

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., May 13, 1898.

Continued from page 2.

Spanish officers will be paroled and the forces at the arsenal will deliver all their arms.

Capt. Sostoa then pleaded for more time. The talk had all been in Spanish, and the time when Commander Wood was to open fire was already nearly up.

Consequently Commander Lambertson gave the Spaniards two hours' time. If the white flag was not hoisted over the arsenal at noon he said we should reopen fire. We returned to the Petrel just in time and started back across the bay to report to the commodore.

At a quarter to 11 o'clock the white flag was hoisted, but when we went to take possession of the arsenal in the afternoon we found that every seaman had marched off to Manila, carrying his Mauser rifle with him. Having learned that evening that the governor of Manila had refused to let the cable company transmit our messages, Commodore Dewey sent the merchant steamer Zafiro a short distance down the bay and had her cut the cable. Having no instruments for working a cable, we could not keep up communication, and the governor would not let the cable company send its operators to our ship.

No one can complain that Commodore Dewey has been slow in finishing off his work, but he would have done it even sooner but for an accident to one of the Raleigh's pumps, which detained him in Mirs bay two days, and also the slow speed of which transport vessels are capable. But for these delays the Spanish ships would have been destroyed on Thursday instead of Sunday, as in all other respects Commodore Dewey's plans were complete. During the passage of the forts at the entrance of Manila bay on Saturday night, Frank B. Randall, chief engineer of the revenue cutter McCulloch, died suddenly from heat and prostration. He was buried at sea the next day. Although the McCulloch was of no value as a fighting machine, Commodore Dewey several times made use of her to overhaul sailing craft. She kept at a safe distance from the scene of action on Sunday, but went down the bay to meet the English merchant steamer Esmeralda, which was coming in, and made an excellent record for speed as a dispatch boat while bringing us over to Hong Kong on Thursday. There were three civilian spectators of the battle at a distance of 10 miles from the fighting line, but that incident hardly warrants the claim of any newspaper that it had a steamer specially chartered to accompany the squadron.

As soon as the natives ashore learned that the Spaniards had been driven out of Cavite they began coming in crowds to pillage. Finally they became so bold as to attack the hospital, and it was necessary to send a guard of American seamen to protect the wounded or to transfer them to Manila. The latter was done on Wednesday, Commodore Dewey utilizing captured steamers for this duty. All the houses of the Spaniards in the town of San Roque, near Cavite, were absolutely gutted by the natives, who even ventured into the arsenal and carried off many boats loads of furniture and stores before the marine guard was posted at the gates.

The Spanish defeat was advertised for miles away by the ships burning in Cavite bay. The Castilla, which was set on fire in Sunday morning's battle, was a magnificent mass of flames 12 hours later and continued to burn all night with brilliant intensity. I heard the Don Juan de Austria, Isla de Luzon and Marquis Del Duero while the were still burning. I found them fitted up with the Canet rapid fire-guns and most of the modern improvements. I did not discover until after we had spent the afternoon in their vicinity that all their large guns had been left loaded with powder and shell, making them particularly dangerous to small boats. The guns generally laid level just above the surface of the water. As several of them were pointed at the arsenal their charges were first drawn and then drowned as the fire might reach them at any moment. When our ships drew away for breakfast Sunday morning the temper of the men was well illustrated by the almost fearful appeal of one gun captain to Commodore Lambertson: "For God's sake, captain, don't stop now! Let's finish 'em right off! To hell with breakfast!" "Old Purdy," a privileged petty officer, because he has served in the navy or army nearly fifty years, was greeted by the Commodore on Saturday, when the old man "shifted his cud," and said: "I hope you won't fight on the 3rd of May, commodore."

"Why not?" asked Commodore Dewey. "Well, you see," the old man answered, "I got licked the last time I fought on that date." Purdy had been with Hooker at Chancellorsville, and he did not like that anniversary.

All our men suffered greatly from the heat during the action, for they were shut up below with furnaces blazing and the tropical sun pouring down its heat rays. Probably several of the men would have succumbed but for the excitement of battle. Eighty Spanish bodies were found buried on Monday night, and we gave them burial Tuesday morning, carrying in a Roman Catholic priest to read the burial service over their remains. The bodies presented a horrible sight. One had the head almost wholly carried away. Another had been struck in the stomach by a projectile, cutting away everything to the backbone. One very large man, apparently an officer, was not only mangled, but burned, and all the bodies were frightfully bloated. To add to the horror of the scene several lean, wolf-like dogs had discovered the bodies before we had.

Probably there were nowhere a more interested or more thoroughly happy set of persons than the group of wives of American naval officers who had been living in Hong Kong in order to be near their husbands. Having heard little news except alarming rumors since the squadron left here, they are now recovering their normal serenity with the certainty that their husbands are safe. There are about a dozen of these officers' wives forming a little navy colony here.

The Opposing Navies.

Full List of United States and Spanish War Craft—Comparison of Their Strength—Total number of Our Vessels is 143—The Spaniards Have 113—We Outnumber Them in Nearly Every Class and Have a Larger Variety of Fighting Craft.

