

The Columbian.

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NO. 20

TO BOMBARD HAVANA

AND TO OCCUPY CUBA BY A LAND FORCE RIGHT AWAY.

It is believed that the policy of delay is ended and that immediate measures will be taken to occupy Cuba and reduce the forts.

Miami, Fla., May 18.—The administration at Washington has ceased to act on the defensive. It will be aggressive from now on. Havana is to be reduced and Cuba invaded whether the Spanish warships in Atlantic waters are destroyed or not.

The first step in the new policy was taken yesterday. Commodore Watson has started for Havana with United States Squadron No. 3 to work in harmony with the squadrons under Rear Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley. It is a formidable fleet, capable of making a fight against the squadron under Admiral Cervera. But it is likely that it will join Commodore Schley's squadron, which is due off Havana. The combined fleet thus formed would be equal to a conflict with all the warships which rumor has placed in West Indian waters.

It is not expected that Commodore Schley and Watson will begin at once to bombard Havana. They are to wait, sleeping on their arms, so to speak, to meet the Spaniards if they make a dash to get under the big guns of Havana Harbor. If the Spaniards come there will be a great naval battle, the outcome of which can hardly be doubted. If the Spaniards do not come the bombardment of Havana will begin when the soldiers of the United States are ready to crowd Blanco from the rear of Havana.

In conjunction with the movement of Commodore Watson there is activity in the army, which indicates a speedy movement for the landing of troops. Perhaps they will go on Cuban soil under the guns of some of Commodore Watson's fleet.

Commodore Watson took his fleet from Key West singly. He has been coaling for several days and the fuel is piled high on the decks. His fleet consists of the powerful monitors Puritan and Miantonomah, the cruisers Cincinnati and Helena, the auxiliary cruiser St. Paul, the torpedo boats, Ericsson, Dupont, Foote and Cushing, and the gunboats Baneroff, Hamilton, Dolphin, Morrill, Eagle Hawk and Wasp.

This squadron would be able to dispose of the squadron under Admiral Cervera, probably, without the aid of the Massachusetts, the Texas, and the Brooklyn, under Commodore Schley. Cervera is supposed to have the cruisers Vizcaya, Maria Teresa, Cristobal Colon and Admiral Oquendo, and the torpedo-boat destroyers Pluton and Furor. But Commodore Watson hardly would like to meet Cervera if he has been reinforced by the cruisers Princesa de Asturias, Cardenal Cisneros and Cataluna, the destroyer Terror and the torpedo boats supposed to be under the command of the torpedo expert, Admiral Villamil.

Any two of the three American fleets could dispose of the combined Spanish fleet. Any dash on the part of the Spaniards to get under the shelter of Havana's big guns will be interesting. Should the dash be made at night Commodore Watson's torpedo boats would have a chance to demonstrate their usefulness.

But the movement essentially is offensive, not defensive. It is to be followed by the invasion of Cuba, and the war is to be pushed to a speedy ending.

Delay No Longer.

Washington, May 18.—The president listened to-day to the most recent reports of the starvation and misery in Cuba. He expressed deep emotion at the recital and signified his determination to put an end to the conditions. The president hopes that the movement on Cuba may be begun by the end of this week.

Plans to convey the troops without waiting for the capture or destruction of the Spanish fleet were discussed. The president told his advisers today that, fleet or no fleet, the operations in Cuba must begin, to carry out the humanitarian purpose for which this country entered upon the war.

Roosevelt Drills His Rough U.S.

San Antonio, Tex., May 18.—A column of 500 rough riders, uniformed in brown buck suits and leggings and wide-brimmed sombreros, was drilled for two hours yesterday by Theodore Roosevelt, lieutenant colonel of the First Volunteer Cavalry. He rode a handsome bay mustang which he bought this morning. Before closing the purchase he rode the mustang up and down a public street several times to try his mettle. The horse had a great deal of mettle, but Colonel Roosevelt mastered him. Colonel Roosevelt drilled his men enthusiastically, and gave the captains a great many pointers.

FOR 100,000 MORE VOLUNTEERS.

The President Expected to Issue a Call for that Number.

