wise, heed these warnings and resort to the right remedy, before it is too late "Parker's Sarsaparilla" "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 J. C. Sheperd, J. H. Hardin, and H. L. Fentress.

Raleigh's New Postmaster.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., May 31.—This evening C. T. Bailey was sworn in as postmaster by C. M. Busbee, the retiring postmaster. Bailey appoints Phil. H. Andrews assistant postmaster.

The employees of the office this evening presented the retiring postmaster with a handsome desk and chair. Phil Andraws made the presentation speech and Busbee gracefully replied.

"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 Diarrhea, Cholera Morbus, Summer complaints and all internal pains. Sold by J. C. Shepard, J. H. Hardin and H. L. Fentress.

Agricultural College Alumni Association.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., May 31.—This morning the alumni association of the Agricultural and Mechanical college elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, C. B. Williams; vice president, Sidney Kennedy; secretary and treasurer, Hugh Primrose; orator, S. E. Asbury; toast master, C. E. Gold; chairman of the executive committee, Chas Pearson; banquet committee, D. Cox and Hugh Primrose.

Walter Bell, formerly editor of the Elkins Times, has arrived here to become city editor of the News and Observer.

Hart's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Creosote and the Hypophosphites if faithfully used, is a specific in the treatment of weak lungs, Consumption, Bronchitis, etc. Leading physicians recommend it. Sold by J. C. Shepard, J. H. Hardin and H. L. Fentress.

To Enlist Colored Immunes.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., May 31.—Captain J. M. Lee, U. S. A., telegraphs Governor Russell from Washington: "Your telegram is referred to the adjutant general for reply;" that under the "immune" act he is designated to raise regiments of immune negroes in North Carolina and Virginia and desires to know what are the facilities at Raleigh for rendezvous of such troops.

The adjutant general replies that the Second regiment is here and that the facilities are limited and that the governor has refused to mobolize his own negro battalion at Raleigh for fear of race conflict. The adjutant general advises that the immunes be mobolized at Fort Mason, with the negro contingent.

In the federal court here W. H. Robinson, was at 5 o'clock this afternoon convicted of swindling and using mails fraudulently in his "green goods" business The case against the three safe crackers who were captured at Winton, Hertford county, and who are believed to be part of a daring gang of postoffice robbers, goes over to December. The men are in jail here.

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

Leiter's Wheat Deal Closed.

Chicago, May 31.—Leiter's famous wheat deal was formally closed today. The last moments were lively and Joseph Leiter, to all appearances, was master of the situation. As if to emphasize his command of the market, Leiter sent May wheat down from $1.75 to $1.25. This move was plainly for the purpose of evading the big receipts and to circumvent the "tailers," who wanted to "ring in" a lot of wheat on Leiter at fancy prices. Leiter fooled them by putting the price down. Nevertheless, he had to take on board another 500,000 bushels in addition to the pile of 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 bushels, which he still has on his hands. All attempts to place Leiter, so far as his profits and losses are concerned, at the culmination of this gigantic deal, are widely at variance. Some claim that he will pocket a profit of $4,000,000, while others insist with knowing glances that he will be fortunate if he comes out without a loss.

For Those Who Are Suffering

With indigestion, Dyspepsia, Kidney or other similar affections Drink freely of Aetna Lithia Water and be relieved. We can show you from our books the names of some of the most reliable people in the city, who are drinking this water freely, and, who will tell you that they are being benefited by it. Ask your doctor if he prescribes Lithia Water, If so try

AETNA LITHIA WATER.

At $1.50 per case, 25 cts per gallon.

R. E. WARD, Agent,

BUNTING'S PHARMACY.

SPECIAL SESSION.

The Board of County Commissioners Met Last Night and Transacted Various Matters of Business.

A special meeting of the board of county commissioners was held last evening at 7:15 o'clock. Chairman F. W. Foster presided, while the clerical duties were attended to by the assistant register of deeds, P. S. Leboo. Commissioners Dempsey and Nixon were also present.

