

SCHLEY TELLS HIS STORY

He Gives a Connected Narrative of Events Off Santiago

THE BLOCKADE AND RETROGRADE MOVEMENT

The Reconnaissance to Develop the Fortifications in the Harbor Described—How the Ships Were Lying When the Spanish Squadron Came Out—He Tells How the Battle Began—The Brooklyn's Loop and Surrender of the Colon

Washington, Oct. 25.—When the Schley court of inquiry met this afternoon there was an immense crowd present. Admiral Schley went to the navy yard, as usual, in an open street car, and shook hands with a double row of men and women on the way from the gate to the building in which the inquiry is held.

After a few minutes consumed in immaterial changes of their testimony by Lieutenant Commander Harlow and Captain Clark, Admiral Schley resumed his story which was cut short by the adjournment yesterday. He was questioned by Mr. Rayner as follows:

Q.—Admiral, do you want to continue or go back in your narrative to make any statement that you omitted yesterday?

Admiral Schley.—With the court's permission I will go back to the blockade at Cienfuegos in order that, as I go along with my narrative, I may make it perfectly clear. In relation to Cienfuegos and the McCalla memorandum, upon which much stress has been laid, I desire to say that I received but one copy. If there were others sent they should be found in my papers that were returned to the Navy Department in February or January of 1899. I have no recollection of any other than one copy, and I think my letter, to be found on page 473 of the appendix, must confirm the fact that I got only that one.

Admiral Schley read a portion of the letter.

"Cienfuegos, May 23.

"Sir: In reply to your letter No. 8 I would state that I am by no means satisfied that the Spanish fleet is not in Cienfuegos.

He then continued: "That strengthens my recollection, or at least my belief, that I got but one copy. That letter confirms it. The batteries which have been spoken about were lying behind the village which, of course, under national acceptance of law, would not have been exempt from bombardment, but the memorandum related to the masked batteries, which I suppose were near the mouth of the harbor, and, seeing no evidence of them, I very naturally did not fire upon the batteries of the harbor. Consequently I did not feel that it would be wise or prudent to waste ammunition when there would be so much better use for it later.

"Now, in relation to the records of the flag officer, testified to by Mr. Marks, I would like to invite attention to page 473 of the appendix as evidence of the promptness with which this office works. A dispatch which was dated May 27 reached me on the 10th of June."

Captain Lemly (interrupting)—I regret very much to interrupt the witness in his narrative, but I understand the court itself wants facts. I do not understand that this witness, any more than any other, is here for the purpose of making arguments. I do not think this proper testimony. The question of the working of the flag office is a matter of argument to be treated by counsel later on.

Mr. Rayner.—We have a right to testify to the accuracy of matters. This witness has a perfect right to give reasons for his actions, and to say why he did not do certain things and why he did do certain things, and he has done no more than that.

Captain Lemly.—This is not a matter of accuracy or inaccuracy. It is an argument to show the insufficiency of this office, and it is nothing else; and in what he has said he has avoided entirely the question upon which I base my objection.

Admiral Dewey.—It is eminently proper for the witness to say that a dispatch written May 27 did not reach him until a certain day, and then let the matter drop there.

Mr. Rayner (to Admiral Schley)—When was that dispatch received?

A.—June 10, nearly ten or twelve days after it was sent.

Mr. Rayner.—Well, now go on. If you wish me to, I will read you the last of your testimony yesterday.

Admiral Schley took the printed testimony and then continued:

"Returning to the matter of the retrograde movement and the communication borne to me by Captain Cotton, and the testimony to the effect that he had mentioned to me that Lieutenant Beal had volunteered to go ashore to ascertain the location of the insurgents, I think Captain Cotton—I think his memory is at fault. As to the occasion, I met Captain Cotton after his return, May 31, coupled with this offer of Lieutenant Beal, I remember that he mentioned the fact that Beal had equipped himself with certain communications, and would be so much better qualified; so that that enables me to fix with some accuracy the occasion of his second visit."