All the world will watch for the results of the engagements between the United States and Spanish fleets. The following table shows the complete fighting strength of the opposing navies:

Table listing various ships, their classes, and specifications. Includes categories like 'SEA-GOING COAST DEFENSE MONITORS', 'FIRST RATE ARMORED CRUISERS', 'SECOND RATE PROTECTED CRUISERS', 'THIRD RATE PROTECTED CRUISERS', 'NON-SEA-GOING COAST DEFENSE MONITORS', 'THIRD RATE CRUISERS (MODERN)', 'THIRD RATE GUNBOATS (MODERN)', 'TORPEDO BOATS', 'BATTLESHIPS UNDER CONSTRUCTION (FIRST RATE)', 'OLD STYLE WOODEN CRUISERS', 'AUXILIARY FLEET', 'LIGHTHOUSE TENDERS', 'YACHTS', 'HOSPITAL STEAMER', 'REPAIR STEAMER', 'SUPPLY STEAMER', 'COLLIERS', 'SPANISH', 'THIRD CLASS BATTLESHIP', 'THIRD CLASS ARMORED CRUISERS', 'THIRD CLASS PROTECTED CRUISERS', 'THIRD CLASS PARTLY PROTECTED CRUISERS', 'THIRD CLASS UNCLASSIFIED IN PUBLISHED LIST', 'CRUISERS (UNCLASSIFIED IN PUBLISHED LIST)', 'DISPATCH VESSELS', 'TORPEDO GUNBOATS', 'TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYERS', 'TORPEDO BOATS', 'What the Boys Will Eat', 'The Philippines', 'Spanish Losses in Cuba', 'MAIL PAPER', 'Saddlery', 'Plumbing etc.', 'Roofing', 'THE LARGEST STOCK OF HORSE COLLARS IN THE COUNTY', 'Insurance', 'THE FIDELITY MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION', 'NOW IS THE TIME TO EXAMINE YOUR ROOF', 'THE NECESSITIES OF TOILET REQUIRE HIM TO PROVIDE AN HEIR, SO HE WAS EASILY CONVINCED OF THE URGENCY OF AN IMMEDIATE MARRIAGE.', 'NEW ADVERTISEMENTS', 'FINE GROCERIES', 'NEW FISH', 'NEW ADVERTISEMENTS', 'MAIL PAPER', 'Saddlery', 'Plumbing etc.', 'Roofing', 'THE LARGEST STOCK OF HORSE COLLARS IN THE COUNTY', 'Insurance', 'THE FIDELITY MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION', 'NOW IS THE TIME TO EXAMINE YOUR ROOF', 'THE NECESSITIES OF TOILET REQUIRE HIM TO PROVIDE AN HEIR, SO HE WAS EASILY CONVINCED OF THE URGENCY OF AN IMMEDIATE MARRIAGE.'

time ago announced that the revolution had been suppressed, but all accounts seem to indicate that it was only smothered and has broken out afresh. It will co-operate with the Americans in driving the Spanish power from the islands. The chief of the insurgents, with other leaders, is reported to have accompanied the American fleet to Manila and will organize a co-operating land force. If it should obtain control in Manila and other towns held by the Spanish there are grave apprehensions, according to the cables, it will go hard with the Spanish population, as the natives have a big reckoning to make.

What the Boys Will Eat.

The question of what they are going to eat is disturbing the minds of the militia. It is generally supposed that the annual encampment is a week for regular army life, and while this is true of the drills, guard mount, police duty, and many other features, it is not altogether true of the daily life of fare, for this is augmented by many delicacies which are purchased from the private purses of the some-time soldier.

The government ration is the allowance of one person for the day, and consists of the meats, the bread, the vegetable, the coffee and sugar, the seasoning, and the soap and candle components. When troops travel otherwise than by marching, or when for short periods they are separated from cooking facilities and do not carry cooked rations, soft or hard bread, canned beef and canned baked beans, together with coffee and sugar, are issued, and after troops have subsisted upon this for four consecutive days they are allowed canned tomatoes at the rate of one pound per man per day.

The kinds and quantities of articles comprising the ration for troops were cooked for one ration are as follows: Fresh beef, 20 ounces, or an equal quantity of fresh mutton, when the cost does not exceed that of beef; or pork, 12 ounces; or bacon, 12 ounces; or salt beef, 22 ounces, when meat cannot be furnished, 14 ounces of dried fish, or 18 ounces of fresh or pickled fish.

FLOUR or soft bread, 18 ounces, or 16 ounces of hard bread, or 20 ounces of cornmeal. When troops are in the field and it is necessary for them to bake their own bread, 16-25 ounces of baking powder will be issued.

Vegetable components, beans or peas, 2, 2-5 ounces; or rice or hominy, 1, 3-5 ounces; potatoes, 16 ounces, or 12, 4-5 ounces of potatoes, and the balance to be made up of 3, 1-5 ounces of onions, making a total of 16 ounces. This can be changed another way by decreasing the allowance of potatoes to 11-15 ounces, supplementing with 4-5 ounces of canned tomatoes or other fresh vegetables not contained, which can be obtained in the vicinity of the camp or transported in wholesome condition from a distance.