At the commencement of the meeting Chairman Foster stated that Mrs. L. H. Ray, stewardess at the city and county hospital, made application for a 600 pound platform scale, and that it had been purchased for $8.50, seven dollars below the regular price on account of the scales having been used a short time previous to being purchased by the county. Continuing he said: "In this connection I am pleased to state that there is not an article that goes to the hospital without first being weighed, or measured, the quality examined and the price charged verified with the bill, which must always accompany the article. Then again, every article is weighed or measured when given out by Mrs. Ray."

Next, Chairman Foster reported that all the rooms and hallways at the county home and all the cells of the house of correction had been whitewashed, four coats applied; and that every comfort was granted the inmates that could be stood by the tax payers.

The following resolution was introduced and adopted:

"Whereas, The state law creating the city and county hospital states definitely that the city shall pay two-fifths and the county three-fifths of the expenses of the said hospital, therefore it is hereby ordered that the commissioners keep strictly within said proportions."

Chairman Foster called attention to the fact that the six months' contract for supplying the hospital ended the 1st day of June, and that he, unless otherwise ordered, would make purchases just whenever necessary and at the cheapest cost, owing to the now fluctuating prices.

Commissioner Dempsey notified the board that the iron bridge across Smith's creek was very rusty and needed painting badly.

The chair informed the commissioner that the would call for bids and submit them at the regular meeting.

Commissioners Dempsey and Nixon both called attention to the fact that the roofs of buildings at the hospital and county home had not been painted, as they had understood was to have been done.

Chairman Foster replied by saying that the county had purchased 200 gallons of Dixon-Graphite paint for doing this work which would be done within the next ten days.

Chairman Foster requested permission to have two blank form books printed for the associated charities, which will have space for entry of the names, residence, etc., of those helped, and the amount of money or articles given them, the books to be subject to inspection at any time.

At the request of Dr. W. D. McMillan, superintendent of health, $3.00 was allowed Mrs. Ketchum, whose family is now under quarantine on the sound.

Commissioner Dempsey introduced a resolution, which was passed, providing for all the county official advertisement matter to be printed in the one morning and the one afternoon paper passessing the largest circulation.

There being no other business to transact, the meeting adjourned.

Shipping Blackberries from Fayetteville.

We learn that large quantities of blackberries are now being shipped from Fayetteville. Messrs. S. H. Strange and Fitzell Bros. are the principal shippers. Blackberries are now selling in the northern market at 10 to 12½ cents per quart.

Beans and Potatoes Moving.

The strawberry season is about at an end and our truckers are now shipping great quantities of Irish potatoes and beans. The quotations from the northern markets yesterday were $1.75 to $2.25 per crate for beans and $3.00 to $4.00 per barrel for Irish potatoes.

Graduates as a Full Fledged Journalist

Mr. Lee Solomon, son of our esteemed townsman, Mr. S. Solomon, this year graduates as a journalist at the University of Pennsylvania. He is expected home next week.

Mr. Charles Mendelsohn, also of this city, who attends the same college, will return, too, next week.

The Coroner Viewed the Body.

Coroner Jacobs yesterday morning went to the jail and viewed the body of the colored prisoner, Amos Jones, who died suddenly a few hours earlier. An inquest was deemed unnecessary.

Later in the day the remains were carried to Oak Grove cemetery and interred.

Fires During the Month of May.

During last month the fire alarm sounded eleven times. The fires were caused by defective flues, 2; rats, 2; sparks from chimneys, 3; incendiary, 2; lightning, 1; unknown, 1.

A FINANCIAL CRASH.

The Heaviest Failure Atlanta Has Ever Suffered—The Moody and Brewster Company Goes to the Wall—Liabilities Far in Excess of Assets.

Atlanti, Ga., May 31.—Judge Lumpkin at 10 o'clock tonight appointed Henry Wellhouse temporary receiver for the Moody & Brewster Company. The firm failed during the day for $160,000 and mortgages amounting to $105,432 were filed in the clerk's office against the company. As a result of the failure of Moody & Brewster, Smilley & Company, 153 Decatur street, also failed for $7,500.

Gary S. Brewster, the junior member of the firm, has left Atlanta, leaving nothing behind but a note to his partner, Mr. John T. Moody, saying on account of great losses, he will remain out of town for a short while.

