

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor. Democratic Primary Election and County Convention.

The Democratic voters of Centre county will meet at the regular places for holding the general elections, in their respective election districts, on Saturday, June 11th, 1898, to elect delegates to the County convention.

Under the rules of the party the election will be opened at 3 p. m. and closed at 9 p. m. The delegates chosen at the above stated time will meet in the Court House, in Bellefonte, on Tuesday, June 14th, 1898, at 12 o'clock noon, to nominate two candidates for Assembly, one candidate for Prothonotary and one candidate for District Attorney; elect five delegates to the State convention, to be held at Altoona, June 29th 1898; elect three conferees to the next congressional caucus or conference of the 26th congressional district of which Centre county forms a part; elect three conferees to the next conference of the 34th senatorial district, to help select a State Senatorial candidate; elect a chairman of the County Committee, to serve from January 1st, 1899, to January 1st 1900; and to transact such other business as may come before the convention in the interest of the party.

APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES. The number of delegates to which each election district is entitled, as approved and ratified by the Democratic County Committee is as follows:

Table listing delegates by district: Bellefonte, N. W., S. W., Harris, P., W. P., Centre Hall, Howard, Liberty, Milesburg, Millheim, Philipsburg, South Philipsburg, College, Unionville, Benner, Boggs, Burnsides, College, Ferguson, Gregg, Half Moon, J. K. Johnson, Secretary, H. S. Taylor, Chairman.

War at Home. Someone has "cut the cable," between the QUAY people and the HASTINGS crowd in this county, and it now looks as if future communication between these two forces will be indefinitely suspended.

Attorneys it is a pretty fight. Bitterness and boodle on both sides, and a small rottenness about the whole thing that would put to shame the odors of a fish market.

Mr. McKinley Should Stick to His Text. With all his hesitancy and delay in getting down to business with Spain, the administration seems to have gone off at half-cock in its blockade of Havana.

The blockade in place of giving them either, only placed these starving out-casts beyond the help of those who would have fed them, and left them entirely at the mercy of their Spanish oppressors.

To the ordinary man it would seem that the proper thing to do would be to let the balance of creation alone, center our efforts on Cuba, conquer it and be done with it.

President McKinley must waken up. The war was not started to capture the Philippine Islands, or Porto Rico, but to aid the struggling and starving Cubans.

PROHIBITION CONVENTION.—The Prohibition convention, which met in the Court house in this place, on Saturday last, was a highly respectable, if not an overwhelmingly large body of gentlemen. What we mean by "respectable" is its members were creditable citizens of the county.

Brother Zeigler, who was the beginning and will likely be the end of the party in this county, was the chief adviser, mover and dictator. What brother Zeigler "moved" always passed; what brother Zeigler wanted was always granted.

As there were but few present and little to do, brother Zeigler was not overworked, only in his effort to be more than usually hopeful, and to find men enough suspected of being prohibitionists to fill the various positions his organization required.

Delegates to State Convention.—J. Frank Wasson, J. Gilliland, W. A. Hartswick, W. F. Gill, Rev. Geo. W. Leisher, Henry Friedrichs, Geo. Noll, W. T. Baird, and Rev. John Craig.

Congressional Conferees.—John I. Thompson, Rev. J. Zeigler and W. T. Gill. Senatorial Conferees.—J. Frank Wasson, W. A. Hartswick and Rev. J. Zeigler.

Members State Committee.—Rev. J. Zeigler and F. Potts Green.

After throwing bouquets at themselves, and resolving that the government's course in regard to Cuba is endorsed by the Prohibition party, those named above, who were present, adjourned.

WAR BULLETINS AND RUMORS.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS EXPECTED.

An Order Curtailing Information to the Public.—The Blockades Beginning to Pinch.—Dewey in Need of More Men.—The 5th OF for Chickamauga.—Condition of Affairs at Manila.—A Prolonged War.—Fight at Cienfuegos.—To Cuba Next Week.—Bismarck Condemns our Policy in War.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—An order posted this morning and signed by Secretary Long relative to the publication of news emanating from the navy department had the effect to-day of considerably curtailing the supply of information that heretofore has been rather freely given out.