Washington, May 18.—The signs all point to a call by the president, to be issued to-day for one hundred thousand more volunteers. No new legislation will be necessary for this purpose as the "volunteer law" gives him the widest possible discretion as to the number of men he may call out. The Attorney-general gave the president his opinion on this point when the bill was examined by the cabinet before its approval.

There has been very little news from the seat of war the past week. It is simply a rehash.

A STRICT CENSORSHIP.

Cable Regulations Put in Force by Gen. Greely.

Washington, May 18.—Brig. General Greely, chief of the strategic control of telegraph and cable lines, has adopted energetic measures to prevent the admiral of the Spanish squadron now in Caribbean waters from keeping posted on the whereabouts and movements of United States squadrons, and of our prospective military and naval operations. He has telegraphed to the Key West manager of the Haytian Cable Company, forbidding the sending or receipt of any messages except official messages to or from the United States government disclosing the movements of our fleets and ships. The manager answered that the prohibition would be strictly observed. If Rear Admiral Sampson is in Haytian waters, as is conjectured, this cable restriction makes it impossible for his movements to become known, except to the government; or, if known, it is impossible to send out the information except through the government.

NOW TO ANNEX HAWAII.

Joint Resolution of Annexation Reported to the House.

Washington, May 18.—In the House of Representatives yesterday Chairman Hitt reported from the committee on foreign affairs the Newlands resolution providing for the annexation of Hawaii, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The accompanying report is quite a lengthy document. It reviews the special seizures of the islands by the French and British forces and the negotiations covering half a century for annexation with the United States.

The strategic importance of the islands is set forth, and the statements of General Schofield and Admiral Walker to the committee last week are quoted under the heading "Risk of Delay."

COL. GRANT'S COMMAND STARTS.

Son of Famous General Goes With Incomplete Equipment.

Camp Black, May 18.—To the great surprise of everybody here Colonel Grant issued orders shortly after 8 o'clock yesterday for the 14th to break camp. No one believed this was probable.

The men were not ready to go South. The regiment was mustered in, but that was all. The equipment was sadly incomplete. Nevertheless Col. Grant di-

rected Col. Holly to have a train here at noon to take his command to Flat-bush avenue, Brooklyn, whence they marched to the Wall street ferry.

The men, according to Col. Grant's plan, took ferry boats to Jersey City. No blame can attach to the state because the regiment goes South not "completely equipped."

Colonel Grant is regarded as somewhat precipitous.

COL. FRED GRANT.

There has been some talk here to the effect that the detail given to General Merritt by Secretary Alger was intended to humiliate the ranking major general. It is charged that Secretary Alger has been trying to repay old scores against General Merritt by ordering him to the Philippines.

This is utterly disproved by the facts, because when the command was offered General Merritt last week he accepted it gladly.

It can be stated on authority that Major General Miles, commanding the army, and Adjutant General Corbin, are in favor of giving Major Merritt as many regular troops as he deems necessary for the complete occupation of the Philippines.

With the same positiveness it can be said that they do not regard the statement made by General Merritt as in any way incompatible with his position as an officer. They believe that he meant only to express his serious concern on account of the likelihood that only a small number of trained soldiers would be allowed for the Philippines.

Merritt Makes Denial.

Washington, May 18.—This telegram was received by the secretary of war at 3 o'clock yesterday:

"Hon. R. A. Alger War Department: 'I desire you to know that the interviews published in the New York newspapers this morning are in every way incorrect and unauthorized. I had intended to take no notice of them, but I understand the articles are taken seriously in Washington.'"

Remember the Maine on Food.

St. Louis, Mo., May 18.—Capt. Duval of the United States commissary department has made a contract with local bakeries for 610,000 pounds of army crackers. This is equivalent to 30,000 barrels of flour. On each will be printed the words "Remember the Maine!"

Besides the big contract for hard bread, Capt. Duval has let a contract in this city for 28,000 gallons of vinegar.

Quoit pitching is now the favorite pastime. The ringing of the steel can be heard in many places in town.

MERRITT'S TROUBLE.

MAY NOT GO TO THE PHILIPPINES AS GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Army Officers Seem to Uphold Gen. Merritt in His Criticisms of the Proposed Occupation of Manila. More Men Should be Sent.