The assets of the company are estimated at about $100,000, while the liabilities will reach $160,000, according to the statement of Mr. Moody. It is said on reliable authority, however, that the concern owes money to the amount of $350,000. It is said the firm owes $150,000 in Georgia alone. The failure was caused by speculation in cotton, wheat, stocks and bonds. Mr. Brewster in the note he left Mr. Moody stated that he lost $52,000 in speculation in Atlanta and $20,000 in New York. Mr. Moody said today that the firm alone has lost $60,000 in speculation in cotton and wheat.

The firm had been in business but three months and, while engaged in the wholesale dry goods business, operated under the firm names of Moody & Brewster, The Southern Pacific Guano Company, The Moody Loan and Banking Company, and F. A. Smiley & Co. Mr. Smiley, who has also failed, is a brother-in-law of Mr. Moody.

The failure is the largest that has ever occurred in Atlanta. The assets are hardly one-third what the liabilities are said to be and the creditors include people in all parts of the United States, east of the Rocky mountains.

The bill for receiver which has been filed makes many allegations and an amendment will be filed tomorrow morning which is said to be of a sensational character.

The senior partner said tonight: "I do not believe that Mr. Brewster is far away. He left, in my opinion, solely because he could not bear to face what he knew was coming. He left here Saturday night, although I knew nothing of the condition of affairs until Monday morning."

Four Regiments to Leave Chickamauga

Chickamauga National Park, May 31.—Much to the disappointment of a number of volunteer regiments who think they are ready to go to the front, no orders were received for the movement of any commands additional to those mentioned yesterday. The Southern and the Western and Atlantic railroads were instructed today to move four regiments tomorrow morning.

THE LACRET EXPEDITION

A Successful Landing on Cuban Soil.

AID FOR THE CUBANS.

Four Hundred Soldiers, with 7,000 Rifles and 2,000,000 Cartridges Landed by the Steamer Florida—Met by a Large Body of Cubans, Whom they Join—No Spanish Troops Seen—Cubans Elated Over the Success of the Expedition.

(Copyright by Associated Press.)

Key West, Fla., May 31.—Over 400 men, with a pack train and a large quantity of arms and ammunition, sailed for Cuba on the Plant Line steamer Florida, on the night of May 21st. These men and the equipment constituted an expedition able to operate independently and to defend itself against any body of troops which might oppose it. The expedition was under the command of Colonel Jose Lacret, formerly insurgent commander in Matanzas province. He assumed the direction of affairs immediately on the landing of the expedition. Until then General Joaquin Castillo was in control.

In the landing of the expedition the United States army was represented by Captain J. A. Dorst, and Thomas Estrada Palma was represented by J. E. Cartaya, who has been the landing agent of nearly every fillbustering expedition for more than a year. Messrs. Castillo, Cartaya and Dorst will return to Key West.

General Julio Sanguilly, on the way to report to General Maximo Gomez, was also on the boat.

This is the most powerful anti-Spanish expedition ever sent to Cuba. About 300 of the men are Cubans, the others are Americans. The engineer corps of the expedition is composed entirely of Americans, under Aurelian Ladd.

The men were dressed in canvass uniforms furnished by the United States government and the commissary department had rations enough to last fifteen days after landing. The pack train consisted of seventy-five mules and twenty-five horses. The expedition carried 7,000 rifles and 2,000,000 rounds of ammunition for General Calixto Garcia. The expedition is composed of hardy young fellows, who looked fit for anything.

The expedition was convoyed by the cruiser Marblehead, the torpedo boat destroyer Eagle and other warships. Two younger brothers of the late General Nestor Aranguren are with the expedition.

The expedition was landed on the coast of Cuba on Thursday morning, May 26th. When the Florida, escorted by the Osceola, drew up close to the shore at the place selected for the landing, she sent scouts to see if all was clear. These scouts were greeted by Generals Feria and Rojas, with some 1,500 armed insurgents. Consequently, far from there being any hostile demonstration upon the part of the Spaniards, the landing of the expedition was in the nature of a triumphal invasion. The Cubans who were in waiting for the party had a brass band and welcomed the new comers with national airs.

