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The Rough Riders Love Their Considerate Colonel.

Private Will T. Palmer, of the Rough Riders, writes home to Kansas as follows: "When we came to make the final charge that took this position, some of the officers wanted to fall back and leave it in possession of the Spaniards, but Colonel Roosevelt pulled his pistol and said: 'You can fall back if you want to, but my men will hold it till the last man dies.' We held it, and did not die, either. I tell you, Wood and Roosevelt are proud of their regiment. Colonel Roosevelt says if I knock the bottom out of this thing in time he is going to take all the Rough Riders that are alive and able to go to Paris Exposition in 1900, at his own expense. Our boys are proud of our colonel. We fought ninety hours without sleep or rest. Each of the wounded Rough Riders on Governor's Island received \$5 from Colonel Roosevelt. The money was given them by Major Brodie, who told them that if they needed any more Colonel Roosevelt would see that they receive it. 'Teddy is the whole thing; he's all right,' said one of the men. 'It's just like him to send us a little spending money; it's just his way. Our colonel is always looking after us, and the boys know it. If he started to charge on Satan and his legions you can say that the boys would see him through with it, if we had to go through the entire infernal regions after him.'

Surgeon General Sternberg is very much opposed to the presence of women nurses at the front. His native prejudices have been inflamed by the revelations of Miss Janet Jennings, formerly the Washington correspondent of the New York Independent, more recently a member of Miss Clara Barton's Red Cross staff at Santiago de Cuba. Miss Jennings showed that the sick and wounded suffered untold agonies, simply because the medical and surgical department of the army was wholly inadequate to the demands upon it. Surgeon General Sternberg may explain as elaborately as he pleases why it was so, but no explanations will alter the facts.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., August 5, 1898.

Porto Rico is to be Ours--Something of Possession.

Facts About the Island Which is to Become Our Possession.

The island of Porto Rico, about to be occupied by the States troops, is one of Spain's fairest colonial possessions, and, notwithstanding the illiberal rule of Spain, it has enjoyed more tranquility and therefore more prosperity than Cuba or the Philippines. It includes one of the most densely populated areas in the world. The form of the island is described as an irregular parallelogram, 108 miles long and 35 miles broad. It contains 3,530 square miles. Its superficial area is greater than that of the state of Delaware, and less than that of the state of Connecticut. The population of Porto Rico is estimated at 813,000, or about 67,000 greater than that of Connecticut, at the last census.

The northern coast has a regular outline on the maps, but is said to be rugged and inhospitable, presenting few good harbors. Notwithstanding the fact that Porto Rico was one of the discoveries of Columbus, the surprising statement is made in a current descriptive publication, that the coasts of the islands are not well known, and that the existing charts of Porto Rican waters are not complete. The picturesque features of the Porto Rican landscape are very numerous rivers, the forest-clad mountain ranges, culminating in the peak of El Yunque, 3,700 feet high; the extremely fertile valleys and frequent villages and farmsteads.

Porto Rico has 470 miles of telegraph and 137 miles of railway, with 170 miles of railway under construction. The roads and bridges have been neglected, for the reason that the revenues have been used for the most part to assist in suppressing insurrections in Cuba. The government in recent years has given some attention to the improvement of internal communication, but in several of the departments primitive conditions still exist.

The climate of the country is warm, but not so enervating as that of the other Antilles. The temperature rarely rises above 97 degrees Fahrenheit, in the shade, while the temperature at night is not above 70 degrees. Along the coast the climate resembles that of Cuba, but at certain places in the interior the climate is as cool as that of much higher latitudes. The island like all other tropical regions, is subjected to hurricanes, some of which have been very destructive. All the valuable woods and tropical fruits grow here luxuriantly, as well as the staple products of tropical agriculture, sugar cane, coffee, tobacco, cotton and rice. It is said that the yield of sugar per acre is greater than in any other West India island. It is noted as a remarkable circumstance that very few wild animals, birds or flowers are to be found in Porto Rico. Agricultural operations are conducted by the natives, but by far the greater portion of the commerce and business of the country is in the hands of foreigners and natives of Spain.

