

W. F. HARRIS, Editor & Proprietor. PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING.

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THE WAR NEWS: The fighting at Manila, the sinking of the Merrimac, the bombardment of the latter's forts...

NEW PROBLEMS IN NAVAL WARFARE: The stray shooting of the American craft at their first bombardment of Santiago...

THE WAR NEWS (continued): The fighting at Manila, the sinking of the Merrimac...

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A PRETTY STORY TOLD.

It is cruel who would wantonly spoil a pretty story, but sometimes facts bob up regardless of what hopes they wreck.

"One day Tommie came (we called him Tommie) and expressed a desire to meet a certain young lady."

"Because you drink, Tommie," was my prompt reply. "No, sir, I desire to meet her."

"Then for your sake, Aunt Nan, and for the sake of mother away across the sea, I will never drink again."

"The power of a good woman, how many young men could be rescued if only goodly women like Mrs. Darling would make their best efforts to reclaim them."

"We are going to have war, and if I should be killed, please don't worry about me. I would only be doing my duty to my country."

"If I should be killed," How prophetic of the tragedy at Cienfuegos! Ensign Walker, of the Nashville, in writing home, May 12th, to his father in Charlotte about this battle, says of Boltz (Volts):

"Only one man was fatally wounded, however. He was R. Volz, captain of my starboard six pounder gun. He was shot through the head, left arm, arm pit and breast. Several others were slightly wounded. I was extremely sorry for Volz, as he was a good man and excellent shot."

A Key West special to the New York Herald said that the poor fellow, when taken on board the Nashville, had one bullet through his head and another through his liver.

"Both were from Mauser rifles and the doctors said he would die. Scarrybody on the Nashville mourned him as dead already."

But Boltz's letter wasn't prophetic of Cienfuegos. Boltz didn't die, and as to relate, hasn't quit drinking. Here is what spoils a very pretty story:

"Volts was brought to Key West, where he went into the artillery barracks hospital and astonished the doctors by persisting in getting better. He got leave to visit town in the afternoon. He had some of his pay in his pocket. The day was hot, the beer was cold. The Nashville lay out in the harbor fixing a steam pipe or something. The officer of the deck at 9 o'clock at night jumped with surprise when he saw the pale ghost of Robert Volts crawling over the side."

"If report myself on board ship for duty, sir," said Volts. It was heally explained that Volts was alive, that he and the beer had combined to make him out loose from the hospital, and he insisted on remaining on board to help kill the Spaniards."

But it is pleasant to be alive these days even if the weather is hot, and we are glad the brave young Norwegian of Carteret is still among the living. It is our sincere hope that he may yet justify in somewhat reformed habits the fondest hopes of the good women who are commendably interested in his temporal and eternal welfare.

SANTIAGO STORMED AGAIN: Her Forts Shattered and Shattered Monday Morning—One Spanish Commander and Many Subordinates Among the Slain.

From 7:45 to 11 o'clock Monday morning ten American warships maintained a steady fire on the forts guarding Santiago in addition to bombarding the Spanish fleet in the harbor. It appears from the best information obtainable that immense damage was inflicted on the enemy.

The Spaniards admit that the bombardment from the American fleet was most destructive. About 1,600 projectiles were said to have been fired by the American warships and it seems that the responsive fire from the Spanish forts and ships was scarcely felt at all by the Americans.

The fortifications near the entrance of the harbor are described as being riddled with solid shot and shattered by the explosion of the immense shells fired by the American battleships.

"BOTTLED UP."

Since Cervara's fleet has been caught and confined in Santiago harbor, much has been seen and heard about its being "bottled up" and the "cork" driven in. The expressive phrase brings to the minds of older men an incident of the late war in which it originated;

Origin of the phrase is popularly credited to General Grant, he having used it in his official reports concerning the position into which Beauregard had driven Butler on the peninsula between the James and Appomattox rivers in the Spring of '64.