The work of unloading the cargo of the Florida was promptly begun and carried on by the 432 men composing the expedition. There was nothing in the nature of an interruption. The work was finished on Friday.

While the cargo was being unloaded the Osceola, an auxilary gunboat, with her guns ready for a fight, scouted about the vicinity, looking for an enemy, but the Spaniards apparently had no suspicion of what was taking place. So easily was the dangerous mission accomplished that while some members of the party were getting the supplies ashore, others were providing themselves with fruit, sugar and other products of the landing place, a large stock of which was brought back for Key West friends.

Nevertheless, no precautionary measure was neglected and the moment the work was concluded, the Florida and the Osceola slipped away, leaving the insurgents to convoy their reinforcements into the interior, which, it is confidently expected, was done without any casualty.

The returning members of the Florida party brought with them several hundred private letters, which, it is understood, give a complete insight into the present conditions prevailing in the blockaded island.

The local Cuban colony is elated over the astonishing success of the expedition.

At the Cuban landing place people crowded about trying to exchange fruit clothes and shoes, of which they stand in great need.

When the Florida arrived at Key West she had a large Cuban flag hanging over the railing of her upper deck and a yellow flag flying. The health officer delayed the landing of Captain Dorst and General Castillo and others for several hours.

The expedition landed a large quantity of bacon as well as army rations.

(Midnight)—The war department absolutely forbids correspondents telegraphing the name of the landing place of General Lacret's expedition. Later information raises a strong presumption that the landing was effected, as originally planned, not far from Guantanamo, province of Santiago de Cuba.

Late to bed and early to rise, prepares a man for his home in the skies. Early to bed and a Little Early Riser, the pill that makes life longer and better and wise. For sale by R. R. Bellamy.

VERY RIGID CENSORSHIP

To be Established Over all War News.

NO CIPHER MESSAGES.

Censorship Extended to Private Telegrams—Another Cuban Cable Cut—A Spanish Bark, Coal Laden, is Captured Near Porto Rico—General Lee Reaches Jacksonville—Given a Grand Ovation—In Consultation with General Miles.

Tampa, Fla., May 31.—Captain J. E. Brady, of the signal service department at Washington, who has been appointed censor for the state of Florida, with the exception of Key West, arrived in Tampa today and at once assumed his new duties. Captain Brady will make his headquarters at Tampa. The censorship hereafter will be extremely rigid and any news pertaining to the movement of troops to or from Tampa or information of any kind that might be of service to the Spanish government will not be permitted to be sent out. The censorship has been extended to private telegrams also. No cipher messages will be allowed under any circumstances.

Every member of the Thirty-second Michigan volunteers will be presented with a pair of heavy tan shoes by Governor Pingree of Michigan. The governor telegraphed to the commanding officer of the regiment today asking for information as to the sizes needed and as soon as the shoes can be manufactured they will be shipped to Tampa.

Key West, Fla., May 31.—12:40 p. m.—News received here today from off Santiago de Cuba says the auxiliary cruiser St. Paul has cut the cable of that port.

ANOTHER PRIZE.

Key West, Fla., May 31.—Another prize has been captured. She is the Spanish bark Maria Dolores, of Bilboa. She was overhauled by one of the American cruisers six miles off Porto Rico. She was bound from Rio Janeiro to San Juan de Porto Rico with coal. Some cases, supposed to contain ammunition, were found under the coal.

The Maria Dolores was captured about 6 o'clock on the morning of May 21st. A prize crew was put on board and the vessel was sent to Charleston. The report of the capture was brought by a cruiser which arrived here today.

