

THE DAILY FREE PRESS.

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SPANISH FLEET SAILS

North After Having Coaled and Provisioned for a Long Cruise.

TO ABOLISH STRATEGY BOARD.

A Confidential Friend of McKinley Says The President is Tired of so Much Red Tape and Will Abolish the Strategy Board and Sidetrack Sink Stooking Brigadiers, and Put in Trained Leaders. President Has Always Favored a Vigorous War Policy But Has Been Hampered By the Red Tape of Alleged Strategists.

By Telegraph to The Free Press. Washington, May 16.—Secretary Long is officially informed that the Spanish armada sailed north from Caracoa last night, after having coaled and provisioned for a long cruise.

A confidential friend of President McKinley said this morning that the president would abolish the board of strategy; that hereafter the army and navy chiefs would formulate their own plans for the campaign and have direct communication with the commander-in-chief.

The above action is said to be a result of McKinley's dissatisfaction at the dilatoriness and general inefficiency of the present board.

His friend declared that the president has always advocated a vigorous war policy, but has been frequently hampered by the red tape of the alleged strategists.

This friend further asserted that the appointment of celebrities and sons of celebrities to important commands has been violently opposed by the president, but were forced upon him, during the hurry of preparations, by the pertinacity of politicians.

This friend of the president prophesies that the sink stooking brigadiers will soon be sidetracked and supplanted by trained leaders. His official position makes it impossible for McKinley's friend to consent to a publication of his name.

SUNDAY'S NEWS.

A Brief Synopsis of the Important Events Made Known in Monday's Morning Papers. Spanish Gunboat Captured by Dewey. Suffering and Hunger at Both Manila and Havana. Spanish Cabinet Resigned. Blanco's Snare for Blockading Fleet Didn't Work. Nothing Heard From Sampson or Spanish Fleet. Ensign Bagley's Funeral.

Special to The Free Press.

Raleigh, May 15.—Admiral Dewey's fleet at Manila captured the Spanish gunboat Callao in Manila harbor. The Spanish boat went in without knowing that war had been declared.

Great suffering and hunger is reported from both Manila and Havana.

The Spanish cabinet has resigned. Sagasta is to organize a new war cabinet.

Gen. Blanco set a snare for the blockading fleet at Havana, but it didn't work.

Nothing was heard yesterday from Sampson nor from the Spanish fleet.

Ensign Bagley's remains arrived in Raleigh this morning. The funeral will take place at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Imposing Funeral of Ensign Bagley.

Special to The Free Press.

Raleigh, May 16.—The body of Ensign Bagley has arrived. The face is not mutilated, as was reported, but wears a smile. The funeral will be the most imposing ever seen here. By order of the war department the funeral will be equal to that of a brigadier.

On Their Way to Help Dewey.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

San Francisco, May 16.—Three thousand troops from Minnesota, Utah and Oregon will arrive Wednesday and encamp at Presidio.

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PRECAUTIONS AT KEY WEST.

Extraordinary Precautions Against Any Possible Spanish Swoop to Get the Big Store of Ammunition There. Blockading Vessels Warned of Spanish Fleet Off Venezuela, and the Spaniards Won't Be Able to Get into Cienfuegos.

By Cable to THE FREE PRESS. Key West, May 16.—Extraordinary precautions are being taken for the protection of this harbor. Extra guards and watchmen have been put on, covering the naval station store houses, and only government employes are permitted to approach the government dock. It is feared that Spaniards, who know of the immense quantities of stores here, might attempt to capture them by an unexpected swoop.

The blockading vessels off the southern coast of Cuba have been warned that the Spanish fleet is off Venezuela, and are ordered to redouble their vigilance. Powerful vessels, names not given, are ready to aid the blockaders in resisting the progress of the enemy northwards, and there is small chance that the Spanish fleet will be able to enter Cienfuegos.

The government tug Osceola reported this morning having fired on the Spaniards patrolling the coast near Havana. The Spaniards fled without returning the fire.

Spain Seizes Canary Cables.

Cable to Free Press. Liverpool, May 16.—Spain has seized the Canary cables, to prevent the communication of news regarding the movements of her fleet.

Well, Hardly!

By Cable to THE FREE PRESS. Madrid, May 16.—Sagasta this morning asked the powers to declare the Cuban blockade ineffective and unrecognizable.

Spanish Fleet Sighted.

By Cable to The Free Press. Key West, May 16.—It is reported that the Spanish fleet is sighted eighteen miles off the northern coast of Cuba.