Captain Cotton testified that he had informed Schley that Lieutenant Beal was prepared to go on shore and communicate with insurgents when he first met him off Santiago May 26. He subsequently returned from Mole St. Nicholas and again saw Schley on the 31st. It is upon this occasion that Schley says he was informed about Lieutenant Beal.

The witness continued: "Now touching the question of the retrograde after the Merrimac had broken down. The

movement was not made to the westward until toward 9 o'clock. The Yale had considerable difficulty in getting a hawser to the collier. The hawser parted about 11 o'clock that night, when I was signalled by Captain Wise that it would take some four hours to get out the steel hawser and attach it. The ship at that time was absolutely unmanageable, and not fit to turn a propeller. I do not think we got under way again until toward 4 o'clock in the afternoon of May 27, and not long after that she was taken in tow and steamed toward the westward. We went a little further than I intended to on account of the difficulty in reading the signals. We were obliged to go a little further on that occasion.

"As soon as the sea calmed down—that was one of the conditions that I watched most carefully, not that I was a better judge of that than any other officer of the fleet, but I was more interested in it—I signalled Captain Philip asking him if he could coal. I think he was uncertain about it, as he signalled back: 'I will try.' My impression is that he was not satisfied that he could coal the next morning. On the following day he signalled that both himself and the Merrimac had sprung a leak. The weather was exceedingly hot so that the men were exhausted in coaling. My impression is that, as a result of the statement made by the physician on board, the signal was made to me in the morning stating that he (Phillip) would have to let up on account of the exhausted condition of the crew. The Marblehead, Texas and Vixen all took more or less coal from the collier on that occasion.

"Toward 2 o'clock of that afternoon I felt that in view of a suggestion of the honorable secretary of the navy that the Spanish fleet was at Santiago and that it would only take a very little while to get back, as we were not far away, and that a thorough examination could be made; and if this squadron was found not to be there then the immediate outlook at that time would have been that they had gone east and not west.

"We arrived in front of the harbor of Santiago about 6 o'clock, if my memory serves me right, and I think there is a record in the log, which shows that the Morro was bearing north by east six or seven miles. I continued on until about 7 or 7:30 and took up a position which I estimated, from the appearance of the land, within about five or six miles, and there the squadron was held in formation during the night. The Marblehead was instructed to take her position inside the line of the larger vessels, to be able to guard the entrance and to let us know if the enemy appeared.

"Toward 8 o'clock in the morning, or probably before that, I saw to the east the smoke of a vessel which subsequently proved to be the St. Paul, and when Captain Sigbee approached the squadron I called him immediately on board and told him that the Spanish fleet was really in the harbor, that we had seen several of its vessels. My impression is that Captain Cook was standing alongside of me at the time and Captain Sigbee seemed to be a good deal surprised. At all events I gave him a telegram, whether in cipher or in English I do not recall, informing the department and Admiral Sampson that the enemy was in port."

Here Admiral Schley read from the appendix the telegram which he had sent to the department and to Admiral Sampson by Captain Sigbee.

Mr. Rayner.—You sent the dispatches; what did you do then?

Admiral Schley.—After sending that dispatch the squadron maintained its position in the blockade off the harbor, and the form for which a squadron of its size was, in my judgment, the best suited, was to keep the squadron constantly in line of battle. To that end I called all of the captains on board and explained to them not only the method of blockade, but the method as well of attack in case the enemy should appear.

Admiral Schley then detailed the method of the blockade and form of battle, which he described in his testimony yesterday as having been decided upon by him before he left Hampton Roads. This he explained as follows:

"The plan adopted was to attack the head of the column, and the accompanying picket boats were to be employed as torpedo boat destroyers, protecting themselves under the lee of the larger ships, and to assail themselves of any

opportunity to attack any of the torpedo boats. The squadron then took up its position, and the order was given to all to maintain steam enough to get up a speed of 12 knots, and we maintained that formation.