Jacksonville, Fla., May 31.—General Fitzhugh Lee arrived in this city from Tampa early this evening and his welcome amounted to an ovation. Hundreds crowded the station as his train rolled in and cheer upon cheer greeted him as he stepped from Mr. Plant's private car, which had been placed at his disposal. A committee of prominent citizens met him and he was escorted to the Seminole club, where he was entertained for an hour by his old friends here. No formal demonstration was attempted, as he had expressed his strong aversion to such a welcome. He was driven later to the Windsor hotel, which will be his headquarters in this city. He was accompanied by four members of his staff, Captain R. E. L. Michie, assistant adjutant general; Lieutenant Colonel Curtis Guild, Jr., inspector general; Lieutenant L. M. Maus, chief surgeon, and Lieutenant Colonel Oliver E. Wood, chief of commissary. The aides of the personal staff—Lieutenant Algernon Sartoris, Lieutenant Fitzhugh Lee, Jr., and Carlos Carbonnell—are expected to arrive from Washington tomorrow.

Later in the evening, accompanied by several members of his staff and other military officers at present located here, General Lee went to the terminal station and paid their respects to General Miles and his party during their stay in the city en route to Tampa. The two generals enjoyed half an hour's conversation in General Miles' private car, but nothing was given out for publication. General Miles was shown the latest dispatches regarding war news by an Associated Press correspondent and expressed gratifications at what was shown him.

Colonel Burgwyn in Washington.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., May 31.—Colonel Burgwyn, commanding the Second regiment of volunteers, who is now at Washington to secure arms, uniforms and equipments for his regiment, telegraphs that he went with Senators Butler and Pritchard and Congressman Skinner to see the secretary of war and the adjutant general, and that he feels confident he will get what he desires and that the regiment will be completely equipped before it leaves here. He will also secure instruments for the regimental band.

The regiment will begin battalion drills as soon as its companies from Murphy and Nantahala learn company movements.

A Big Land Case Decided.

Washington, May 31.—The United States supreme court, through Justice Harlan today rendered an opinion in a case involving a tract of 500,000 acres of land in Virginia and West Virginia. The land was patented by the state of Virginia to Robert Morris in 1795. The case was brought by Henry C. King against various claimants to the land, King claiming through transfer from Morris and the defendants resisting on the ground that the Morris grant had been forfeited. The case was decided by the circuit court for the district of West Virginia against King's contentions and this view of the case was affirmed by today's decision. Only that portion of the grant lying in West Virginia was directly involved in the opinion, but it also affects the Virginia lands.

IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE DAY.

The Federal Supreme Court Sustains the Validity of the North Carolina Fertilizer Tax.

The Steamer Florida Lands 400 Soldiers with 7,000 Rifles and 2,000,000 Cartridges on Cuban Soil.

Coast Signal Stations from Maine to Mexico are now in Operation, all Connected by Telegraph with the Navy Department.

The St. Paul Cuts Another Cable at Santiago.

A Spanish Bark, Coal Laden, is Captured Off San Juan, Porto Rico.

It is thought the American Troops will be Landed at Santiago.

The American Fleet Last Afternoon Attacked the Forts at Santiago. The Dispatches also Indicate that there was a Naval Battle.

The Moody & Brewster Company, of Atlanta, fail, Assets $100,000; Liabilities Said to be $360,000.

General Lee Reaches Jacksonville, where he is Given an Ovation.

Extremely Rigid Censorship will be Enforced as to News About the Movement of Troops.

Encouraging News Comes from the Insurgent Army in Cuba.

North Carolina Troops.

(Washington Post.)

Editor Post:

The southern people will thank you for your able and just editorial of May 26 entitled "The South and the War." Having the past few years been a member of the State Guard, I know under what trials and difficulties they labor and how unfit they are to respond promptly to a call to arms. The companies are usually formed in our cities, and for the most part are composed of young men. The active men on the roll rarely exceed forty or forty five, and some of them are totally unfit for service. When ordered out, therefore these companies had to be recruited. Many parents objected to their boys, only seventeen years and eighteen years of age, volunteering, while others, and this a large per cent., were rejected for physical defects, for while strong enough to play soldiers, they were utterly unable to endure the hardships and deprivations of a campaign. For these and other reasons it was not easy for even the most zealous Captain to increase his roll to eighty-four privates and the necessary commissioned and non-commissioned officers. In our state there has also been another obstacle. I don't know who is to blame; perhaps no one is, as it may be necessarily the consequences of a peaceful nation being hurriedly rushed into war, but I know that the condition in which our troops are in camp is enough to cast a damper and deter others from desiring to rush into the ranks to meet the same shameful fate. Although the war has been declared over a month, a visit to Camp Russell, where are encamped the Second regiment of North Carolina volunteers, will make the stoutest heart grow sick and the most enthusiastic volunteers think twice before joining. Most of the boys are clad in the same old dirty clothes which they had on when they left home. Others are almost without shoes on their feet, but few have any uniforms, while only one company when I was in camp had arms, and they of very inferior make. A great many complained of their rations, and one sent out the warning when he said to a friend visiting him: "Tell the boys, Jim, they had better stay away from here, for if this is the way they treat us in camp, what will be our fate when we are on the march?"

