

# THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

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W. F. HARRIS, JR.,  
Editor and Proprietor.

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## BRYAN DISCUSSES THE SCHLEY INQUIRY.

### ATTACK ON HISTORIAN MACLAY.

Says Sampson's Friends Should be Satisfied With the Fact that Favorite Was Awarded Prize Money and that His Actions Will Grace the Medal-American People Convinced that Schley Was the Real Hero—Hearley Awarded by Mail.

Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 1.—W. J. Bryan espouses the cause of Rear Admiral Schley in the naval controversy, and is severe in his denunciation of Edward S. MacLay the historian. In the Commemorative of tomorrow Mr. Bryan makes the investigation the subject of his leading editorial, comparing the acts and qualities of the reports of Admiral Sampson and Schley on the fight and continuing:

"It is indeed a very great pity that there should be any controversy over a matter wherein the world has given credit where credit belongs. It is indeed a pity that there should be any controversy that seeks to discredit a brave, honorable, and modest sea fighter who successfully led the American forces in one of the greatest, if not the greatest naval battle in the history of the world. It is indeed a very great pity that the politicians and bureaucrats having the favor of this administration should insist upon discrediting and abusing a man who has served his country so faithfully as Winfield Scott Schley has served the United States of America."

"Admiral Sampson's friends should be satisfied with the fact that their favorite obtained the prize money won in a battle in which he did not participate and that his face is to grace a medal that is to commemorate a fight in which he did not take part. It should be sufficient for them that Admiral Schley has never made any claim as to his part in the great battle of Santiago Bay, that he has been content for the newspaper correspondents and other witnesses to give the facts to the American people. The difficulty is that these statements have convinced the American people that Schley was the real hero of the day and entitled to all the honors at the hands of a grateful people, even though he is denied the emoluments in the way of prize money and medals."

### BITTER DENUNCIATION OF MACLAY.

Mr. Bryan is more bitter in his denunciation of Edward S. MacLay. After summing up his record in the Navy Department and referring to his criticisms of Admiral Schley as "a resort to the lowest form of abuse in dealing with an historical character," Mr. Bryan continues:

"Men distinguished as historians are presumed to state facts and to state them in such a way as to impress upon the readers the impartiality of the writer. But this most distinguished living historian, shows that he is a partisan of the partisans, and the observer is justified in the suspicion that Mr. MacLay does not entertain personal malice toward Admiral Schley other men who did have that malice have engaged him as the medium for foul slanders."

"It seems that this 'most distinguished living historian' is a clerk in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. It is strange that this navy yard clerk, who is known as 'the most distinguished living American historian,' as a historian he was discredited, not so much by the Navy as by the Secretary of the Navy upon his works as by the character of those works."

### SHOULD BE DISPLACED.

"As a clerk in the navy yards he should be displaced because of his outrageous assaults upon a man who has been the patient victim of the most remarkable series of attacks recorded in American history. It is not at all likely that this 'most distinguished living American historian' is at all dependent on his salary as a clerk. It may rather be suspected that his employment as clerk in the navy yards was merely a cover whereby he could carry out the work mapped out for him. From the beginning the attacks upon Admiral Schley have been wholly discreditable. From the beginning nothing has developed to the discredit of Admiral Schley. He has been extremely patient under the most bitter attack. The American people will keep a very close eye upon the Sampson-Schley affair, and they will not lose sight of the disposition made by the administration of the 'most distinguished living American historian.'"

### SCHLEY'S REQUEST DENIED.

But Letter Asking Amendment of Proceedings Sent to Admiral Dewey.

Formal action in the matter of the Schley court of inquiry was continued yesterday to the dispatch of a letter to Admiral Dewey, stating that "The department herewith transmits copies of letters dated July 27 and August 1, respecting the court of inquiry in the case of Rear Admiral Schley is to be convened." The court through Admiral Dewey had already been supplied with a neatly printed copy of the report itself. The correspondence referring to the omission of the department's expression of opinion touching his alleged disobedience of orders, and the reply from Acting Secretary Hackett, declining to make this modification. It is very rarely that a precept convening a court of inquiry, is amended. The department's action, it is stated, while technically declining Admiral Schley's suggestion, does, however, in fact,

a count to an amendment on the lines pointed out by him. As indicated in the letter to Admiral Dewey, this correspondence will form a part of the record, and in fact, is a supplement to the precept and of as much force as the original document.

The vacancy on the court caused by Rear Admiral Kimberly's application to be relieved has not yet been filled. It is believed that the department is communicating by wire and letter with some of the retired rear admirals who are regarded as on the eligible list. It has no desire to make public any declarations, and it is understood that the name of the person chosen will not be published until he has been accepted by the assignment. It was suggested at the department yesterday that Admiral Kimberly's action is not yet final. Secretary Long, at his home in Hingham, is within an hour or two's run of Admiral Kimberly's home at West Newton, and the Secretary may take advantage of that fact to visit the admiral personally, and endeavor to have him reconsider his decision.

It is explained in connection with the acceptance of Admiral Kimberly's declaration that this is the first time in thirty-nine years that this officer has requested the department to relieve him of a duty to which he has been assigned.

Acting Secretary Hackett's letter to Admiral Dewey, transmitting Rear Admiral Schley's letter and reply, is as follows:

Navy Department,  
Washington, Aug. 1, 1901.