This peninsula had a narrow neck where the rivers came near to-gather. But before joining their waters, these streams swing apart from each other, leaving the land between somewhat in the shape of a big-necked bottle,

less like a quinine bottle, however, than its more squatly vase-like brother. In his official report to Secretary Stanton dated July 22, 1866, General Grant said of Butler's army, "though in a position of great security, it was as completely shut off from further operation against Richmond as if it had been in a bottle strongly corked. It required but a comparatively small force of the enemy to keep it there."

But Grant did not originate the simile which so quickly became famous and has so persistently remained so; it was suggested to him by one of his subordinates, as he himself relates in his "Personal Memoirs," Vol. II, pages 151-152. Grant sent his chief engineer, General Barnard, to inspect Butler's position and ascertain whether he could safely order Butler to move in co-operation with him (Grant) now that he was getting so near Richmond;

in event Butler could not so move against Richmond from the rear, Grant wished to know if Butler could spare him some of his troops. But the rest of the story we had best let Grant give in his own entertaining style:

"General Barnard reported the position very strong for defensive purposes, and that I could do the latter with great security; but that General Butler could not move from where he was, in co-operation, to produce any effect. He said that the general occupied a place between the James and Appomattox rivers which was of great strength, and where with an inferior force he could hold it for an indefinite length of time against a superior; but that he could do nothing effective if I then asked him why Butler could not move out from his lines and push across the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad to the rear and on the south side of Richmond. He replied that it was impracticable, because the enemy had established the same line across the neck of land that General Butler had. He then took out his pencil and drew a sketch of the locality, remarking that the position was like a bottle and that Butler's line of intrenchments across the neck represented the cork; that the enemy had built an equally strong line immediately in front of him across the neck; and it was therefore as if Butler was in a bottle. He was perfectly safe against an attack; but, as Barnard expressed it, the enemy had corked the bottle and with a small force could hold the cork in its place. This struck me as being very expressive of his position, particularly when I saw the hasty sketch which General Barnard had drawn; and in making my subsequent report I used that expression without adding quotation marks, never thinking that anything had been said that would attract attention."

Very much to my own, I found afterwards that this was mentioned in the notes of General Badeau's book, which, when they were shown to me, I asked to have stricken out; yet it was retained there, though against my wishes. I make this statement here because, although I have often made it before, it has never been in my power until now to place it where it will correct history; and I desire to rectify all injustice that may have done to individuals, particularly to officers who were gallantly serving their country during the trying period of the war for the preservation of the Union."

There is little doubt that the historic simile greatly irritated Butler, and on that account much annoyed Grant afterwards. The straight-forward simplicity of the latter's nature is indicated in his statement, which we may believe to be absolutely true, that in using the expression he never once thought that "anything had been said that would attract attention."

But the phrase, as Grant observed, is a "very expressive" one, and it is even more applicable to-day to Cervara's position in narrow-necked Santiago harbor than it was to Butler on the peninsula 34 years ago.

Business in First Month of War: Don's Report: May having been the first full month of actual war, the fact that failures in that month were smaller, even though but little, than in the corresponding last year, and nearly 10 per cent smaller than in May, 1899, is somewhat encouraging, the more because a year ago the remaining decrease in May gave proof of the heavy improvement in business which made the year as gratifying in general results. Details given show that large failures were eight in manufacturing for \$2,888,000 this year, against thirteen for \$2,998,000 last year, and in trading five for \$600,000, against ten for \$1,572,000 in 1897.

Emphasis in extending usual credits soon after war began naturally affected weak more than stronger concerns, but it soon gave place to steady and increasing confidence.

Richmond Pearson Hobson was born in Greensboro, Ala., Aug. 17, 1870. He is a great nephew of Governor John M. Morehead, of North Carolina. On the maternal line he is a grandson of Chief Justice Pearson, of North Carolina, and a nephew of Representative Richmond Pearson, of Asheville.

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MERRIMAC SUNK AT SANTIAGO.

Collier Sunk by Sampson to Sloop up the Channel—The Bold Deed Executed by Richmond Pearson Hobson—The American Vessel Reported Sunk at Santiago by her own men and not by the Spaniards.