Such scenes as I have just given, and the very severe medical examinations which the boys must undergo before they are accepted, cause the seeming slowness with which we furnish our quota. It is no lack of bravery that keeps our ranks thin, for the sons of the men who made the charge at Gettysburg, who fought to the finish in the Wilderness, and died in the trenches around Richmond can never be branded with cowardice. Neither is it a lack of patriotism, for the Stars and Stripes are just as dear to us as the north and the honor of our nation will be protected with the last drop of our blood. For the reasons above given we may just now be a little slow, but wait until we march to the front—wait until we meet the enemy—wait until, with our elbows touching the elbows of our brave fellow-soldiers of the north, we are ordered to charge the batteries or forts of the Spaniards, and then with the yell, once known as the "rebel yell," you will see our boys ready to die in our country's cause and by their valor give the falsehood to the petty charges now made against them. Again thanking you in the name of my people for your defense of as brave and true patriots as ever lived. I am, with continued wishes for the success of your great paper.

Very truly,

R. B. GLEN.

You need Cod Liver Oil, you say but think you can't take it? Try "Morrhuvin" a perfected "Wine of Cod Liver Oil." You get all the virtue of the Oil, without the disagreeable effects. Sold by J. C. Shepard, J. H. Hardin and H. L. Fentress.

Encouraging News from Cuba.

Key West, Fla., May 31.—Couriers from Cuba today brought highly encouraging reports from General Calixto Garcia's army. Garcia alone, it is said, has 10,000 men, better equipped than ever before, except in the matter of clothing, and they are in excellent spirits.

Five thousand men, it is said, occupy territory along the northern coast near Manati. The Spanish troops have withdrawn to Santiago, Holquin and Manzanillo and General Garcia still holds his headquarters at Bayamo.

General Mario Monocal has been obliged to abandon his contemplated attack on Holquin, province of Santiago de Cuba, General Laduc, of the Spanish army, having thrown 10,000 men into the city and strongly fortified neighboring hills.

Tomas Collazo, Juan Miguel Portuondo and Captain Cardenas left Banes in a small boat recently for Nassau, bearing dispatches from General Garcia to the United States authorities.

COAST SIGNAL SERVICE.

System Complete from Maine to Mexico Connected by Telegraph With the Navy Department.

Washington, May 31.—The following notice to mariners was issued today:

Headquarters Coast Signal Service,

Washington, D. C., May 31, 1898.

Notice is given that this service has now in operation a system of signal stations extending from West Quoddy Head, Me., to the Mexican border, all connected by wire with the navy department. It also has the co-operation of the lighthouse service, life-saving service and weather bureau. Vessels passing any of the stations of the above services are requested to signal by international code any news it may have of sighting suspicious craft or fleets at sea. Any cautionary news such as the knowledge of an enemy in these waters will be communicated to passing vessels that come within signal distance. A list of the stations of this service will be furnished on application, but they are at all prominent points on the coast and may be known by the following distinguishing signal hoisted on a ninety foot signal mast, viz.:

Quiet days—Six foot drumshape.

Breezy days—International letter "P."

Night—Lanterns white red, white in a vertical hoist.

Most of the prominent lighthouses, as well as the life-saving stations, have telephonic connection with the coast signal stations, and are equipped with the international code, flags and book.

All correspondence relating to this service should be addressed to the superintendent of the coast signal service, navy department, Washington, D. C.

(Signed) JOHN R. BARTLETT,
Superintendent.