ANGLO-SAXON ALLIANCE.

Stars and Stripes and Union Jack Should Float Side by Side. War Would be Cheaply Purchased, Mr. Chamberlain Declares, if it Should Bring About This Desirable Result.

London, May 15.—The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, made an important speech on public affairs at Birmingham this evening.

Mr. Chamberlain, after deprecating the constant assertions in certain quarters that Lord Salisbury was "discredited" and the government "weak and vacillating," said:

"If foreign countries believe and act upon those statements they will find themselves much mistaken and that courteous diplomacy and graceful concessions are not incompatible with a firm maintenance of the country's honor and interest."

Then declaring that he intended to make a "plain statement of facts, unfiltered by the mysteries and reticencies of the diplomacy of half a century ago, which, without revealing secret negotiations, should be 'understood of the people.'" Mr. Chamberlain said he would accept the judgment of the people as willingly as that of the wisest diplomatist in the world. Referring to the policy of strict isolation that England has pursued since the Crimean war, he remarked that this has been "perfectly justifiable," but, he added, "the time has arrived when Great Britain may be confronted by a combination of powers, and our first duty, therefore, is to draw all parts of the empire into close unity, and our next to maintain the bonds of permanent unity with our kinsmen across the Atlantic." (Loud cheers.)

"There is a powerful and generous nation," said Mr. Chamberlain, "speaking our language, bred of our race, and having interests identical with ours. I would go so far as to say, terrible as war may be, even war itself would be cheaply purchased if in a great and noble cause the stars and stripes and the union jack should wave together over an Anglo-Saxon alliance." (Prolonged cheers.)

"It is one of the most satisfactory results of Lord Salisbury's policy that at the present time these two great nations understood each other better than they ever had done, since, over a century ago, they were separated by the blunder of a British government."

INSURGENT VICTORY.

Gen. Gomez Defeats a Force of 1,600 Spaniards.

PROTECTION OF AMERICANS.

A Force of 2,000 Cubans Passed Cienfuegos Two Weeks Ago to Invade Havana Province and Co-operate in Protecting Americans Landing. Passengers Accuse British Consul of Bad Conduct.

By Cable to THE FREE PRESS.

Kingston, Jamaica, May 16.—In an engagement, several leagues from Cienfuegos last Monday, the insurgents under Gen. Gomez defeated a force of 1,600 Spaniards, compelling them to relinquish Jucaro Moran trocha, which is the most important one near Cienfuegos, and to retire to the city.

The insurgents also compelled the Spaniards to abandon the outfortifications.

The Spaniards notified planters that they must protect themselves.

A fortnight ago Gen. Minooal passed Cienfuegos with 2,000 Cubans from Puerto Principe and Santa Clara, with the intention of invading Havana province and co-operating in the protection of the Americans landing.

Two hundred and eighty-seven passengers on the British steamer Adula, which arrived here Thursday, accuse Consul McGarvie, the British consul, of fleeing from Cienfuegos without notifying the Americans under his charge that the steamer Beverly had been sent by Consul Dent from Kingston to rescue them.

Blanco Declines to Exchange Prisoners.

By Cable to The Free Press. Key West, May 16.—The government tug Uncas arrived this morning without having made an exchange of Charles Thrall and Hayden Jones, the American correspondents captured by the Spaniards last week, whom America seeks to exchange. It is reported that Gen. Blanco declines to exchange.

FAULKNER CASE.

Jury Returned Verdict of Murder in Second Degree. Judgment Not Yet Passed. Some Guesses About the Case.

The speeches by the lawyers were not exactly in the order published in Saturday's FREE PRESS, a slight change being made in the order of speaking, Mr. Loftin following Mr. Ormond, and Mr. Pollock following Solicitor Richardson. All the speeches were good.

The case was given to the jury a few minutes to 9 o'clock Saturday night, and after considering it thirty-five minutes the jury brought in a verdict of murder in the second degree, with a recommendation for mercy.

There has been much discussion of what is the law regarding punishment for murder and manslaughter. By inquiry we learn that it is as follows: Murder in first degree, punishable by hanging; murder in the second degree, punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary for two to thirty years; manslaughter, punishable by imprisonment from four months in the county jail to twenty years in the penitentiary.