In 1896 the value of the importations from all foreign countries into Porto Rico was \$18,945,793, and the total exports of the island were valued at \$17,295,325. It is estimated that about one-eighth of the imports into the island come from the United States. Porto Rican importations in to the United States last year were of the value of \$2,181,024. In 1893 they were of the value of \$4,008,623. In 1897 the United States exported to Porto Rico, \$1,964,850 worth of goods. The exhibit of the trade between Philadelphia and the island for five years past, reported by collector of the Post Thomas, shows that the importations into Philadelphia from that quarter have fallen from the value of \$159,156 in 1895, to \$70,089 in 1897. But the exports from Philadelphia to Porto Rico have been increasing every year since 1893. In that year the value was \$16,058. In 1897 it was \$75,515. The leading articles of export from Philadelphia to Porto Rico in 1897 were bituminous coal, crude petroleum and locomotives.

Said by One of Cervera's Officers.

"Did you expect to escape?" "No; we expected to die. As I have said, the sailors knew nothing of the fate that awaited them, but there was not an officer on the fleet who did not feel that his end had come. There was only one chance, a slight possibility that one of our vessels might escape. The arrangement of the Yankee fleet was favorable. The lookouts told us that the New York had gone to the east and the Brooklyn was the only ship in sight that could outlast the slowest of our vessels. It was my intention to ram the Brooklyn immediately and sink or disable her, even though one of our vessels went down with her. Then it was hoped the others could outrun the battleships. Our plan failed because we could not get near enough to the Brooklyn. She did not close in on us like the Texas and Oregon, but stood off at long range, and when the Maria Teresa started for her she made a wide sweep and ran away. Cervera asked Commodore Schley why he did not come nearer, but got no satisfaction. But the Maria Teresa was almost instantly disabled by shells from the Texas, which met her at the mouth of the harbor, and the Oregon was a great surprise. We had no idea that any battleship could make her speed. It was something we were not prepared for. It was the Oregon that prevented our escape."

Penalty of Mothering a Hero.

Mrs. Hobson, the mother of Naval Constructor Hobson, who is now in Atlanta, says she has lately had the thousands of letters from people in every imaginable class of life, some from young men who were fired by the courageous spirit of Richmond Pearson Hobson, others from veterans who extolled the fearless achievement, and still more from mothers who wrote to congratulate the mother of one of the famous men of the day. Mrs. Hobson says that requests for her photograph and autograph were numerous, and that, while she had complied with a great many, it was manifestly impossible to accommodate all. She said that her mail had accumulated so heavily that she would be forced to employ several stenographers to catch up with it.

PONCE AND PORT WERE CAPTURED BY AMERICANS.

THE SPANISH TROOPS ARE RETREATING FROM THE SOUTHERN PART OF PORTO RICO--OUR SOLDIERS ARE IN THE BEST OF HEALTH AND SPIRITS.

Not a Single American Life was Lost.

General Miles Anticipates no Insurmountable Obstacles in the Future--A Fight Before Yacua on Tuesday Was Won by the American Volunteers--The Spaniards Ambushed Eight Companies of the Massachusetts and Illinois Regiments, but the Enemy Was Repulsed and Driven Back a Mile to Ridge, Where the Spanish Cavalry Charged and Was Routed by Our Infantry--The Spaniards Retreated to Yacua, Leaving Four Dead Soldiers on the Field.

WASHINGTON, July 29.--The war department has received the following dispatch from General Miles:

PORT PONCE, Porto Rico, via St. Thomas, July 29.

