

## Spanish Squadron Defeated

The Naval Battle so Long Expected at Manila Took Place Sunday Morning.

The Spaniards Were Totally Routed. Their Fleet Completely Wiped Out.

### THE NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The past week has been a very disastrous one to the Spaniards. More of their merchant vessels have been captured, and in an engagement with Commodore Dewey and his squadron at Manila they suffered heavy losses and were completely routed.

#### THURSDAY.

A full report of the bombardment of Matanzas by the cruisers New York and Cincinnati and the Monitor Puritan reached Washington to-day from Admiral Sampson. It proves the superior gunnery of the American ships, nearly every one of their shots telling heavily. The batteries were silenced and apparently nearly destroyed. Sixty Spaniards are said to have been killed.

For some days the Cincinnati, which has been blockading the port, noticed that large bodies of men were erecting new batteries on a low, sandy point that runs out near the entrance to the port. A report was sent to Admiral Sampson, with a notification that the Dupont had been fired on by a concealed battery.

The Admiral on the flagship New York left his cruising ground about noon yesterday and proceeded toward Matanzas. He found there the monitor Puritan and the cruiser Cincinnati, which have been blockading the port. The Admiral decided to make a reconnaissance in force for the purpose of locating the batteries, discovering the kind of guns they mounted, and, if possible, stopping the work of fortifying.

Matanzas lies at the head of a bay about four miles from the sea. This bay at its mouth is three miles wide. On the west side of the bay is Port Rubalcava and on the east side Point Maya.

The New York led the way into the bay. The Puritan was a few hundred yards astern on the port side, and the Cincinnati remained behind a slightly greater distance astern on the starboard side. Not a human being could be seen on shore.

Suddenly a small battery on the eastern side of the bay opened fire on the New York. Two shells fell short of the vessels.

The range of the east battery was nearly 7000 yards, but the flagship promptly opened fire with one of her 8-inch guns. The engagement in a few minutes became general.

The New York steamed quickly in and circled to the westward toward Point Rubalcava, while the Puritan swung to starboard to engage the Maya battery, which was the more formidable.

The target practice of the flagship was an inspiring sight. At every shot from her batteries clouds of dust and big pieces of stone showed where the Spanish forts were suffering.

The New York soon reduced the range from 7000 to 3000 yards, and soon was tossing shells into Rubalcava at the rate of about three a minute with wonderful precision.

In the meantime the Puritan was taking care of Point Maya. It was so well masked that the only target was the infrequent smoke from the battery. But when the Puritan got the range her shells burst every time within the fortification and great was the explosion thereof.

All this time the Cincinnati had remained out of action. One can imagine the impatience of Captain Chester and his enthusiastic crew at not being allowed to take a hand in this, the first battle of the war.

Captain Chester himself signalled for permission to engage, and it was granted by the flagship. The Cincinnati steamed up to within 2000 yards broadside on, and almost immediately her guns were at work.

For twenty minutes the rain of shot and shell on the flimsy batteries continued, when they were practically silenced.

The New York was just giving the signal to retire when one defiant shot was fired from Rubalcava. One of the big guns on the Puritan followed back. It was the best shot of the day. It struck the battery just where the gun was, tore its way into the earth-

works and exploded, doing great destruction.

Not a shell had struck one of the vessels, but there had been three narrow misses of the New York. The Spanish fired shrapnel once which had burst above the ship, a shell had struck just fore of her and another struck just aft. The fact that the Spaniards failed to strike such a large target as the New York was taken as evidence that they are not good marksmen.

Our fleet threw probably a hundred shell during the engagement, while the batteries did not shoot probably more than twenty-five times.

If the action is to be taken as a measure of the accuracy of the Spanish gunnery, the American fleet will not have a difficult task in reducing Havana and other fortifications on the Cuban coast. The New York and Cincinnati, both large ships, lay broadside on the batteries at Matanzas for twenty minutes, offering a target that any expert gunner could hardly have missed, but no shell came nearer than one hundred yards, and some fell nearly a mile off.