As an offset it was ordered that bulletins of such facts as have actually occurred and are proper for publication, and are not connected with existing or projected movements, shall be prepared and posted on the bulletin board.

In explanation of the issue of this order the naval authorities say that some of the leading American newspapers have been so far lacking in patriotism as to print plans of the campaign and projected movements of naval ships with the result that the war board has been obliged to completely revise its plans in the knowledge that the Spaniards had promptly taken notice of the publications, and were prepared to profit by them.

It is not the purpose of the secretary to prevent the press having any information that is not calculated to cause a miscarriage of the plans of the department, but it remains to be seen whether the naval officers, to whom the order has been directed, will not by their iron clad interpretation of it bring about a modification of it in the interest of liberality.

The opening of the blockade at Havana to certain vessels is a rather curious proceeding that may lead to a very considerable widening of the blockade itself, so that in the end the neutral vessels not loaded with contraband good or supplies, the carrying of which into Havana would interfere with the naval and military operations of our government, may pass the blockade under suitable regulations laid down by the United States.

KEY WEST, May 16.—The conditions in Havana resulting from the blockade are being gradually brought out by information obtained from fishing smacks and other small vessels captured off the coast.

Affairs at Havana now appear to be worse than at any time since the war began. The fishermen, who at first braved the blockade for the high price which fish brought in Havana, now run the risk, not for money, but for food which they obtain from the sea.

The Associated Press dispatch boat Kate Spencer has accumulated all the facts obtainable along the blockading line, the latest news being obtained through two captures made by the United States gunboat Machias, which has just returned here for the first time since the blockade commenced, making the longest single service of any vessel off Cuba.

RECONCENTRADOS NEARLY ALL DEAD. The reconcentrados, the captured fishermen say, are nearly all dead, or have been expelled from Havana to die in the outskirts.

"WEYLER'S CHICKENS" EAT THE REMAINS. About Havana the situation is even worse. Hundreds of reconcentrados of Los Fosos, the big reconcentrado barracks in Havana, were too weak to walk out of town, and fell in the streets or died in the suburbs, where flocks of vultures—"Weyler's chickens," as they are now termed in Havana—have feasted on the remains.

In Matanzas this feature of the situation is equally distressing. The fishermen who have been brought here say that if the blockade continues much longer bread riots must follow in all the large towns, as food is reserved exclusively for the army, thus forcing many people to enlist who would not otherwise do so.

Finally, the fishermen say that certain of the most desperate of the Spaniards threaten to burn Havana or blow the city up in the event of the authorities deciding to capitulate to the American forces.

FRENCH CONSUL ASKS FOR FOOD. KINGSTON, Jamaica, May 15.—The French cruiser Fulton, from Havana, on May 8th, arrived here and landed thirty-eight refugees at the quarantine station.

The officers of the Fulton until her arrival had been unable to obtain any definite news of the battle of Manila. The first bulletins received in Havana from Madrid were not allowed to be changed, and an official Havana bulletin insisted that the honors were about even as the American fleet had been unable to land men.

The prices of imported food, salt meat, fish and flour are steadily mounting up at Havana, but vegetables are to be had there in plenty, and there is no probability of troops actually starving until the city is beleaguered from the land side.

The British troop ship Dilivara has arrived here from Halifax, with the Leinster regiment. There is no communication with Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada and Demerara, the cable between St. Vincent and St. Lucia having been cut, as already reported.

HONG KONG, May 17.—The steamer Esmeralda, which has just arrived from Manila with 400 refugees, chiefly Chinese, reports that the United States cruisers Concord and Boston are going to Iloilo, where they expect prompt recapture and to recapture the American ship Saranack, with a cargo of coal. The blockade of Manila is extremely rigid, and several foreign ships have been refused admittance.

The rebels are useless as allies of Admiral Dewey. They are utterly disunited, quite half of them being in favor of Spain. The Cavite arsenal was found empty. Col. Miguel, of the artillery, committed suicide because he discovered that the ammunition was non-existent.