Secretary of War, Washington: On the 28th Garretson had a spirited engagement on skirmish line. Our casualties were four wounded. All are doing well. Spanish loss was three killed and thirteen wounded. Yacua was occupied yesterday. Henry's division is there to-day. Last evening Commander Davis, of the Dixie, moved into this port, followed by Captain Higginson with his fleet early this morning. General Wilson with Ernst's brigade is now rapidly disembarking.

The Spanish troops are retreating from the southern part of Porto Rico. Ponce and port have a population of 5,000, and are now under the American flag. The populace received the troops and saluted the flag with wild enthusiasm. The navy has several prizes, also seven lighters. Railway stock partly destroyed is now restored. Telegraph communication is also being restored. Cable instruments destroyed. Have sent to Jamaica for others. This is a prosperous and beautiful country. The army will soon be in mountain region. The weather is delightful. Troops in the best of health and spirits. Anticipate no insurmountable obstacles in the future. Results thus far have been accomplished without the loss of a single life.

[Signed] NELSON MILES, Major General.

OPERATIONS IN PORTO RICO.

PORT OF PONCE. Island of Porto Rico, July 28, via the island of St. Thomas, D. W. I.--The Port of Ponce surrendered to Commander C. H. Davis, of the auxiliary gunboat Dixie, yesterday. The Dixie was largely manned by the Maryland naval reserves. There was no resistance and the Americans were welcomed with enthusiasm. Major General Miles arrived here this morning at daylight with General Ernst's brigade and General Wilson's division on board transports. General Ernst's brigade immediately started for the town of Ponce, three miles inland, which capitulated this afternoon.

The American troops are pushing towards the mountains and will join General Henry with his brigade at Yacua, which has been captured by our troops. A fight before the latter place on Tuesday last was won by the American volunteers. The Spaniards ambushed eight companies of the Massachusetts and Illinois regiments, but the enemy was repulsed and driven back a mile to a ridge, where the Spanish cavalry charged and was routed by our infantry.

General Garretson led the fight with them from Illinois and Massachusetts, and the enemy retreated to Yacua, leaving four dead soldiers on the field and several, wounded. None of our men were killed and only three were slightly wounded. The wounded are Captain Gihon Larrett, Private James Drummond and Private H. C. Gary.

The Porto Ricans are glad the Americans have landed and say that they are all Americans and will join our army.

The roads are good for military purposes. The troops are healthy, and General Miles says the campaign will be short and vigorous.

General Miles has issued the following proclamation: "In the prosecution of the war against the kingdom of Spain by the people of the United States, in the cause of liberty, justice and humanity, its military forces have come to occupy the island of Porto Rico. They come bearing the banners of freedom, inspired by a noble purpose to seek the enemies of our government and of yours and to destroy or capture an armed resistance. They bring you the fostering arms of a free people, whose greatest power is justice and humanity to all living within their fold. Hence they release you from your former political relations, and it is hoped this will be followed by your acceptance of the government of the United States."

"The chief object of the American military forces will be to overthrow the armed authority of Spain and give the people of your beautiful island the largest measure of liberty consistent with this military occupation. They have not come to make war on the people of this country, who for centuries have been oppressed, but, on the contrary, your prosperity and bestow the immunities and blessings of our enlightenment and liberal institutions and government."

"It is not their purpose to interfere with the existing laws and customs which are wholesome and beneficial to the people, so long as they conform to the rules of the military administration, order and justice. This is not a war of devastation and desolation, but one to give all within the control of the military and naval forces the advantages and blessings of enlightened civilization."

CITY OF PONCE SURRENDERED.

WASHINGTON, July 29.--The navy department has posted the following bulletin: ST. THOMAS, July 28, United States ship Massachusetts.

PONCE, Porto Rico, July 28.--Commander Davis, with Dixie, Annapolis, Wasp and Gloucester, left Guanica July 27 to blockade Ponce and capture lighters for United States army. City of Ponce and Playa surrendered to Commodore Davis upon demand at 12.30 a. m., July 28th. American flag hoisted at 6 a. m., 28th. Spanish garrison evacuated. Provisional articles of surrender until occupation by army: First, garrison to be allowed to retire; second, civil government to remain in force; third, police and fire brigade to be maintained without arms; fourth, captain of port not to be made president at present.