The Royal is the highest grade baking powder known. Actual tests show it goes one-third further than any other brand.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

ATTACKS SANTIAGO

A Furious Battle Between Spanish Fleet and Forts and Our Warships.

NO NEWS AS TO DAMAGE DONE.

The Cannonading at Entrance to the Harbor Lasting for Nearly Two Hours and Continued at Sea---None But Spanish Reports of the Battle Received---The Damage to the Forts Severe---Report of the Battle Discredited in Official Circles. The News in London---Spain's Last Dependence in Camara's Fleet

(Copyrighted by Associated Press.)

Cape Hytien, Hayti, May 31.—11:20 a. m.—The Haytien dispatch gunboat Capois La Mort, which arrived here from Port au Prince at 8 o'clock this morning, having the minister of public works on board, seems to have sighted five American warships, while passing Mole St. Nicholas yesterday afternoon. The correspondent here of the Associated Press has just interviewed the officers of the Capois La Mort, and learns that about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon when the gunboat was about abreast of the Mole columns of black smoke were espied on the horizon east by north, from her bridges. The ships were about thirteen miles distant and their hulls could not be fairly made out, but, all appearances indicated that several of the vessels were of great tonnage. The fleet seemed to be making northward with an speed, past the eastern end of Cuba, and while the officers of the Capois La Mort were observing the vessels they were gradually lost to view behind the protruding outlines of Cape Maysi. It is hardly to be doubted that the ships sighted were American war vessels.

It seems certain that the fleet the Haytien gunboat saw passing Cape Maysi, going northward, found its opportunity of turning backward across the front of an opposng force.

FIGHTING AT SANTIAGO DE CUBA

5:15 p. m.—Advices just received from Havana say that since 2 o'clock this afternoon, the American fleet at Santiago de Cuba has been cannonading the batteries of Morro Castle, Lazcapa and Punta Gorda. At the same time it is added the American ships have been engaged with the Spanish warships. The firing was extremely heavy. At 3:45 o'clock p. m., the cannonading became less heavy against the fortifications, but was more accentuated in the locality where the fleets were engaged.

Morro Castle is at the entrance of the harbor of Santiago de Cuba, Lazcapa, also shown on the maps as Lazecapa Castle, is a short distance inside the harbor entrance, and Punta Gorda is situated on a point well inside the harbor of Santiago de Cuba.

The Havana advices indicate that the American fleet has forced the entrance of the harbor of Santiago de Cuba, and has engaged the fleet.

6:40 p. m.—At this hour the Santiago cable is still working from Santiago.

Private messages intimate that there has been a severe fight between the American fleet and the outer fortifications and the Spanish fleet. The fight lasted the greater part of the afternoon.

Persons who climbed Lookout mountain at the entrance of Cape Haytien harbor this afternoon declare that they heard cannonading, low, but distinct, to the west and to the north beyond Tortuga Island. The correspondent of the Associated Press who was at the signal station about the same time, also heard sounds resembling a cannonade. The wind was in the right direction to carry the detonations to him.

(Copyrighted bq Associated Press.)

Port au Prince, Hayti, May 31.—About 2 o'clock this afternoon an American squadron, composed of fourteen warships, of which the cruiser New York displayed the flag of Rear Admiral Sampson, and a number of torpedo boats, began a bombardment with heavy guns of the forts and the harbor of Santiago de Cuba.

The American fire was directed principally against the forts and the harbor. The forts of Morro Castle, La Zocapa and Punta Gorda suffered especially. The cannonading was very persistent and cannot have failed to be destructive. It lasted until 3:45 o'clock p. m. The town, which is situated near the inner end of the harbor, escaped damage.

At 3:45 o'clock p. m., the cannonade diminished. About three o'clock cannon discharges were heard at a distance (presumably at sea) continuing for sometime, when the firing ceased completely.

The Spanish authorities maintain strict silence as to the number of victims, who were apparently numerous.

According to advices from a Spanish source, fourteen American warships and two torpedo boats were engaged in the combat at Santiago. A very careful fire was directed against the batteries of Morro Castle until 3:45 o'clock p. m., when discharges of cannon began to be heard at sea, off the port. These discharges continued until 4 o'clock and then entirely ceased.