At 4 o'clock last Friday morning the daring feat of stranding a coal vessel past the Spanish batteries and sinking her across the channel was performed by naval Constructor Hobson, of Alabama, and his crew of seven men. Sampson's dispatch was as follows:

"Succeeded in sinking the Merrimac in the channel of Santiago at 4 a. m. June 3. This was carried out most gallantly under the command of Naval Constructor Hobson and seven men. By the aid of truce from the Spanish admiral, Cervara, sent in recognition of their bravery, I am informed all our prisoners of war, two slightly wounded. Request authority to approve exchange if possible, between these and the prisoners at Atlanta.

"Six of the Spanish squadron are in the harbor of Santiago, unable to avoid being captured or destroyed." "Sampson."

Further details are given as follows: The collier was the most useless vessel of Santiago. Its engines were continually getting out of order, and it was almost useless as a coal carrier. It could be better spared than any other boat.

About 7 o'clock Thursday evening brilliantly-colored signals were flashed from the flagship New York to every vessel of Santiago. It was the admiral's call for volunteers for a forlorn hope—for a mission from which it was expected that no one would return.

There was a general call to quarters on each ship, and the seamen were lined up on deck. The call was made and every volunteer told to take one step forward. Every man at quarters on each ship stepped forward. It was a remarkable exhibition of American bravery.

The men were taken from the New York and the Merrimac. The Merrimac's regular crew was put on the flagship and Hobson and his seven companions gathered on the Merrimac shortly after midnight. It was feared that no searchlights be turned on the harbor's entrance for fear that it would betray the Merrimac's advance.

Constructor Hobson had prepared for the scuttling of the collier as soon as he got to the narrowest part of the channel. He told the admiral that he would keep ahead, despite the Spanish fire, and took leave of Sampson with much tenderness on the admiral's part.

The start was made about eight miles off shore. There was but the light of a quarter moon to show the harbor entrance.

The half-hour that the collier was on her way before she was discovered seemed an age. She had discovered steam up and no sparks dew from her funnel that might betray her dash to watchers on shore. Her helm was held true and the prayers of every man on the feet for the boat's safety went up in silent benedictions. As she drew nearer to the shore there was the greatest excitement on the Merrimac.

Suddenly from the darkness of El Morro there sprang a long flash. In a moment there came across the Caribbean the echoing boom of a heavy Krupp gun.

La Soapa, across the channel's mouth, then burst into flame as from its batteries volleyed a mass of iron shells. The illumination showed the Merrimac. She had passed the harbor's mouth and was dashing up the channel. The Spanish pickets on the outer rocks had either been asleep or not placed for the Merrimac was not discovered until in the rock-bound neck.

Then the grandeur of a night battle broke forth as from hill to hill, and from the cruiser Cristobal Colon in the harbor, the thunder of half a hundred guns sounded the requiem of Spain's downfall, and shells fell on and all around the Merrimac.

Not once did she falter. Steadily up the channel Hobson kept his course. Then the search lights of the fleet were turned on the spectacle. Shells could be seen crashing through the boat's works.

The dash in the channel was a short one. Five minutes ended it. The Merrimac had slowed down. Hobson laid the great bow anchors that had been hauled aboard, and down they plunged, gripping the channel's bed. Then there was an explosion. Hobson had himself torn a hole in his ship's bow. Slowly the vessel settled by the head, first her rudder, then her stern appearing. The gunners ceased firing, and the crew of Hobson's crew. Then with a lurch, the Merrimac plunged down. The tops of her two masts and the rim of her funnel still showed.

The fate of the brave crew was not known until next morning. A boat put out of the harbor under a flag of truce and ran alongside of Admiral Sampson's ship. The boat bore Captain Oviedo, the chief of staff of Admiral Cervara. Captain Oviedo, who had been struck by the bravery and courage of Hobson and his men, had determined that Admiral Sampson should get the good news that none of the men had lost their lives. Then the New York rang with cheers.