Washington, May 18.—Unless General Wesley Merritt denies or satisfactorily explains the interview or statement attributed to him in the New York papers as to his refusal to go with the expedition as now constituted to the Philippines, it may have most disastrous results to him. The matter was discussed by the president and Secretary Alger yesterday, after the cabinet meeting, and, while both were loath to believe that General Merritt ever said what the interview contained or intimated a refusal to accompany the expedition yet the president held that, in the absence of any denial, the failure of the general virtually admitted the truth of the statements. Until, however, General Merritt has denied or affirmed the article in the papers, nothing



GENERAL MERRITT.

will be done. General Merritt is quoted as saying: "It is not by any means a settled fact that I will depart for Manila at any time. The command they propose to give me is not adequate to my rank. Besides, I do not think that 15,000 men, including 1,000 regular troops, which it is proposed shall constitute the expedition, is at all sufficient for such an undertaking as the occupation of the Philippines, and I have asked the department for the number of seasoned men which I deem essential to insure any degree of success."

Refuse to Believe It.

The army officers, from the secretary down, refuse positively to discuss, or in the absence of any word from General Merritt to believe that he made the statements, especially as when the detail was ordered to him last week he accepted it with avidity and declared it was just what he wanted. He at once came to Washington, and after a consultation with the secretary of war and General Miles, announced that he would go to San Francisco at once so as to be ready to leave for the Philippines. His alleged interview, therefore, is inexplicable and astounding. An officer of the army, no matter how high his grade, when ordered must obey.

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Another Cruiser is Ready.

Washington, May 18.—The protected cruiser Newark has been remodeled and will be placed in commission at the Norfolk navy yard Saturday. She has a speed of 19 knots, is 4,098 tons displacement, and carries twelve six-inch rifles. Except the Philadelphia, she will be the last of the regular naval vessels to be commissioned during the war, all others now being in active service that can possibly be gotten ready. The Chicago and Atlanta are the only two others undergoing repairs and overhauling.

Children's



A United States Scientific Box Kite with knee pants suits.

SUIT NOVELTIES.

Bargains in them for Economical Parents.

Shrewd, careful buyers come here to buy, where they can get very best values at littlest prices.

For Saturday we offer three styles of

Children's Blouse Suits.

OLIVE UNFINISHED WORSTED with six rows of white silk soutache braid, large deep sailor collar, \$6 ones, Saturday next at

\$3.98

sizes 4 to 8.

BROWN MIXED WORSTED CLOTH with brown silk soutache braid, six rows, \$6 kind, Saturday next

\$3.98

sizes 4 to 8.

FINE CASSEMERE, green and brown, small plaid with Scotch plaid tie, large sailor collar, fine silk soutache braid, \$6 kind, Saturday

\$3.98

These are our very finest Children's Blouse Suits, and mothers will do well to come early. We've also made some decided reductions in Fine Vestee Suits.

Our full line of Straw and Crash Hats is now ready. Price starts at 15c. to \$2.00.

Gidding & Co.

White Front.

White Front.

WAR NEWS.

But little has occurred in the war with Spain during the past week. The Spanish fleet under Admiral Cervera reached Martinique, a French West India island, and when last heard from it was at Curacao, off the coast of Venezuela, Sunday. Admiral Sampson has orders to go and find it. Just where Sampson is is another mystery. Commodore Schley's fleet has been ordered from Hampton Roads and has gone to Key West. We now have three fleets looking for the Spanish boats. Ours are the stronger, but Spain's are the fleetier, and may continue to elude us for some time.

The first man killed on our side was Ensign Worth Bagley last week Wednesday afternoon in Cardenas harbor during an engagement between some of our vessels and the Spaniards. Four others were killed and five wounded. The Winslow, the Wilmington and the Hudson entered the harbor to attack the Spanish gunboats, when the latter and the land batteries opened fire on them and repulsed them.

The Tenth regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers has been ordered to join General Merritt's command, and will go to the Philippines to help Admiral Dewey.

The invasion of Cuba by U. S. troops will be pushed as rapidly as possible.

The Spanish cabinet has resigned, and a new one has been formed with Sagasta still at the head of it.