Captain General Augusti is trying to conciliate the rebels and has authorized the establishment of native councils. The archbishop of Manila in a pastoral issued on the 8th instant said: "Christians, defend our faith against heretics, who raise an insuperable barrier to immortal souls, enslave the people, abolish crosses from cemeteries, forbid pastors to perform baptism, matrimony or funeral rites or to administer consolation or grant absolution."

Pending the arrival of troops from the United States, the Americans defer hostilities ashore. The dispatch adds that it is absolutely necessary that more American warships and a strong military force be sent to Admiral Dewey's aid at once.

THE FIFTH REGIMENT OFF FOR CHICKAMAUGA. MT. GRETTA, May 17.—The Fifth regiment, Col. Theodore Burchfield, Lieut. Col. Rufus C. Elder and Maj. John P. Kennedy and Robert C. McNamara, was the first to leave camp to-day.

Col. Rufus C. Elder and Maj. John P. Kennedy and Robert C. McNamara, was the first to leave camp to-day. Two trains carried it, the first leaving at 1 o'clock and the second 40 minutes later. The trains were in charge of Lieut. Col. Elder and Maj. McNamara, Col. Burchfield having gone ahead to Altoona to bid his family farewell.

The regiment was made up as follows: Company A, Huntington, Capt. John S. Bare; Company B, Bellefonte, Capt. H. S. Taylor; Company C, Hollidaysburg, Capt. John H. West; Company D, Woodward; Company E, Indiana, Capt. W. M. Mahan; Company G, Lewisport, Capt. Louis N. Slagle; Company H, Johnstown, Capt. J. Swan Taylor.

VALLEJO, Cal., May 18.—The cruiser Charleston got under way for Manila shortly after 10 o'clock this morning. Salutes were fired at Mare Island Navy Yard and the employes of the yard and citizens of Vallejo who were assembled along the shore vigorously cheered the departing vessels.

The Charleston was heavily loaded with ammunition for her own guns, in addition to a large supply of powder and projectiles for Admiral Dewey's fleet. No troops were carried on the Charleston, as she has no room for more than her own crew, 380 men.

The Charleston should arrive at Manila in about twenty-four days, allowing a couple of days at Honolulu for coal. The stock of ammunition which the Charleston carries is supposed to be the great essential just now, the fierce engagement at Cavite having consumed a large part of the admiral's shot and shell.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The government at Washington has decided upon the immediate invasion of Cuba by the land forces of this country regardless of the Spanish fleet. There has been no public promulgation of official orders to-day.

The squadrons under command of Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley will take care of elusive visitors from the Cape Verde fleet. The harbors of Cuba will be blockaded effectively and the Spanish fleet will be destroyed, if it comes within striking distance of our squadrons.

It has been the hope of the administration that there might be a decisive naval battle, which would be followed by an early termination of the war. That hope is abandoned. It seems to be in the interest of Spain to prolong the war; and it may be prolonged.

ARMY TO MOVE SOON. No official information has been obtainable to-day concerning the detailed plans for the movement of the army of invasion. It is only known that the army is to move soon, and that it is to go on transports conveyed by a strong squadron of cruisers.

NAVY DEPARTMENT BULLETINS. WASHINGTON, May 18.—The news bulletin issued by the Navy Department to-day contained the following items: An abstract of the mail report of Captain McCalla, commander of the Marblehead, describing the cutting of the cables in Cienfuegos Bay last Wednesday.

At the recent action off Cienfuegos Lieutenant Southard commanded the Eagle, Lieutenant B. Day Winslow the steam launches and sailing launches from the Nashville and Marblehead, with Lieutenant E. A. Anderson second in command. There were four boats used and their orders were to drag for and cut the cables off Cienfuegos under the protection of the guns of the Nashville and Marblehead.

The cable house was destroyed by the guns. A small inshore cable was found, but an infantry force with a Maxim gun at a distance of only one hundred and fifty yards kept up such a hot fire as to prevent this cable being grappled, particularly as the enemy had retreated into the gullies and ravines, where they could no longer be reached by the fire from the ships.