Oviedo said that after Hobson crew jumped into a tender, and under a Spanish flag, rowed up the harbor to Hobson's ship. There they gave themselves up. The Spanish captain added that two of the brave Americans are slightly wounded and that they are being treated with the greatest kindness.

Admiral Sampson sent a supply of provisions and some money to the prisoners, which Captain Oviedo obligingly said he would be pleased to take to the man Oviedo gave Cervara's assurance that no harm would come to the men.

NEWS ITEMS.

Mr. C. T. Bailey has been sworn in as postmaster at Raleigh. He appointed Phil. H. Andrews as his assistant.

Mr. Washington Duke, of Durham, has just made another princely gift of \$100,000 to Trinity College. This makes nearly half a million he has given to that institution.

Major R. F. Dixon, of the Second Regiment North Carolina Volunteers, spent a day or two with his family at Bessemer City last week, returning to Raleigh Monday afternoon.

Corrected statistics of the battle of Manila received at Hong Kong show that the Spanish lost 101 killed and 280 wounded. The Americans had no one killed and but slight wounded.

Dr. Dixon having gone to the war and Mr. J. P. Bechtel's eyesight and health having failed, the printing and Loom, of Shelby, has passed into the hands of Messrs. C. P. Roberts and B. T. Miller.

The Wilmington Star says Lord Walsley thinks that if this country were at war with one of the first-class powers it might rattle us some at first, but in the long run we would whip any nation in Europe.

The Observer learns that Elkin has the fastest type in the State. Master Jesse Diukins, who stocks type in the Times office, sets an average of five columns of type a day. He is only 12 years old. His father and mother were both printers.

The town of Mount Olive was almost completely destroyed by fire Monday morning. The Wilmington Messenger says one whole block was burned down on North street, including 11 stores. Most all is lost, as there is very little insurance.

The Raleigh News and Observer, 5th, says the uniforms for the entire second regiment arrived yesterday and they will appear to-day for the first time uniformed. They will make a much better appearance than formerly. The arms have not yet arrived.

The Wilmington Messenger says large quantities of blackberries are now being shipped from Fayetteville. Messrs. S. E. Strange and Fitzell Bros. are the principal shippers. Blackberries are now selling in the northern market at 10 to 12 cents per quart.

The Lincoln Journal says Mr. W. E. Grigg was badly bruised up by a fall in Charlotte last Friday. He had his baby in his arms and stepped on a banana peel. In his effort to save his child he was unable to save himself and fell heavily upon the pavement. He lost several square inches of skin and a lot of religion.

The St. Louis Republic says seventy-seven to eight is the proportion of the American-Spanish fleet in Cuba waters. To the ordinary American citizen it looks as if the latter should have been conquered. But if the citizen will recall how long it took to capture Billy the Kid and the Dalton gang, he will realize the difficulties of rounding up a fugitive fleet.

The Winston Sentinel says the "State of Wilkes" comes to the front with another freak. A white ground squirrel was recently captured on a spot which is peculiar. The Chronicle says it is a graveyard spot, and it is an actual fact that the blackberries that grow there are all white. The trees are all white oak and white pine. A few years ago a white rabbit was found there, and there are white rats there. The spot seems to possess peculiar qualities.

The Wilmington Messenger says the strawberry season along the Atlantic Coast Line having closed several days ago, the record of the movement has been made up and it shows that the shipment was 395,815 crates or 5,490,690 quarts. This includes the shipment from Clatsop to Goldsboro. The estimated average price netted for berries was 8 cents per quart and the money value of the crop is consequently \$679,974.40. The shipment this season has exceeded that of last season by over 100,000 crates.

Captain Vernon Gridley, who commanded Dewey's flagship, the Olympia, at Manila, died at Kobe, Japan, last Saturday. Captain Gridley was born in Logansport, Indiana, in 1845. He was a graduate of the Naval Academy, served in the late war, and made a good record. He was made a captain on July 28, 1897. His death is thought to have been due to a rupture caused at the battle of Manila. He leaves a widow and three children. He was "invalided" home several weeks ago. It is said that the president fully recognized his gallantry and intended to give him substantial recognition in the way of promotion.