Continuing, Admiral Schley said the larger vessels remained off about five miles, and that the surf had to be taken into consideration. He resumed:

"When night came on the squadron was formed in column and we steamed east and west as slowly as possible. We did not get up such speed as some of the witnesses have testified to, because of the condition of the bottoms of some of the vessels. I know this was the case of the Brooklyn and of some of the others."

The admiral described the blockade at night. There never was a night, he said, that before retiring he did not look out for the picket boats and, continuing, he testified as follows:

"On May 31, whilst the Brooklyn, the Marblehead and the Texas were coaling, I transferred my flag to the Massachusetts and determined that I would develop the fortifications; for the information that we had on board from the hydrographic office, my impression now is, was rather uncertain. I think one statement said that the batteries were on, and another that the batteries were mounted. The general belief was that the harbor was heavily fortified. In fact we knew very little about it or of the artillery which the forts contained. Feeling that I ought to know something about the fortifications which defended that place, I determined to go in and take advantage of our long range guns and observe what was there and, incidentally, if we could get a shot into the Colon, which was lying somewhat exposed, to do it."

"I think we were lying in a position, four or five miles to the westward. I transferred my flag, named 7,000 yards as the range, and went on board the Massachusetts. When I got on board it was near the dinner hour and Captain Higginson suggested that we postpone until 1 o'clock going in to develop the batteries, and I assented to that. Then after the luncheon was over we went to quarters and steamed in pretty near head on. There was not much opportunity for one to seek protection.

"Some statement has been regarding the fact that while uniforms were worn on that day. That was a matter which I controlled, entirely in my squadron, and it was about the only suitable dress for that climate at that time. I took with me my flag lieutenant, Mr. Sears, Lieut. Ellis, Mr. McCauley and Mr. Graham, the correspondent of a press association, who was most earnest in a request to go with us. I tried to dissuade him from going, but he pleaded so earnestly that I finally consented.

"While on the Massachusetts, before going to quarters, Captain Higginson and I had a talk over the matter. I did not feel excited at all or nervous. If I had felt that way I need not have undertaken it. Some of the men were standing on the forward turret of the 13-inch gun and I said to them 'I would not take a position of such exposure. You do not have to do it, and I have to. I was upon the platform surrounding the conning tower. Mr. Potts is entirely in error in saying that I took advantage of any protection at all. That is not the fact. I did not feel the occasion nor necessity for doing it. It was with regard to the others rather than myself that I made the suggestion. I gave the distance as 7,000 yards. Mr. Potts reported to Captain Higginson in my hearing that we were on that range and Captain Higginson reported to me. I told him to then take up his position as directed. I never knew until afterwards that there was any variation in the range. The heavy guns were directed at the Colon and the signal was made to the New Orleans to engage the batteries. My recollection is that she did."

"About the moment we began firing the batteries to the east of the Morro, the Socapa and the Morro itself opened up. There was a slope to the westward upon which there was a battery firing smokeless powder, from which I could only see the flashes. There was a storm of projectiles coming over us. They impressed me as being guns of 6 or 7 inch calibre. There were many that passed over the squadron. The Vixen was lying half a mile outside. A shell went over her. I could not see firing in the harbor, but I assumed that they were firing at random over the hills. The Socapa unquestionably reached us and went beyond us. I did not know whether their guns were superior or not, but the fact was that they did go beyond us. I felt that it was lost one or two of our ships, or had one or two of the vessels of our squadron injured (the squadron then only consisted of five or six ships) we would be at great disadvantage and probably might have invited an attack which would have had disastrous results. I felt that the large interests and the wiser course would be to prevent that, if possible, and save the ships for better use, as subsequently developed.

Mr. Rayner.—You say you had no idea at that time (before May 28) that the fleet was in Santiago harbor. Well, what do you know of the character of the collier Restormel?

A.—I have no information except that given me by Captain Sigbee. He reported that he had captured the collier going into Santiago. She had touched at a port in Porto Rico, but he did not know positively she was going into Santiago harbor.