Arrived at Ponce from Guanica with Massachusetts and Cincinnati, General Miles and General Wilson and transports at 6.40 a. m., the 28th. Commenced landing the army in the evening. Captured sixty lighters, twenty sailing vessels and 120 tons of coal. [Signed] HIGGINSON.

For Humanity, Read, Act.

The Associate Society of the Red Cross of Philadelphia has issued the following appeal: TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA:

The Associate Society of the Red Cross of Philadelphia has, during the present war and the distress, in Cuba, which preceded the breaking out of hostilities between our country and Spain, been actively engaged in its humanitarian work of ministering to the necessities of the men in the field and of the suffering Cubans. It has sent many articles of comfort, even of life-saving importance to our troops in their various camps, sometimes in response to most touching appeals; the appeal came and the Society was ready. It has besides made a large number of shipments of goods, provisions, clothing, medicines to the Cubans. In all its work it has been nobly upheld, notably by the people of Philadelphia, but also by those of other parts of the State and of New Jersey.

During the blockade and the siege of Santiago, one branch of its ministrations was necessarily suspended, but the Society was not idle, stores continued to be received, money to be collected. Among other things the equipment of a field ambulance and hospital service has been undertaken, and already has far proceeded as to be properly regarded as an accomplished fact, and the Society will be able to put into the field six ambulances, with their proper appurtenances and a properly equipped field hospital.

The fall of Santiago reopens the opportunity of merciful work in Cuba. The Society has already made arrangements to forward several tons of stores, which have been only waiting a chance to be sent, and has appropriated in addition for this shipment, \$1,200. But this is but a drop in the ocean of suffering. More must be done. The Society proposes, therefore, to charter a steamer, to sail from Philadelphia about August 15th, to convey the ambulance corps and equipment to the front and to load the vessel with stores, such as soldiers may need and which the government does not provide, and with clothing, food, and medicine and such other things as may be required by those wretched, suffering people, whom we encourage to resist Spain and to make a struggle for liberty, and whose suffering has been fearfully and necessarily enhanced by the war upon which we have entered.

The Society, therefore, appeals to what

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The rate of \$100 from New York, Brooklyn, Newark, Trenton, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Baltimore, and Washington covers railway and boat fare for the entire round trip, parlor car seats, meals en route, hotel entertainment, transfer charges, carriage hire--in fact, every item of necessary expense.

For detailed itinerary, tickets or any additional information, address tourist agent, Pennsylvania railroad company, 1196 Broadway, New York; 860 Fulton street, Brooklyn; 789 Broad street, Newark, N. J.; or Geo. W. Boyd, assistant general passenger agent, Broad street station, Philadelphia. 43-29-2t

MILLIONS GIVEN AWAY.--It is certainly gratifying to the public to know of one concern in the land who are not afraid to be generous to the needy and suffering. The proprietors of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds have given away over ten million trial bottles of this great medicine; and have the satisfaction of knowing it has absolutely cured thousands of hopeless cases. Asthma, Bronchitis, Hoarseness and all diseases of the Throat, Chest, and Lungs are surely cured by it. Call on F. Potts Green, druggist, and get a trial bottle free. Regular size 50c. and \$1. Every bottle guaranteed or price refunded.

Her Attraction.

Mr. Bunting--"Young Grimby is going to marry old Miss Brodakers." Mrs. Bunting (astonished)--"For the land's sake?" Mr. Bunting--"Partly, and partly for the bank account."--Judge.

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Wrong.

"Teacher, I bought a pound of raisins yesterday and counted 'em. Can you guess how many there are?" "Four hundred and fifty?" "None. There ain't any. I ett 'em."

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