Lieutenant Winslow was wounded in the hand. Patrick Regan, private marine, was killed. Ernest Sutzentzich, apprentice, has since died. Six other men were wounded. I cannot speak in too high praise of officers and men engaged in the four boats in cutting the cables. Their work was performed with the utmost coolness and intrepidity, under the most trying circumstances, and I shall later have the honor to call special attention to their conduct.

An order has been issued by the department forbidding the presence of Sylvester Scovel, a newspaper correspondent, aboard vessels of the navy or at any naval station on account of his conduct in stowing himself away on board of the tug Unions on the recent visit of that vessel to Havana—he having been refused permission to go as a passenger.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—Unless some unforeseen movement of the Spanish fleet occurs, the invasion of Cuba by the United States army will begin the latter part of next week. At the earnest solicitation of the secretary of war and prominent army officials, President McKinley will give orders that actual warfare in Cuba will begin as soon as possible.

The delay of last week had been most beneficial to the volunteer army, which has been put in a much better state of organization than would have been possible had the expedition started earlier. The principal reason that no further delay is to be made in the Cuban invasion is that reports have been received from Cuba stating that the reconcentrados are in a fearful condition.

It is important to note that the reconcentrados are in a fearful condition. The reconcentrados are in a fearful condition. The reconcentrados are in a fearful condition. The reconcentrados are in a fearful condition.

Regarding the speech made Friday by Joseph Chamberlain the British Secretary of State for the colonies, at Birmingham, Prince Bismarck said: "The importance thereof depends upon whether Mr. Chamberlain's private opinions are those of the British government. Closer Anglo-American relations are doubtless feasible, but an alliance is improbable and unserviceable to both."

"Besides it is a mistake to call the Americans Saxons. Theirs is a mixed blood—British, Irish, German, French and Scandinavian. The Anglo-Saxon does not even predominate to-day. This dwelling on so-called race interests is nonsense in politics. Look at the Russo-French agreement and the Dreibund. Politics are not dictated by such far-fetched sentimentalities.

Germany's duty plainly is to maintain her interests by carefully nursing the good neighborhood of the European nations." Summary of War News. The Minneapolis and Yale are at Cape Haytien.

The report that Cervera's fleet has arrived at San Juan de Puerto Rico lacks confirmation. All that is positively known is that the ships left Curacao. An American landing party, according to a Havana dispatch via London, has been repulsed off Caibarien, in Santa Clara.

Spain is preparing to send its Cadiz Reserve squadron by the end of May with 11,000 troops to the Philippines. The government has decided to cut the cables leading from Cuba and deprive Blanco of the means of obtaining information regarding the movement of the United States army and navy.

Two carloads of shoes, numbering 10,000 pairs, were shipped from the Schuykill 000 arsenal for the volunteer army now being mobilized at Chickamauga. About 10,000 pairs were received at the arsenal from New York and will be forwarded to the various points of mobilization of troops as soon as orders are received.

Admiral Sampson's squadron, according to advices from Cape Haitien, is still off the north coast of Haiti. The Ocoela and Ericsson fired into a large body of Spanish soldiers patrolling the Cuban coast. The Spaniards hastily scattered.

A report from Havana states that an American warship was blown up while the crew was removing torpedoes from Cardenas Harbor, and that all on board were drowned. The report was disseminated at Washington and Key West.

Reports received here from Key West show that the condition of the little torpedo boat Winslow is much worse than was supposed, and it will be necessary in all probability to have her come to Norfolk for repairs.

The Governor of St. Thomas will not allow warships to coal there except by his permission. Commander Todd, of the gunboat Wilmington, sunk a derelict schooner of Havana, which the Spaniards had sent out of the harbor in the hope of wrecking some of the blockading vessels.

Although the Venezuelan Government is neutral, the people side with Spain in the war. In an official report to Secretary Long, Captain Dorst, at the head of the Gussie, says he landed arms on the Cuban coast for the insurgents.

Cervera Still Elusive. PANAMA, May 18.—No report has reached here of the Spanish fleet since it left Curacao, but a rumor is current that it may put into Colon for coal. As the declaration of neutrality regards coal as contraband of war, it will not be supplied.