After some time spent in discussing various dispatches, the witness directed his evidence to the attempt at coaling at or near Cape Cruz. He did not recall, he said, as a proper place to continue.

Resuming his statement after questioning concerning attempts to coal at Cape Cruz Admiral Schley said:

Now, the evidence already given

(Continued on 2d page.)

IN A FIRE TRAP

A Score of Human Lives Lost in Flames

SCENES OF HORROR

Frightful Leap of a Woman, A Pair Lacking Courage to Jump Roasted Before the Gaze of Thousands

Philadelphia, Oct. 25.—Fire in the part of the business portion of the city this morning killed eighteen, and probably more persons, and caused a money loss of half a million dollars.

The fire, which started in the house furnishing establishment of Hunt, Wilkinson & Co., an eight-story structure, 1219-1221 Market street, was probably due to the explosion of a small lamp such as is used by plumbers, which was being used by a man working in the cellar of the building, at 1219, at the base of the elevator shaft. This lamp probably exploded and the workman was taken away from the building with his face and body so badly burned that he died a few minutes after being received in the hospital. The flames shot at once up the elevator shaft, and within five minutes the whole building was ablaze.

Thirty men, upholsterers, were at work on the seventh floor of the building. One of them smelled smoke and ran to the elevator shaft in the rear and saw the flames. He called to his companions to run to the front of the building, but when they reached the stairway they perceived that the fire was as fierce there as in the rear. They made their way back and clambered out on the fire escape and through the flames, which had burst out of the windows in the back, and down the escape as best they could. A dozen of them got down and rushed into Twelfth street.

On the sixth floor ten or more women sewers were at work. These were warned, but they had difficulty in getting out, owing to the fact that a great pile of bags and curtains blocked the way to the fire escape, and when they reached the platform it was so hot that they were unable to climb down the iron rods, and some of them jumped and others fell to the narrow pavement of Commerce street.

A woman and a man, unable to descend because of the flames, and lacking courage to jump, slowly roasted before the eyes of the thousand spectators who crowded the street below.

Another woman made her way to the front of the building, and, getting on a window sill of the sixth floor, stood swaying there in a frame of fire. Men stood with a net below, the only net at the fire, and implored her to jump, but she hesitated until she was blinded by smoke and flame, and then, misjudging the distance she should have leaped outside, she left the sill with a shriek. Landing on her body struck a very high and bounding to the wall, was tossed back to another sign and split half-way upward, beginning below the stomach. As soon as she reached the ground she was placed in an ambulance and taken to hospital, but she died in a few minutes.

The buildings destroyed were 1219-1221 Market street, occupied by Hunt, Wilkinson & Co.; 1223 and 1225, William F. Potts & Sons, iron merchants; 1227, E. C. Eisenberg, men's furnishings; and J. Humphrey, sign painter; 1214-1216, south side of Market street, occupied by Kayser & Allman, wall paper, and 1218, L. C. Bliss, Regal shoes, and 1220 and 1224, Ivenes, Deitsch & Magee, carpets, were damaged and their stock injured. A dozen other buildings were damaged slightly.

At 10 o'clock the identified dead numbered fifteen, and in the morgue were three bodies unidentified, two of which are so badly charred that identification will be difficult.

A CARPENTER'S FALL

D. C. Blake Seriously Injured at Durham

Durham, N. C., Oct. 25.—Special.—Mr. D. C. Blake, a carpenter who is employed on the new North Durham graded school, was very badly hurt today by falling fifteen feet. In the fall he landed on a pile of brick. One of his hips was contused, and may be his lung hurt. He was carried home in the western part of town, and tonight is resting quietly. It is thought he will recover. He has several relatives in Raleigh.

In a letter received here this afternoon Rev. A. H. Barbee of Jonesboro, accepts the call extended by the Christian church.

CAMPAIGN IN SAMAR

A General Movement to Be Made Against Insurgents.

Manila, Oct. 25.—Planters report that storms in the Cagayan valley have ruined the crops and that prices for supplies next year will be doubled.