Jealousy Between Lee and Mosby: There is keen jealousy between General Mosby, the cavalry leader of the Confederacy, and General Fitzhugh Lee, says W. E. Curtis in the Chicago Record. Mosby offered his services to the President as soon as war seemed probable, and is much disappointed because they were not accepted. The other day he spoke anecdotally of Lee's record during the late war, and asserted that he (Mosby) carried the last Confederate flag that was seen in Virginia. When his remarks were quoted to General Lee the latter smiled and said: "Yes, I think Mosby is right. He probably was the last man that carried a Confederate flag through Virginia, but Kilpatrick was after him, and he carried it so fast that the people never knew whether it was a Sunday school banner or a small-box warning."

St. Louis Republic: Judging from the Government's continued heavy purchases of mules, it seems evident that the mule is to the army what coal is to the navy. And to think that every mule in the United States is descended from a Spanish jack.

Andrews' Contract Not Carried: With LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they contain much of the most of the disease, it is in order to give you some idea of the historical record. Mrs. Charles C. Cary is taken internally, and she is directed to the blood and the stomach. Mrs. Cary's cure is not a quick one. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in the country for years, and it is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonic known, combined with the best medicine directed directly to the mucous membrane. In perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in the cure of Mrs. Cary. Send for Leaflet No. 1, FREE.

W. M. WHITE, Gastonia, N. C.

French Organdies. Magnificent Stock Just Arrived at Williamson's. The 35-cent kind for 25 Cents. The 20-cent kind for 12½ Cents. New Patterns, New Designs. Come and see them. A. C. WILLIAMSON.

In Summer Dress Goods. We have a lot of Colored Lawns and Dimities that we are going to sell regardless of cost. Every one who wants a bargain may now get it. We are going to let these handsome goods go at prices that will surprise you. Holland & Robinson.

BICYCLES! BICYCLES! WHICH WHEEL DO YOU WANT? Cleveland, Crescent, Crawford, Waverly, North Hampton. All good wheels at a fair price; no better wheels at any price. Full line of Bicycle Sundries. First class Repair Shop. TORRENCE BROTHERS.

There is No Let Up in our sales of CLOTHING and SHOES; and we may seem to be "set in our way," which is putting it mildly, very mildly. We are indeed set in our way, and are determined to still increase our sales, by applying the same effectual methods to our Dress Goods, Notions and White Goods that prevails in our Clothing and Shoe departments. We rarely ever print our prices, but from this date, and as they arrive, will name prices across our counters, on all goods in the various lines we carry, that will insure your hearty co-operation. MORRIS BROTHERS.

...TOO LATE... PAINT your wire screen-doors and windows before it is too late to prevent from rust. Our GREEN ENAMEL will make them as good as new, and it is easily applied. We also have enamel paints in delicate tints for "Home Decoration." STOP— and see a few samples of box papers and tablets in our window. We are leaders in the stationery line. PRESCRIPTIONS. Bring us your prescriptions and have them filled, if we are not already filling them. Try us and be convinced. Most respectfully, J. E. CURRY & CO.

JUST RECEIVED —BY— ARMSTRONG FURNITURE CO. 284 Window Shades, seven feet long, ranging in price from 10 cents to 75 cents. Curtain Poles any length, in Oak, Mahogany, and White Enamel. See our nice Oak Pole and Brass wash rods. Also attractive lot of curtain chains. See Our Rugs and Mattings. We still keep a full line of FURNITURE and a few PIANOS and ORGANS. Call to see us, ARMSTRONG FURNITURE CO.

Granite Monuments. I Manufacture Them and am Ahead of all Competition. Since I turned out my first monument of this kind and commenced finishing with my fine machine, I have put up erected there. Am now at work on a family monument for Mr. G. A. Gray. Correspondence solicited. Estimates furnished on application. W. M. WHITE, Gastonia, N. C.