

# The Columbian.

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## DEWEY'S GREAT VICTORY.

The Official Report of the big Naval Battle at Manila received at Washington Saturday.

Not an American Life Lost.

Spaniards Suffered a Frightful Loss--600 Killed.

Commodore Dewey's official report of his battle with the enemy at Manila reached Washington Saturday. The story briefly told is as follows: The entire fleet of eleven Spanish ships was destroyed with losses in killed and wounded running far up into the hundreds, while the American fleet lost not a single man and only six were injured. It was the most complete victory ever known.

Following is a summary of the news of the week.

### FRIDAY.

Preparations are in active progress for augmenting Commodore Dewey's fleet at Manila, while the authorities are anxiously awaiting for the tidings which determine how much if any assistance he will need.

Secretary Long has informed the War Department that the cruiser Charleston, which has been placed in commission at Mare Island, will be the man-of-war which will convoy the troop ships to Manila.

Secretary Alger will therefore determine the date of the departure of the cruiser with the army expedition from Mare Island. It is proposed by the War Department to place at least a regiment of infantry on board of the City of Pekin, which is expected to sail from San Francisco for Manila about May 15. The City of Pekin, beside carrying a machine shop for the repair of the conquered vessels of the Spanish men-of-war, will carry a large amount of ammunition.

The American liner St. Paul now an auxiliary cruiser which went into commission at Philadelphia yesterday, will be attached to the Flying Squadron as a scout boat.

### SATURDAY.

Dewey's report reached the department to-day. The news could be no better. The completeness of the great victory is almost beyond one's comprehension. The whole Spanish fleet was wiped out without the loss of a single American and only six were injured, none seriously.

Dewey's squadron first had to run past the strong fortifications at the entrance of Manila Bay. The Cavite fortifications were twenty miles above. About ten miles further lay the town of Manila. Right at this harbor, and directly within range of the shore batteries the battle took place. The American squadron consisted of the following vessels: Flagship Olympia, the Baltimore, Raleigh, Petrel, Concord and Boston. The Spaniards opened fire from their shore batteries but nearly every shot either fell short or else passed over the top without hitting any of the Americans.

All the ships under Dewey's command did great work. The rapid firing guns were too much for the Spaniards and they were forced to fall back.

"Capture or destroy the Squadron" were Dewey's orders. Never were instructions more effectually carried out. Within seven hours after the arrival of the American squadron nothing remained to be done.

The Spanish flag on the arsenal staff was hauled down and a white flag hoisted in its stead. Dewey has not landed and taken possession of the town for a lack of men. But Manila is wholly at his mercy. He can take possession of it at any time, and as soon as the troops can be forwarded from San Francisco he will have an army at his command and will at once land and fortify the place, which will render it impregnable.

### SUNDAY.

Cable advices from Rear-Admiral Sampson announce his arrival off the Haitian coast with a division of his fleet. He will remain at the point where he is now located until the department or one of the scouts informs him of the appearance of the Spanish man-of-war which sailed from Cienfuegos nine days ago.

Some apprehension exists in naval circles at the possibility that the Spanish vessels may have passed the American scouts at night or in misty weather, in which event of course it will be more difficult to find them. The American Consul at St. Thomas, however, is under instructions to be diligent in learning of the arrival of the Spanish men-of-war, and he will

cable at once to the State Department whatever information he has. This will at once be transmitted to Rear-Admiral Sampson, who will then carry out the plan drawn up by the War Board.

### MONDAY.

Admiral Sampson with his fleet is expected to bombard San Juan in a day or two. The Spanish fleet has not been sighted and it is believed in Washington that it has not crossed the Atlantic.

The battleship Oregon and Marietta, reached Bahia, Brazil yesterday and have over 4000 miles yet to sail.

All the necessary preparations were made to-day in the War Department to send an army, consisting of both volunteers and regulars, of over 61,000 men to invade Cuba.

The first detachment of this army will be in Cuba by Sunday next, and will immediately establish a base of supplies for the United States troops. The entire policy of the administration has been changed since the day that the news of Admiral Dewey's great victory reached Washington. From a defensive plan of operations the government has now taken a most aggressive stand. In the Cabinet meeting to-day the final arrangements were made, which it is hoped will culminate in the capture by the United States army and navy of all Spanish possessions.

It was decided by the President and his Cabinet that it would be much better to await a report from Admiral Sampson before the grand invasion of Cuba was begun. The administration fully expects to receive a definite report from Admiral Sampson by Thursday of this week, and it is hoped that in this report danger hitherto experienced from the Spanish armada will be entirely eliminated. As soon as this report is received at the Navy Department orders will be immediately sent to General Shafter, commanding the regular army at Tampa, Fla., to move at once upon Cuban soil.

By unanimous vote in both the Senate and the House of Representatives the thanks of Congress and of the American people have been tendered to Acting Rear Admiral Dewey, and through him to the officers and men of the fleet under his command. By a similar unanimous vote a bill has been passed through both houses increasing the number of Rear Admirals in the United States Navy from six to seven, so as to enable the President to nominate Acting Rear Admiral Dewey to be a Rear Admiral.