From the Spanish account it is impossible to judge as to the exact merits of the encounter.

NEWS OF THE BATTLE IN LONDON

London, June 1.—The news of the fighting at Santiago de Cuba has revived the dwindling interest in the war. It is suggested that the Americans may be bombarding the forts in order to cover the laying of mines or the sinking of hulks to block the channel.

Credence is given to the report that Admiral Cervera tried to run the blockade before the arrival of General Shafter's expedition. It is not believed that Commodore Schley would venture to imitate Dewey's feat at Manila.

Everything so far as Spain is concerned, is now held to depend on Admiral Camara's movements and unless, as is unlikely, he is able to display masterly skill, it is evident that the bold strategy of the Spaniards will only result in the destruction of their fleet in detail. A second reserve squadron could not be prepared for months, as the vessels recently mentioned by the Madrid press are all in a backward state at Ferrol, Cadiz, and Carthagena, except the Numancia, the Vittoria and the Dona Maria de Molina, which could be ready in a few weeks.

Madi advices from Barcelonia to the Daily Chronicle says: Alongside the iron clad Numancia, orders to hurry the preparations on which have just been received, lies the Covadongo, of the Compania Trans-Atlantica line. Her foremast and two funnels have been painted black and she is ready to go to Cadiz for her armament. The Isla de Panay, which is unloading, will be the next prepared, and after her will come the Jova Serra.

As additional defences at Barcelona, the Spaniards are hastily erecting six large guns, dated 1881 which have just been mounted at Barcelonita. Three hundred engineers are constructing new batteries at Badalont, just under Montjuich fortress in a coned unobservable from the harbor. Platforms for three enomous are being erected with all speed. The guns will cover the harbor mouth, with a range of 200 yards.

SPANIARDS TIRED OF THE WAR.

All Barcelona is heartily sick of the war. The people regard it as merely a continuation of the Cuban war, which has paralyzed business for three years.

Recently the government called upon the manufacturers of Barcelona voluntarily to contribute £12,000 ($60,000) for the defense of the town. They replied that they had already paid most of the expenses of the government and of the defense of Spain, adding: "If the yankee admiral comes here, we shall invite him to dinner."

A dispatch to The Daily Mail from Kingston dated Tuesday says: A large American squadron, supposed to be Rear Admiral Sampson's, was seen today off Port Antonio, on the north coast of Jamaica, twenty-five miles northwest of Morant point, the eastern extremity of the island, steaming westward.

REPORT OF A BATTLE DISCREDITED.

Washington, May 31.—Naval officials absolutely discredit the news from Cape Haytien to the effect that Commodore Schley forced the entrance to Santiago bay and engaged the Spanish fleet in the harbor.

The latest official advices received from Commodore Schley were contained in a cablegram which came late this afternoon, and in that the commodore gives no indications of an intention to try to enter the harbor of Santiago. While the contents of the dispatch were not made public, the bulletin issued upon it by the navy department indicated that Commodore Schley is still endeavoring to determine just what Spanish vessels are in the harbor. The bulletin follows:

"Comodore Schley's fleet has sighted another vessel of the Vizcaya's class in Santiago harbor."

The naval officers declare that Schley would not endeavor to force his way into the harbor in view of the great difficulties of navigation which would have to be surmounted in the effort.

Yesterday in Congress.

SENATE.

Washington, May 31.—Another day has been passed by the senate in fruitless discussion of the war revenue measure. Not the slightest material progress was made at today's session toward disposing of the bill. Speeches were made by Senators Mason, Lodge, Elkins.

Senator Mason strongly advocated an amendment to the bill placing a tax upon wheat-flour adulterated either with clay or with corn-flour and presented a long statement by the National Association of American Millers in support of his contention.

Senator Lodge had intended to defend his action in offering the Hawaiian annexation resolution as an amendment to the pending bill, but refrained because, he said, a secret session would be demanded if that discussion was started. After commenting somewhat severely upon the arrogance of the minority which prevented action upon a question which the administration and a majority in both branches of congress desired to dispose of, he began a discussion of some of