The libel bill adopted by the Philippine Commission will become a law in spite of the opposition of the papers and the lawyers. The opposition to this bill was almost unanimous.

Rear Admiral Rodgers has disembarked the marines from his ship at Balangiga, where the massacre of Company C of the Ninth Infantry occurred. At the same time General Smith completed his arrangements for the distribution of troops on the island of Samar.

A general movement will take place at once with parts of the First, Seventh, Ninth, Eleventh, Twelfth and Twenty-sixth infantry regiments.

Numerous suspected municipal officials have been arrested in Samar. The evidence shows that there have been startling conspiracies on foot. The sources of the chief supplies for the rebels have been blockaded and inhabitants are now concentrated in towns. The friends of General Luckban, the rebel leader, have been terrifying the interior.

Bryan Draws Crowds

Omaha, Oct. 25.—The advent of William J. Bryan in the Nebraska campaign has aroused an interest in the result which has hitherto not existed. Extreme apathy has marked the movements of both sides until the last two or three days. Mr. Bryan is drawing the same enormous crowds as during his presidential campaigns.

Carnegie's Gift to San Juan

San Juan, P. R., Oct. 25.—Education Commissioner Brumbaugh received a letter from Mr. Andrew Carnegie yesterday donating \$100,000 for a library here under the usual conditions, the city having to appropriate \$3,000 and the island \$2,400 for maintenance. The people are astounded by the size of the gift. The expenditure of the money will, it is said, somewhat relieve the currency stringency here.

Clipped Another Quarter

Memphis, Oct. 25.—Little Boy was the star attraction at Memphis driving park this afternoon, clipping $\frac{1}{4}$ second from his own, the world's record, for pacing to wagon, 2:01 $\frac{1}{2}$, made here the first day of the meeting, completing the circuit in the phenomenal time of 2:01 $\frac{1}{2}$.

MANY PULPITS EMPTY

A Crying Need of the Presbyterian Church

STUDENTS ARE FEW

Other Churches Suffer in Like Manner—Stirring Address on Sunday Schools, Synod Nearing its Close

Charlotte, N. C., Oct. 25.—Special.—The work of the synod is nearing its close, but much business still remains to be transacted. The synod convened this morning at 9 o'clock and numbers of addresses were listened to.

The chief address was delivered by Rev. A. L. Graham, D. D., who spoke on the work of the committee on ministerial education. The speaker cited figures showing the number of candidates who are studying for the ministry. He said the number of applications was constantly decreasing, while the need was increasing, and today there are a great many vacant pulpits. The Southern Presbyterian Church is not the only church showing a decrease in this respect. It is similar with many, if not all other denominations.

After business was concluded at the morning session Dr. Wells of Wilmington preached before the synod on the agony of Christ in the garden of Gethsemane.

Next came Dr. A. L. Phillips, Sabbath school secretary, who delivered a masterly address on Sunday school work, which left a deep impression upon all present.

The banquet of Davidson alumni was called off. The night session was devoted to discussion of the work of the committee on colored evangelization.

Penalty of Indiscretion

Liverpool, Oct. 25.—Right Hon. Walter Long, president of the local government board, speaking today, said General Sir Redvers Buller had been dismissed from the command of the First army corps solely because of his speech at the dinner of the King's Royal Rifles, which was regarded as subversive of military discipline. The cabinet had unanimously supported the commander-in-chief after every opportunity had been offered to General Buller to make explanation.

A PRIEST SEES CZOLGOSZ

But He is Careful to Avoid Telling Anything Worth Knowing

Auburn, Oct. 25.—For the second time since he has been in Auburn prison Leon F. Czolgosz has had a visitor. Like the first this one was a priest of the Roman Catholic church, Rev. Hyacinth Fudzinski, pastor of Corpus Christi church, of Buffalo. Early this morning Czolgosz requested one of his guards to inform Warden Mendo that he wished to see a priest. The warden communicated with Rev. John J. Hickey, Catholic chaplain of the prison, and he was soon at the institution with Father Fudzinski, who was immediately conducted to the condemned man's cell. He remained with Czolgosz for more than an hour. The conversation was carried on in Polish. On leaving the prison the priest was asked if he had talked with Czolgosz.