The Senate has gone further, and has passed a bill, to which the House will certainly agree, authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to present a sword of honor to Admiral Dewey and to cause to be struck bronze medals commemorating the battle of Manila Bay and to distribute such medals to the officers and men under the command of Admiral Dewey in that battle.

### TUESDAY.

The only thing in the way of information received to-day as to the whereabouts of the Spanish fleet came in the way of a cable despatch from Ambassador Hay, reporting that news had reached London of the presence at Cadiz of four Spanish cruisers and three torpedo boat destroyers.

The information indicated that these were the four cruisers and the three torpedo boat destroyers that were at the Cape Verde Islands.

It is not thought probable that Ambassador Hay would send such a despatch without he had good reason to think that it was trustworthy. At the same time it was received with incredulity in the Navy Department.

It is thought that if the Cape Verde fleet reappears at a Spanish port before meeting the enemy it will have a very bad effect in Spain. Still things are about as bad there now as they can be.

The most vigorous thing now being done in the way of war preparation is that of making preparation for the invasion of Cuba. Since the prospect of meeting the Spanish fleet has grown dimmer the decision to drive the Spanish out of Cuba as quickly as possible has grown stronger.

Every energy will now be directed to that end. For that reason the order for the volunteers to concentrate at Chickamauga was countermanded to-day and they will go at once to Tampa, Mobile and New Orleans, where they will embark as soon as possible for Cuba. The regulars have already started from Chickamauga.

It is expected that Porto Rico will fall into the hands of the United States, perhaps this week, and troops will have to be sent there. It takes considerable time to send a large body of troops even a short distance in transports, but it is expected that 15,000 or 20,000 men will be landed in Cuba within the next ten days.

### WEDNESDAY.

From reports received at the Navy Department, there isn't likely to be any battle very soon between Sampson and the Spanish squadron as it is stated on good authority that the latter has returned to Cadiz.

Plans were perfected to-day by the Strategy Board for the combined attack of the land and naval forces of the United States on Havana. The invading army, comprising 16,000 regulars, will leave for Cuba on Monday under the protection of naval vessels, and will immediately prepare for an attack on Havana.

Major-General Miles and his staff will leave Washington to-morrow night and proceed directly to Tampa, where he will assume command of the invading army of the United States. General Miles will first establish headquarters at Tampa and will do all in his power to hasten the forward movement on Cuba.

The messenger that has been expected from General Gomez has arrived in the United States, and will probably be in Washington to-morrow. He brings word to the effect that the United States may depend upon the assistance of at least 40,000 insurgents. If this is true the War Department will do all in its power to forward arming and equipping the men in Gomez's army.

Lieutenant Rowan, who made such a daring expedition in Cuba, will in all probability arrive in Washington by the same train that brings the messenger from Gomez. Lieutenant Rowan will also bring information of the most definite nature in regard to the assistance that the United States army can expect to obtain from the insurgents.

### Epworth League Convention.

The eighth annual convention of the Danville district Epworth League opens at Catawissa, Friday evening, May 20 to continue until the following Saturday and Sunday. The district comprises lower Luzerne, Columbia, Montour, Northumberland and parts of Schuylkill and Carbon counties. There are 150 leagues in the district and 300 delegates will represent the membership of nearly 10,000 Epworthians. A strong program has been arranged by R. M. Tubbs, of Shickshinny, the district president. Rev. Charles M. Boswell, secretary of the Philadelphia church extension and Missionary Society, will deliver the address Friday evening. Saturday will be devoted to addresses and papers by league workers. Saturday night the student volunteer movement will be presented. Sunday morning Prof. M. D. Buel, S. T. D., dean of the theological department of Boston University, will preach the sermon. Sunday night a platform meeting will be held followed by evangelistic services in charge of Rev. B. C. Conner, of Bloomsburg. Prof. J. M. Black, of Williamsport, will be the musical director.

### JACOB DIEFFENBAUGH.

The subject of this sketch was born near Washingtonville, in 1819, and died at his home on Tenth Street this town Wednesday evening last, being 79 years of age. He was very well known having resided here since 1853. A wife, formerly a Miss Funston, sister of J. A. Funston, and five children survive. The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon and was conducted by Rev. C. H. Brandt of the Reformed Church.

Full details of Commodore Dewey's battle with the Spanish at Manila prove that it was one of the grandest and most complete victories in the history of naval warfare. Think of it, standing the fire of both the Spanish squadron and land batteries and coming out without the loss of a single man. History doesn't contain a single instance that can be compared to it.

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, laundried 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.