PORTO PLATA, San Domingo, May 18.—No Spanish fleet has been seen here. The censor eliminates everything concerning the movements of American warships. The Dominican cruiser President, from San Domingo, passed through Mona passage to-day. Dispatches from Cape Haitien and Port au Prince, Haiti, say that nothing has been heard at either place of the movement of the fleet under Admiral Cervera.

A Last Word from Our Centre County Boys Before Leaving Mt. Gretna. Mt. Gretna, Pa., May 17th, 1898. Editor of WATCHMAN.—Many events of interest to your readers have happened since my last letter from Camp. The examinations being over all who failed to pass were ordered home, and many a sad farewell was passed between the men. Some left broken hearted.

One member of Co. B sobbed and cried like a child as he bid good-bye to his comrades, and tears trickled down many a cheek in camp as these boys departed. The new recruits, from all parts of Centre county, filled Co. B to the full quota of 75 men, all being sworn into the United States service last Wednesday afternoon, and a hearty "I do," burst from the lips of every officer and man after the oath was administered.

Gov. Hastings and many other Bellefonte people were present when the company entered the service. Every man has been equipped with uniform, hat, shoes and shirt. The guns and other accoutrements for the new men will be shipped later. We have been drilling very regularly and every man has made a great effort to do the best he can, and I cannot speak too highly of their good work.

They are willing, obedient and prompt; the very necessary essentials to make good soldiers. Major Kennedy, of our battalion, after drill Thursday, ordered the other companies to drill their men to the efficiency of Co. B. Several promotions have been made since we have become United States Regulars. Sergt. Charles Garis to Color Sergt. of 5th Regiment; the honor was given Co. B by Col. Burchfield, for the reason our recruits were the first to report in camp. Corp. J. Morrison was advanced to 6th Sergt. Corp. John W. Lose to Commissary Sergt. and no better or more capable man than Sergt. Lose can be found in the regiment.

Private Willis Williams to 4th Corp. Our old good natured cook and friend, Henry Vitalini, was compelled to leave for home; his age having prevented him from going to the front. The boys were all very sorry to see him go, for he was, without exception, the best cook on the ground. The recruits from Philadelphia, Howard, Millheim, Milesburg, Bellefonte, Penn Hall, Centre Hall and many other places in the county take to soldier life naturally and with a better and finer class of recruits cannot be found in camp. Davis, of Philipsburg, and Reading, of Howard, are cooking for the boys and they are very satisfactory.

The people at home can feel assured that their boys will be well cared for while in the service. The officers of the 5th Regiment are all competent and tried men. Col. Theodore Burchfield, of Altoona, commanding, is a veteran of the late war, a thorough tactician, cool, collected, careful and exact. Lieut. Col. Rufus C. Elder, of Lewisport, is a man of many years of military experience in the service of the grand old Capt. G. Maj. John P. Kennedy and Maj. Robt. McNamara have filled various offices in the regiment. The regimental surgeons, Dr. Stayer, of Altoona, Dr. Hayes, of Bellefonte and Dr. Glover, of Altoona, are men of large practice and experience.

Many visitors have been here to see us among them were Mrs. Robt. Hayes, Mrs. N. B. Spangler, Mrs. Hugh Taylor, J. W. Gephart Esq., of Bellefonte, Jacob Truby, of Reading, Dave Atherton and Mr. Walton, of Philipsburg, Claud Smith, John Snyder, Hon. Robt. Foster, and Col. Amos Miller. The ratings are first class in every respect; the men have plenty to eat but of course the food is that which is required for army life, plain, good, solid and wholesome.

Orders have been received at this writing that our men will move to Chickamauga not later than Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock and by the time your readers receive this letter we will be encamped far South, ready to invade Cuba. The orders read that each enlisted man will be given 1 seat in the car and each commissioned officer 1 berth in a Pullman. It will take about 60 hours to make the trip. We go by the way of Pittsburgh, through Ohio to Cincinnati, thence directly South. We all go to the front prepared and determined to do our duty as soldiers. On the part of Co. B I bid the readers of the WATCHMAN and of this letter, farewell.

VOLUNTEER.