The American sailors are full of enthusiasm over the fight.

#### FRIDAY.

The department at Washington received no word to-day from Admiral Dewey's squadron which is on its way to the Philippines to do battle with the Spanish fleet.

United States troops will leave Tampa for an invasion of Cuba within the next few days. Orders were issued to-day by the War Department to the troops mobilized at Southern points to be ready to start at a moment's notice.

General Lee has returned to Washington, and had long conferences with Adjutant-General Corbin, Secretary Alger and General Shafter, in regard to the general plan of campaign. General Lee expressed himself as not in the least surprised at the ease with which Admiral Sampson's fleet had demolished the forts at Matanzas. He did not seem to think that the capture of the Cuban capital would be a very difficult task.

Preparations for enlisting the 10,000 immunes are rapidly progressing and all indications show that the entire quota will be made inside of a few weeks.

It is the opinion to-day in army circles that Matanzas will be secured in a few days and the destruction of the battery intended to guard that harbor by Admiral Sampson's fleet is taken as an assurance of this fact.

It is no longer a secret that the Cuban and American forces are working in harmony to whip the Spaniards. Colonel Emilio Nunez, head of all the important Cuban filibustering expeditions, arrived at Tampa this morning from Washington and was met by a member of General Wade's headquarters, where a lengthy conference was held. Information from authentic sources substantiates the fact that this government is co-operating with the Cuban leaders and that the first invasion made on the Spaniards' forces will be under the direction of Colonel Nunez, and backed by men and artillery from this government. Already there is a large number of Cuban volunteers here who are well supplied with Winchester rifles and other war implements who have been awaiting the arrival of the Cuban leader before they join Gomez's forces.

#### SATURDAY.

Officials of the Navy Department believe that the first great naval battle of the war will be fought to-day at or near Manila between the squadron of Commodore Dewey and the Spanish fleet in the Philippines, possibly supported by the land batteries at Manila. There was some little shooting to-day. In answer to a volley fired from Spanish on Shore at Cabanas, thirty-eight miles west of Havana last night, the New York sent eleven shells in the direction of the Spaniards. The enemies fire was silenced after the first shot from the New York. Whether any Spaniards were killed or wounded was not ascertained.

#### SUNDAY.

The first naval battle of the war took place to-day in the harbor of Manila and resulted in a complete victory for the United States fleet under the command of Commodore Dewey. As a result the three largest Spanish vessels were sunk, two were totally disabled, others unknown were sent to the bottom of the harbor, and the remaining few were small wooden vessels of no consequence.

Dewey's fleet consisting of six vessels, Olympia, Baltimore, Boston, Raleigh, Concord and Petrel, steamed into the roadstead of Manila Saturday night and at daybreak opened fire both on the fleet and the Spanish fortifications. The forts and the Spanish fleet numbering nine ships returned the fire and the first real battle of the war was on. The finest vessel in the enemy's fleet was the Maria Christina, which was destroyed and her commander killed. The Castilla was scuttled, the San Juan de Austria was blown up and the rest scattered. Not a single American ship was lost. It was a remarkable feat and Commodore Dewey is the hero of the hour.

Full details of the battle will be delayed, as the Spaniards control the cables.

The following is the text of the official dispatch from the Governor-General of the Philippines to the Minister of War, Lieutenant-General Correa, as to the engagement.

"Last night, April 30, the batteries at the entrance to the fort announced the arrival of the enemy's squadron forcing a passage in the obscurity of the night. At daybreak the enemy took up positions, opening with a strong fire against Fort Cavite and the arsenal.

"Our fleet engaged the enemy in a brilliant combat, protected by the Cavite and Manila forts. They obliged the enemy, with heavy loss, to maneuver repeatedly. At 9 o'clock the American squadron took refuge behind the foreign merchant shipping, on the east side of the bay.

"Our fleet, considering the enemy's superiority, naturally suffered a severe loss. The Maria Christina is on fire and another ship, believed to be the Don Juan de Austria, was blown up.