The warship Oregon, about which fears have been felt that it might be captured on its way home, while coming from South America, is reported safe.

The new military company meets in the Town Hall twice a week for drill. William Magill is captain; O. W. Ent, first lieutenant; Frank Eyer, second lieutenant, and John Watson, sergeant. We are informed by the Captain that the Company will be recruited up to over one hundred before the close of this week.

Among the Bloomsburgers who are attending the Odd Fellows demonstration at Wilkesbarre this week are R. H. Ringler and John White and wife.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Dorothy N. Brown et al. vs. J. R. Fowler, Fi. Fa., Sur Mortgage. Rule granted to show cause why writ should not be stayed and all proceedings stayed until the final disposition of the rule.

Petition of Supervisors of Sugarloaf township for special tax. Court order and direct said Supervisors to give five written or printed notices five days before hearing, and said hearing fixed for day of May, 1898.

Case of J. H. Eisenhower vs. School District of Centralia, appeal by defendant, taken up.

In Court room number 2 Judge Jeremiah Lyons of the 41st District, held Court, and in regular room Judge Ikeler during most of the morning.

H. H. Hulme appointed County Surveyor to fill vacancy by removal of C. H. Moore.

Estate of Ezra Vandine. Order of sale granted.

W. A. Hartzell vs. John Wolf et al. Judgment by consent for \$402.95.

Rule granted and directed to be served by the Sheriff on W. L. Eyerly, member of the Columbia County Bar at least 10 days before next Argument Court at which time said Rule is made returnable to show cause why said Eyerly shall not be expelled.

The jury in the case of Catharine Fry vs. S. H. & W. B. RR. rendered a verdict of \$140 for the plaintiff. Defendants move for arrest of judgment and make motion for new trial.

Catawissa Fibre Co. vs. the S. H. & W. B. RR. Co. and Penna RR. Co. lessee, damages, now being heard.

A. B. Heller has resigned as manager of the Bloomsburg Artificial Ice and Cold Storage Company. He has moved his family to Hamburg, Pa., where he will conduct the business of his father-in-law, Owen Miller, who was killed a few weeks ago by falling off of a building. Mr. and Mrs. Heller have made warm friends in town who are very sorry to see them leave.

The case of J. H. Eisenhower against the Centralia School Board in which the plaintiff seeks to recover salary for three years as principal of the schools, was taken up in court on Friday of last week. All the evidence was heard, but the decision has not yet been announced.

Damage Cases.

Judge Lyons of Huntingdon is holding court this week, trying the case of Catawissa Fibre Co. vs. Penna. R. R. Co. wherein the plaintiff seeks damages for obstruction to its water power by the building of a bridge at the tail race of plaintiff by the defendant. Herring and Rhawn are counsel for the Fibre Co., and Scarlet and Waller for the defense. Up to Thursday morning the plaintiff was not yet through.

Mrs. Harriet Robbins.

Mrs. Harriet Robbins, widow of the late Daniel Robbins, died at her home on Normal Hill between nine and ten o'clock Tuesday morning. Mrs. Robbins has been ill for a long time suffering with a complication of diseases. She was in the seventy-sixth year of her age. The deceased has always been noted for her kind disposition, and her death is deeply regretted. She is survived by a daughter, Miss Lizzie, and a son, C. B. Robbins, both of whom reside at home. Her husband died some years ago. Mrs. Robbins' maiden name was Ager. She was a member of the Lutheran Church. The funeral will be held this afternoon at four o'clock.

The fire alarm caused no little excitement on the streets Monday night about nine-thirty o'clock. The Rescue and Fourth ward fire companies had their hose carriages out in good time, but the former in some way or other got mixed up, couldn't locate the blaze, and consequently the fire was extinguished before the boys even knew where it was. But the fire didn't amount to much. It started in an upstairs room of William Hartman's house on Centre Street. As luck had it Mr. Hartman was at home and discovered the flames, before much damage was done. The garden hose was applied and the fire outened without any succor from the fire companies. The newly organized company from the Fourth ward was on the scene however, ready to turn on the water had it been necessary.

A cablegram from London announces that William E. Gladstone died this morning at one o'clock.