Sir: I transmit herewith for the information of the court of inquiry, of which you are president, a letter, dated the 27th ultimo, from Rear Admiral Winfield Scott Schley, asking that modification be made in paragraph 6 of the precept convening the court, together with a copy of the department's reply of this date. Very respectfully,  
F. W. HACKETT,  
Acting Secretary.

Admiral George Dewey, United States Navy, Washington, D. C.

The following are the letters that have passed between Admiral Schley and the Navy Department respecting the precept:

Great Neck, N. Y., July 27, 1901.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the department's communication of July 23 instant, inclosing copy of an order "convening, pursuant to the request contained in my communication of the 23d a court of inquiry."

Inasmuch as the court directed to "investigate," and, after such investigation, report a "full and detailed statement of all the pertinent facts which it may deem to be established, together with the opinion and recommendation in the premises," I would respectfully suggest to the department that paragraph 5 of the department's precept, which is as follows, viz: "5. The circumstances attending and the reasons for the disobedience of Commodore Schley of the orders of the department contained in its dispatch dated May 25, 1898, and the propriety of his conduct in the premises," be modified so as to omit the department's expression of opinion, and thus leave the court free to express its own opinion in that matter."

Very respectfully,  
W. S. SCHLEY,  
Rear Admiral.

Hon. John D. Long, Secretary of the Navy.

Navy Department,  
Washington, August 1.

Sir: The department has received your letter of the 27th ultimo, in which you acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the order convening at your request, a court of inquiry to investigate your conduct during the war with Spain, and suggest that paragraph five of said order, directing the court to inquire into "the circumstances attending and the reasons for the disobedience by Commodore Schley of the orders of the department," be modified so as to omit the department's expression of opinion, and thus leave the court free to express its own opinion in that matter."

In reply you are advised that the precept calls for an inquiry by the court, and the ascertainment of pertinent facts. For the purpose of settling on foot this inquiry, the precept treats certain matters as established, such, for instance, as the arrival of the "destroying squadron" off Cienfuegos and off Santiago; the retrograde movement westward of the fleet of the Brooklyn on July 3, 1898; and the fact that you disobeyed orders as reported by you in your telegram dated Kingston, May 28, 1898, in which you say: "Much to be regretted, cannot obey orders of the department."

Inasmuch, however, as it is the department's purpose that the court should be absolutely free to report, if such shall be found to be the case, that you did not willfully disobey the orders, or that you were justified in disobeying them, and that this may be clearly understood, your letter of the 27th ultimo, with copy of this reply will be duly forwarded to the court.

Very respectfully,  
F. W. HACKETT,  
Acting Secretary.

Rear Admiral Winfield S. Schley, U. S. N., Great Neck, N. Y.

The War Department has taken cognizance of the published interview of Capt. Thomas F. Schley regarding the court of inquiry upon his father, Rear Admiral Schley. It is understood that the department informed the captain that such interviews are contrary to the army regulations. It is not believed that a general order directing army officers not to talk for publication about such matters will be necessary.

### CROWNSHIELD'S PETTY WAY

Making It Uncomfortable for Schley's Amendment of Precept.

Admiral Crownsfield's petty persecution of Captain Parker, assistant commandant of Admiral Schley, became an uncomfortable yesterday, the latter was compelled to call the official attention of Acting Secretary Hackett to it. While refusing Capt. Parker the services of a messenger, of which there are dozens in the building on the plea that no employee can be spared from his work, Admiral Crownsfield has detailed two officers, Lewis, Barnes and Ward who are constantly in the room with Capt. Parker waiting him as he enters the door of the official documents waiting on the Admiral's command. Yesterday Capt. Parker was told that he could no longer use the larger flat desk at which he has been working heretofore, but must content himself with a little table in one corner of the room hardly big enough to hold a book. The room which Capt. Parker has been using is a very nice private office, which is unused during his absence, as Acting Secretary Hackett has himself a suite of offices at headquarters and comfortable as those of the Secretary.

Admiral Crownsfield refused to permit any one to see Capt. Parker while he was at work, and daily issued orders to all messengers not to carry a word into the room where Capt. Parker was seated. The officers in duty have taken their task very seriously. One of them paces up and down the room like a sentry on his beat, while the other sits by Capt. Parker's side ready to receive any book that the

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Admission of Acting Secretary Hackett to it. While refusing Capt. Parker the services of a messenger, of which there are dozens in the building on the plea that no employee can be spared from his work, Admiral Crownsfield has detailed two officers, Lewis, Barnes and Ward who are constantly in the room with Capt. Parker waiting him as he enters the door of the official documents waiting on the Admiral's command. Yesterday Capt. Parker was told that he could no longer use the larger flat desk at which he has been working heretofore, but must content himself with a little table in one corner of the room hardly big enough to hold a book. The room which Capt. Parker has been using is a very nice private office, which is unused during his absence, as Acting Secretary Hackett has himself a suite of offices at headquarters and comfortable as those of the Secretary.

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### Fortress and Fortified.

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### Identifying Team.

At Pass Herold.

A lady degree of uniformity in treatment of streets, sidewalks and front yards would go far to make the city more attractive. As that should be made to govern a uniformity in everything else. The next thing is to establish a building law a building law, and a uniformity in treatment for front yards retaining them. There are a lot of little things like this that go so far to make a city attractive and more pleasant as a living place, and that the women are especially fitted to do so.

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