"There was considerable loss of life. Captain Cadasso, commanding the Maria Christina, is among the killed. I cannot now give further details.

#### MONDAY.

There has been no news received at Washington from Dewey concerning the great victory, but it is believed Manila is in his hands. London reports from Madrid say that the forts have been razed and the city of Manila burned.

One of the latest despatches says: "No Spanish warship surrendered and the majority perished. Two Spanish commanders were killed while resisting to the last moment." "The Spanish losses are estimated at four hundred men killed, including many natives.

"The American squadron attacked furiously both the Spanish squadron and Cavite, where it caused great damage.

Further details of the celebrated battle.

The American fleet entered Manila Bay on Sunday at 5 o'clock in the morning. On arriving at their anchorage the Cavite fort opened fire at long range. The Spanish fleet anchored off Cavite followed. The American ships then drew close in and opened a terrible cannonade. After half an hour the Americans moved out of range of the lighter Spanish guns and continued the cannonade with big guns with terrible effect. At the end of twenty minutes the American fleet again drew into close quarters, the cannonade being rapid and incessant.

The Spanish fleet was destroyed, three vessels burning, one sunk and the others silenced. The land forts were also silenced. The fight lasted an hour and a half. The Spaniards fought bravely against a superior force. Their loss was probably great.

The Americans were apparently uninjured. The Spaniards will not give in, and the Americans expect to bombard Manila to-morrow at half past 11 o'clock.

The Americans returned to Cavite. Some shots were still fired from the shore, but the Americans poured in such a terrible cannonade that further resistance was impossible.

The spectacle was great, but terrible. The American attack was well carried out, their maneuvers beautiful and their navigation of the bay surprising, avoiding the numerous shallows all over the channel at Cavite.

With every Boy's Knee Pants Suit we give a United States Scientific Box Kite, exact counterparts of those now being used by the United States Government.

## Last Saturday's Busy Buyers

PLAINLY TOLD OF THE MANY BARGAINS WE ARE OFFERING IN

### Men's and Boys' Suits.

We are saving from 15 to 20 per cent. for every buyer who comes here. No trash, no sweatshop clothing, the very best. Saturday will be another busy day. Tell your friends and neighbors; keep the good news spreading.

### Elegant All Wool Men's Suits,

Of pure wool cloths, satin piped seams, French facing, sewed throughout with silk, a strictly high grade suit at **\$7.90.**  
Splendid all wool Suits for men at **\$3.98.**  
A splendid line of all wool Men's Suits at **\$5.90.**  
Nothing in these parts can match the suits we sell at \$10.00, plain or silk lined.

We have just received a large invoice of Men's All Wool Spring and Summer Pants, made by Sweet, Orr & Co., therefore insuring strength and wearing qualities, **\$2.00**, all sizes.

We sell Mother's Friend Shirt Waists for boys, laundered or not.

### Straw and Crash Hats,

New line just in, 25c. and up.

# Gidding & Co.

Almost Opposite Court House.

The White Front.

The White Front.

Almost Opposite Court House.

They await the decision of the governor-general before commencing the bombardment of Manila.

#### TUESDAY.

The Washington authorities are still awaiting word from Dewey. They are inclined to believe however that the stars and stripes are waving over the island. They expect to receive an account of the situation to-morrow or next day. The cutting of the cable precludes the positive statement that Manila has fallen into Dewey's hands and that the place has surrendered.

General Miles wants 30,000 American troops landed in Cuba at once. He argued that even with the Spanish squadron possibly on its way to American waters, there is no reason why the invasion of the island should be delayed.

It is said that the preliminary invasion of Cuba will begin probably Friday. General Miles is now preparing the order designating the troops to be ready.

#### WEDNESDAY.

This has been a day of waiting at the National Capitol. The news that the Revenue cutter McCollough, which is attached to Commodore Dewey's fleet, as a dispatch boat had arrived at Mrs Bay forty miles from Hong Kong was welcome news. It was expected, therefore, by McKinley that before the day closed Dewey's official account of the battle off Manila would be received. But it has not yet arrived.