It is not likely that Judge Adams will pass sentence today, and it may be the latter part of the week before he passes sentence. It is possible that a compromise may be reached, by which the sentence will be for a short term, in consideration of the prisoner paying a sum of money to the support of the widow and her children, but we are not authorized to make statement and only express the opinion that seems to prevail to some extent. On the other hand it is possible that a right heavy sentence may be passed and an appeal taken to the supreme court, in which event the prisoner would be confined in the county jail until the supreme court passed on the case.

Peter Maher Knocked Out.

Philadelphia, May 13.—At the Arena here tonight, in one minute and fifty-one seconds of combined sparring and fighting, Joe Goddard, the "barrier champion," retired Peter Maher, with a sort of pivot punch, which was delivered so suddenly that hardly a spectator realized what had come off.

ALDRIDGE MURDER TRIAL.

Brief Synopsis of the Evidence. Defendant Submitted to Manslaughter and Sentenced to Twelve Months in the Penitentiary.

The following jury was obtained, without a struggle, this morning, to try Henry Aldridge, colored, charged with murdering Alfred Adams, colored: C. H. Barwick, A. O. Albritton, R. B. Alexander, T. B. Holloway, O. Taylor, S. I. Wooten, P. P. Phillips, W. S. Pittman, Richard King, J. R. Howard and W. A. LaRoque.

The evidence showed that on the 24th of last December a crowd of negroes, part of them under the influence of liquor, left Kingston in a wagon. That between Kingston and the bridge a pistol was fired twice, and that the last shot struck and killed Alfred Adams, and that the shot was fired by Henry Aldridge. The fatal result was not known until the party reached Mr. Sam Loftin's, five and a half miles from Kingston.

It also was shown that Aldridge and Adams were friendly, and that Aldridge cried when he heard Adams was dead.

On the other hand it was shown that the two had had a few words as to who was to "go home with Bettie;" and one witness stated that Adams said: "If you go home with Bettie I'll kill you," and that Aldridge replied: "You shan't go either or I'll get you." But some witness said they were not fussing when they left town, and were perfectly friendly when they got in the wagon.

The defendant proved a good character.

Solicitor Richardson was assisted in the prosecution by Mr. R. B. Moore, of Newbern.

Mess. H. E. Shaw and T. C. Wooten appeared for the defendant.

The defense submitted to manslaughter, and Mr. Shaw spoke and appealed for a light sentence.

Judge Adams passed sentence at 12:25 this afternoon. The sentence was twelve months in the penitentiary.

In passing sentence Judge Adams took occasion to give the prisoners some wholesome and timely advice, advising him never to carry a pistol again, that it is cowardly to carry a pistol and cowardly to shoot a man.

SPAIN PROTESTS

Against Harvard Repairing at Martinique, But France Upholds American Rights.

By Cable to The Free Press.

Paris, May 14.—Spain protests against boat Harvard repairing at Martinique, but has been answered by France, upholding American rights.

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SPANIARDS ENTRAPPED

Their Fleet is in the Center of a Converging Triangle.

HEMMED IN FROM EVERY SIDE

And Cannot Escape. The Oregon is Safe, And Helps Hold the Spanish Fleet in Check. The News Indicates That There Will Soon Be a Hot Naval Fight.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Washington, May 16.—Secretary Long this afternoon heard from the Oregon, which is safe. Her location is kept secret.

The Spanish armada is entrapped in the Caribbean sea. News was received this afternoon from Sampson, showing that he controls the situation, and that our squadron in northern waters can cut off the Spaniards before they reach southern Cuba. The Oregon, Marietta and Buffalo, coming along the Brazilian coast, can prevent the Spaniards' escape in a southern direction by engaging them until the arrival of Sampson. The Montgomery, St. Louis and Yale are in the vicinity of Martinique and will destroy the Spanish boat Terror and save our boat Harvard at St. Pierre. Schley, rushing to northern Cuba, prevents the escape of the Spanish fleet northward. The Spanish fleet is in the center of a converging triangle.

SPANISH CABINET RESIGNS.

Resignation Formally Handed the Queen Regent. Spain's War Spirit Increased by Recent Events. Great Reliance on the Skilled Spanish Admiral.

By Cable to THE FREE PRESS.

Madrid, May 16.—Sagasta this afternoon formally handed the queen regent the resignation of the ministers. She ordered him to form a new cabinet.

Moret, minister of the colonies, this morning officially confirmed the statement that cabinet changes would result in an aggressive Spanish policy. He added that recent events have greatly increased the war spirit of the nation, and that the greatest reliance is placed on Admiral Cerveras' squadron, under that skilled Spanish admiral. Cerveras has unhampered instructions with details and plans, which are unknown to the ministers.

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