### FIRE AT JAMISON CITY.

Jamison City was threatened by a destructive fire Sunday afternoon, and for a time it was feared many buildings would be destroyed but by dint of hard work on the part of the employees, the large saw mill of the Union Tanning Company was the only loss. The mill was one of the largest and best equipped in this section, having cut on trial, 113,000 feet of lumber in ten hours. A portion of the loading dock together with a freight car belonging to the P. & R. Company was also destroyed. The origin of the fire is not exactly known but it is supposed to have started from an over heated stove. The loss is probably about 30,000, covered partly by insurance.

The mill gave employment to a large number of hands, who will now be thrown out of work.

### WOMEN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The fifteenth annual convention of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Danville District convened in the Methodist Church, Tuesday afternoon.

The addresses of welcome were delivered by Mrs. G. E. Wilbur and Rev. B. C. Conner. The former for the Society, and the latter on the part of the Church.

Miss Lulu Bucher, of Sunbury, responded.

Every session was largely attended. Mrs. Purdy, of Sunbury, was re-elected President; Mrs. Stehly, Treasurer, and Miss Bucher, Secretary. The following committees were appointed:

On Press Work—Miss Ella DeMoyer of Northumberland, Mrs. Rev. Wm. Houck of Mt. Carmel, Mrs. G. E. Wilbur, Bloomsburg. Enrollment Com.—Miss May Sharpless, Miss Fannie Peacock. Resolution Com.—Mrs. Booth, Shamokin; Mrs. Mackey, Mainville; Mrs. Mendenhall of Berwick.

Captain Gearhart, of Danville, came up on Monday to see about the light artillery company recently organized in town, and also to get a few recruits for Company F of the 12th Regiment.

### TOWN COUNCIL.

The Council met Thursday evening. The President and all the members with the exception of Lockard were in attendance.

A petition for an arc light on West First Street was referred to the Committee on Light.

Building permits were granted to John Fortner for an addition to his house on West Third Street and to S. E. Reynolds for a frame house on Fifth Street.

Mrs. Cadman asked to be released from paying for sewer connections on two of her properties, because she has suffered considerable damage to her properties on account of the town.

W. U. Jury was chosen building inspector.

Postmaster Mellick asked whether or not the extension of Fourth Street had been accepted by the town, as complaint has been made to him about the free delivery on that street.

The Street Commissioner was instructed to notify Dr. B. F. Gardner to lay a pavement along his property on the Light Street road, and if the same is not done within twenty days, the same will be put down by the town.

Orders were drawn for the following bills:

Moyer Bros. for cement	6 00
G. B. Martin, smithing	2 40
Harman & Hassert, repairs	15
Creasy & Wells, lumber	8 49
W. L. Demaree, lumber	9 37
L. Keller, railing at retaining wall	39 39
I. Hagenbuch, health officer	12 50
A. DeShepper, keys, &c.	1 80
Water Co. for water	6 04
G. M. Quick, court costs	9 50
Electric Light Co. street lights	432 90
Water Co., water plugs	91 67
Steam Co., heat	26 35
C. W. Hassert, Fire Co. rent	3 00
John Corbett, police service	1 25
F. Drake, police service	1 25
A. Herbine, police service	1 25
G. Girton, police service	1 25
Wesley Knorr, police service	40 00
G. F. Quick, Secretary	20 00

A claim for \$25 damages was made by Mrs. E. W. Wyncoop, for tenants lost by reason of a closed sewer. Referred to proper Committee.

William Gilmore and A. M. Wintersteen were present and made inquiry concerning \$175.58 due the Fire Department for the tax on the

### Insurance Companies.

Notice was given that a nine mill tax rate would be proposed at the next meeting.

Several other subjects of minor importance occupied the attention of Council for some time, after which it adjourned.

Some of our citizens are complaining about flags being stolen off of their buildings, and steps should be taken to arrest and make an example of the petty purloiners. It is not the value of the flags, but they were put up by reason of Dewey's triumph over the enemy, they are the emblems of liberty and every true American should be content to see them fluttering in the breezes. It is one of the meanest species of robbing, and a person with any self respect or love for his country would not do it.

A very sensational case was tried at Bellefonte last week. It was the Commonwealth against Rev. J. H. Erdman a former pastor of the Evangelical church at Centre Hall, Centre County. The charge was criminal intimacy with a young woman, a member of his church. The jury finally brought in a verdict of guilty, and the preacher was sentenced to pay a fine of \$1, costs of prosecution and six months imprisonment in the county jail. As a minister, he was highly successful and his downfall has created great surprise. He has a wife and six children now living at Shamokin.

There will be a number of vacant positions in the telegraph offices of the Pennsylvania and Reading railroads in case of a continuance of war, as a large number of telegraphers of both companies have offered their services to the government and are receiving notification of their acceptance. All who return with an honorable discharge will be reinstated by their employers.

"It is more than likely that Bloomsburg will be in the Central Pennsylvania Base Ball League. Mr. Harry W. Jungkurth will transfer his Germantown club to that place if a guarantee fund is raised. It is said that the amount necessary will be quickly subscribed.—Williamsport Grid. There is a debt from last year's team to be paid off, before there will be any more subscriptions.