Vice President Hobart spent considerable time at the White House to-day. He said that the President was in possession of information tending to show that Manila has surrendered and that the American flag is floating over that city.

It was rumored at Washington to-night that Dewey has cabled to the President he is in possession of Manila and adds that he will send full details later.

Sampson has not encountered the Spanish flotilla as yet, but news of such an engagement is expected at any time.

#### THURSDAY.

There is no war news this morning. Dewey's report not yet having been received by the President. Sampson's fleet has sailed from Key West to meet the Spanish fleet at Porto Rico.

#### TRUSTEES ELECTED.

At the annual election by the stockholders of the Normal School, last Monday afternoon, the following persons were elected Trustees on the part of the stockholders for the next three years: F. P. Billmeyer, A. Z. Schoch, J. M. Clark, A. L. Fritz; and J. A. Funston, Grant Herring, R. E. Hartman and J. R. Schuyler were nominated to the State Superintendent from whom to select two trustees on the part of the State. Those who attended the election were treated to a plate of ice cream in red, white and blue layers, with strawberries, and cake with our flag iced on top. It was the day on which the news of Dewey's victory came, and Steward Housel provided these patriotic refreshments in honor of the victory.

#### MAY NEED THE VOLUNTEERS.

It looks now as if the many volunteer companies throughout the state will have a chance to serve Uncle Sam within a short time. The companies will be recruited up to the full war footing of one hundred members each. This will be done in order to make up the full quota of men to be furnished by this state. A great many members of the guard will be rejected for various reasons. Some are too old and many others will not be able to pass the physical examination. These vacancies will have to be filled by recruits, and it may be that the Bloomsburg young men, who are so desirous of getting in line, will have an opportunity, not as a company, because it is impossible to get the number of men required for a full company, but they will be taken to fill up.

Miss Edith Traub aged twenty years, died at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. John Traub in Fernville Saturday night. The deceased had been in feeble health for a long time, and for the past three weeks had been confined to her bed. The funeral took place from the house yesterday afternoon, conducted by Rev. M. E. McLinn of the Lutheran Church, of which she was a member. She was also a member and took an active part in the Christian Endeavor of the Church.

Edward Leighow, a well known young man of this town, hired a horse of Buckalew Bros. on Saturday evening and drove to Millville. He tied the horse to a hitching post in front of a dwelling and went in to make a call. He remained in the house some little time. When he started home he discovered that the horse and carriage was missing. He searched about the premises, but could find no trace of the outfit and was obliged to foot it home. He learned on Sunday that the horse had been left at Spruce Run, some few miles above Millville. On Monday morning Leighow and R. C. Buckalew started for that place. They found the horse and buggy at the barn of a man by the name of Cox. He stated that it had been left there during the night sometime, but by whom he was unable to say. It is hard to understand the motive of the perpetrator whoever he was. If he intended to steal the animal he surely wouldn't have left it, after driving but a few miles. It was more than likely done for a joke.

Several people witnessed a fist fight at the D. L. & W. Depot on Saturday noon. A stranger, who claimed to be a Spaniard, on his way home to fight for his country, became very insulting in his remarks to an old man, who, judging from his appearances was about sixty-five years of age. The old man stood it for a while, but finally, his American blood began to boil, he could no longer control his angry passion, and he went at the foreigner, with all his might, landing several severe blows. Our informant, who claims to have been an eye witness, says the Weylerite, in order to escape punishment got down under a seat in the car.

#### K. G. E. PARADE DAY, SCRANTON.

Reduced Rates via Pennsylvania Railroad.

For the benefit of persons desiring to witness the K. G. E. parade at Scranton, Pa., on May 10, 1898, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell excursion tickets from stations on its line (except Pittsburg, and Erie and stations east of Trenton, Bordentown, and Mt. Holly), to Scranton and return at rate of single fare for the round trip. These tickets will be sold May 9 and 10, good to return until May 11.