The trooper gets 1, 3-5 ounces of green coffee or 17-25 ounces of roasted coffee. If he is fond of tea he may have 8-25 of an ounce instead. Sugar is allotted at the rate of 3-3-25 ounces per day, with 16-25 gills of molasses or cane syrup as an alternative. Seasoning components consist of 8-2-5 gill of vinegar, 16-25 ounces of salt and 1-25 ounce of black pepper. Cleanliness and light are provided for by 16-25 ounces of soap for the former and 6-25 ounces of candles for the latter, when illuminating oil is not furnished by the quartermaster.

Spanish Losses in Cuba.

The following article comes to us from an official source which we are at liberty to disclose—Enrico.

Some idea of the losses suffered by the Spanish regular troops during the present insurrection in Cuba may be formed from the following figures: Between March 1st, 1895, and March 1st, 1897, Spain sent to Cuba 10 generals, 615 field and 6222 subaltern officers, and 180,425 soldiers. To these must be added 12,000 officers and men forming the regular Cuban establishment at the outbreak of the insurrection, making a total of nearly 200,000. Of these 1 general, 7 field and 53 subaltern officers, and 1314 men were killed in battle, 1 general, 6 field and 55 subaltern officers, and 704 men died of wounds while 463 officers and 5164 men were wounded and presumably recovered. The losses caused by the enemy are then small, being but little more than five per cent of the total present for duty. The case is altered, however, in the matter of disease: 318 officers and 13,000 men died of yellow fever, while 127 officers and about 40,000 men succumbed to other maladies.

A writer in the Revue Scientifique of October 16th, 1897, gives the following rates of loss per thousand: Killed or died of wounds..... 10.7 Died of yellow fever..... 65.0 Died of other diseases..... 211.3 Sent home sick or wounded..... 143.2

As all the sick and wounded, however, have not been sent back to Spain, the number of these left behind must be taken into account in estimating the total losses of the Spaniards. While this number cannot be accurately determined, yet there is reason for believing that it cannot fall far short of 20,000. According to this estimate, we have a total rate of loss of 531 per thousand for the two years considered; or, of the 200,000 constituting the regular Spanish forces in Cuba, but 96,000, in round numbers, were left to bear arms on March 1st, 1897.

These numbers have more than academic interest for us just at present; for if we may assume the foregoing ratio of loss to hold good from March 1st, 1897, to March 1st, 1898, then, after adding the reinforcements sent out during the year ended March 25th, 1898, there cannot be in Cuba to-day more than 100,000 regular Spanish troops to bear arms. It is probable that the number is somewhat less than this, but the assumption of 100,000 gives us a small factor of safety in estimating the number of men we shall need in order to overcome Spanish resistance on land in the island.

It must be recollected that the foregoing figures are only approximately correct, as there is ground for the belief that the Spanish medical returns have purposely misstated, is not understated, the losses of the Spanish army in Cuba. But for that very reason we may feel tolerably sure that the results here given are not in excess of the truth.—Harper's Weekly.

Poor Little Alphonso. Alphonso XIII, the 12-year old king is small for his age, and delicate; his face is wan. His father was brought back from exile because the Italian Amadeo had proved a failure. Alphonso married his first cousin, the daughter of the duke of Montpensier. After a few months she died, leaving Alphonso disconsolate and childless. The necessities of State require him to provide an heir, so he was easily convinced of the urgency of an immediate marriage. There was only to be found one woman

practicable. This was the Archduchess Maria of Austria. Alphonso died unexpectedly in 1885. Two children, both daughters, had been born to the queen, but, fortunately, the king left a posthumous son and heir, born May 17th, 1886. The Carlists saw their hopes dashed. The cabinet officers and members of the regency and privy council were all present as his birth, as a report had been circulated that a bogus heir to the throne was to be proclaimed. Each Spanish queen had, theoretically, been subjected to this ordeal, but never, at least in modern times, had this been strictly enforced. The Spaniards rallied around the queen regent and the baby king, doing everything in their power for the continuance of the Bourbon regime.

The boy king knows that his situation is precarious. He has had no real boyhood life and knows there is no one in the peninsula whom he can count upon except his mother. From his cradle he has been surrounded by the ceremonial. He can have no playmates, because he has no peer. He attains his majority at the age of 15 years; so, but for Cuban trouble and the political dilemma which is a result of it, he might have ascended the throne with some prospects of a fairly peaceable reign. But the country is bankrupt; the war in Cuba is at an acute stage; the insurrection in the Philippine islands is serious, and withal there is the menace of the United States. The Carlists hope that little Alphonso may never live to wear his father's crown.

Should the king die, no woman with Bourbon blood in her veins will be allowed to ascend the throne, as the very disastrous reigns of Queen Christina and Queen Isabella II. are fresh in the memories of all. The probable solution of the sitting is that, if Alphonso should die, his eldest sister would marry Don Jaime, the son of Don Carlist pretender. This would satisfy both parties and free Spain from the possibilities of civil war.

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