"Yes," with a shrug of the shoulders. "Has he accepted Christianity?"

"He is a Christian. He was born a

Christian and, although he may have renounced Christianity, he is a Christian, I think."

"Has he renounced anarchy?"

"All that I will say is that from the first that I saw of him until I left him there was a change, and such a great change."

"Do you consider the change for the better?"

"Oh yes."

"Will you see him again?"

"I hope so."

Further than this the clergyman declined to answer questions. Czolgosz still eats, sleeps and refuses to communicate with his guards. He has grown nervous, however, and there is a general belief at the prison that he will break down Tuesday morning when he is taken to the electric chair and have an attack of hysteria, as he did when he first entered the prison.

NOT FOR ADAMS

A Democrat Will Succeed Judge Fuller

MAY BE A TAR HEEL

District Attorney Bernard's Days Are Numbered, But Harry Skinner Is Not Certain to Knock the Persimon

Washington, Oct. 25.—Special.—Senator Pritchard, Representative Moody and Harry Skinner of North Carolina saw the President today and asked him to appoint S. B. Adams of Greensboro a judge of the Court of Land Claims to fill the vacancy caused by the recent death of Judge Thomas C. Fuller. The President said that he would take the name of Adams under consideration, but that as Judge Fuller was a Democrat he would probably select a Democrat for the vacancy. Judge Fuller was from North Carolina, and the North Carolinians hoped to be able to name his successor.

From what the President said, and the manner of his saying it, the inference was drawn that he would appoint a Southern Democrat to succeed Judge Fuller. In this way he hopes to draw the sting caused by the Booker Washington incident. It is not certain that North Carolina Democrats can name Judge Fuller's successor, but if they present a good man with unanimity it is probable that the President will appoint him.

In presenting Judge Adams' name to the President, former Congressman Skinner had an opportunity of meeting the President. Mr. Skinner hopes to succeed District Attorney Bernard. The vacancy does not occur until next spring. There is only one thing certain about the position of district attorney for the Eastern district of North Carolina, and that is that Mr. Bernard will not succeed himself. Mr. Bernard does not know this, and will not find it out until his term expires and a new man is put in his place. Who this new man will be is not yet known, and will not be for several months to come. Mr. Skinner has a chance, and so have several others previously named in connection with it. Senator Pritchard returned home this afternoon.

Former Senator Butler left here tonight for New York. The result of a short visit he paid to the President this morning was not divulged, but it was announced beforehand that he would give the President his views on the Southern political situation.

Postmasters appointed: T. G. Roberts has been appointed postmaster at Fulton, Buncombe county, vice J. E. Chandler resigned.

Rural free delivery service will commence December 2 at the following places:

Canton, Haywood county; carriers, J. H. Ford and S. W. Smathers. Post offices at Western, Vance, Forks of Pigeon, Ditch Cove and Garden Creek to be discontinued.

Clyde, Haywood county; carrier, Geo. F. Rogers.

Waynesville, Haywood county; carriers, T. L. Bramblet, H. D. Maney and W. A. Grubel.

Robert T. Anderson has been appointed a storekeeper and gauger in the Asheville internal revenue district.

Races at Elizabeth City

Elizabeth City, N. C., Oct. 25.—Special.—The last day's racing at the fair resulted as follows:

Two e-suteen pace and free for all trot—first heat: Geo. R. Peck first, Sara Avis second, Dr. S. K. third. Time 2:19 $\frac{1}{2}$. Second heat: Sara Avis first, Geo. R. Peck second, Dr. S. K. third. Time 2:10 $\frac{1}{2}$. Third heat: Sara Avis first, Geo. R. Peck second, Dr. S. K. distanced. Time 2:15 $\frac{1}{2}$. Fourth heat: Sara Avis first, Geo. R. Peck second. Time 2:24.