

THE NEWS.

The British foreign office has been officially notified by the Spanish embassy that the government of Spain has ordered the ports of Cuba, the Philippine Islands and Porto Rico to be defended by lines of torpedoes, and that entry into these ports, therefore, is only possible under the guidance of pilots who are in readiness, outside the lines of defense, to take ships in.

Julius Baldash, a Spaniard, died at Long Run, a mining town near Steubenville, O., from the effects of being shot through the lungs by Louis Ship, a German. The men had quarrelled over the war and ship took the side of the United States. Baldash threatened to kill him and when they came to blows Baldash started to get a weapon, when Ship shot him. Ship was arrested.

Prof. John R. Moore qualified at the State Department as Assistant Secretary of State, and in the absence of Secretary Day received the representatives of foreign governments having diplomatic business with the United States.

Lieut. Count von Goelzen, the German military attaché at Washington, who is now in Berlin, has been ordered to return to the United States and accompany the forces of the United States which will operate in Cuba.

The British cruisers Cordelia and Pelican have been ordered to Newfoundland waters to cope with any emergency that may arise if Spanish warships visit this coast for coal.

What may prove a serious epidemic in Roanoke, Va., is now prevalent, and the physicians are so baffled they cannot control it. The disease resembles cerebral spinal meningitis, and claimed four victims Thursday. They live from twenty-four to forty-eight hours after being attacked. Among those who died were J. H. Windel, grocer, and C. A. Lass, jeweler.

Freeze did great damage to fruit and early vegetation in West Virginia. The mercury dropped to within a few degrees of the freezing point.

President Harris, of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company, issued instructions that any employee who desires to enter the service of the country on account of the hostilities now impending between this government and Spain may do so with the understanding that upon leaving government service and presenting honorable discharges therefrom he will be retained into the service of the company.

The general assembly of Rhode Island unanimously adopted a resolution appropriating \$10,000 for military equipment.

John A. Logan, Jr., has received authority from the War Department at Washington to recruit a regiment of 1,200 men and equip them for light cavalry service.

Ninety carloads of oranges are leaving Southern California every day for the East. As 300 boxes of 200 oranges each fill each car, the shipments represent nearly 5,000,000 oranges every twenty-four hours.

A freight wreck on the New York Central at Fairport, N. Y., resulted in the death of John Har, conductor; Edward Jones, brakeman, and Frank Dowd, fireman. Fred T. Walsh, of Buffalo, engineer, was badly injured.

Edward Bender, who has been separated from his wife for a year, went to her home in New York, and abused her so violently that their seventeen-year-old son, Harry, called in a policeman and two friends to protect his mother. Bender was so enraged at the interference that he shot at all of them, killing Richard Bennett, nineteen years old, Policeman Daniel Driscoll and Harry Dager received slight flesh wounds. The son was not hit. Bender was arrested.

BLANCO NEEDS NO HELP. Says Spanish Squadron Can Be Utilized Elsewhere. Captain General Blanco has cabled the Government at Madrid to the effect that the Spanish squadron of warships may be utilized elsewhere, as he can account for the defense of Havana without the assistance of the fleet.

ABOUT NOTED PEOPLE. Vienna's oldest painter, Rudolph Alt, has been voted a municipal pension of \$480 a year.

Brig-Gen. James F. Wade, who takes command of that portion of the United States Army sent to Tampa, was born in Ohio in 1840, and is a son of the late Senator Benjamin F. Wade.

The Japanese jirikisha-puller who saved the life of Alexander III. and received therefor a present of \$10,000, spent the money in a few years and then committed suicide.

Count Tolstoy will soon celebrate his 50th anniversary as a journalist, or, rather, the anniversary will be celebrated by his admirers. A "Tolstoy school" is to be founded in Moscow in his honor.

It is reported that Mr. Kipling is on his way home from the Cape, where he has passed the winter, and that he is due in England early next month.

The Philadelphia Record says: "Col. William A. Rorer, who died last week at his residence, 335 Spruce street, Philadelphia, enjoyed the distinction of having been the first Union prisoner who was exchanged during the rebellion.

The Rev. J. Ritchie Smith, who has accepted the presidency of the New Westminster University, at Denver, Col., is now pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Peekskill, N. Y. He is a graduate of Princeton, and is 45 years old.

Lord Inverly is said to have 12 white cats, almost entirely alike, for which he paid \$6,000.

Mayor Carter H. Harrison, of Chicago, in his first annual message, congratulates the City Council on "the remarkable scarcity of vicious legislation" last year.

Dr. S. Fillmore Bennett, the author of "The Sweet By and By," is growing blind, but hopes soon to complete a volume of verse on which he is now at work.

The German Emperor has accepted the invitation of Queen Victoria to spend a part of the summer in Albergville Castle, in Scotland. She is in poor health.

Lieutenant Keyitch, of the Austrian Army, and Princess Louise of Belgium, who recently eloped, are said to be on their way to the United States.

Lady Yarde-Baile, who was arrested in Oakland, Cal., last week and put in charge of a lunacy commission, is once more at liberty. The trouble with her was a dinner; so said the commission that examined her mental state.

Arthur Niksch, conductor of the Leipzig Gewandhaus concert, has been fined 12,000 gulden by the court in Budapest. Before he accepted his post in Leipzig he was conductor of the royal opera in Budapest, and broke his contract to do so.

It is said that Crouder, who invented the disappearing gun-carriage, got his idea from a Kansas prairie dog jumping into its hole.

Mac-Osbeck Castle, in Logan county, O., which Don Platt made famous, is to be turned into a summer resort.

FIRST BATTLE WON.

The Batteries of Matanzas are Silenced by Sampson.

SPANIARDS LOST LIFE.

Engagement Lasted 20 Minutes and 90 Shots Fired.

SPAIN'S BAD GUNNERS.

Not a Shot Fired by the Spaniards Took Effect. Although the Attacking Ships Were in Easy Range—Two Missiles Went Near Them and One Shrapnel Burst Over the Decks of the New York—First Shot Fired from a Spanish Battery—Last Shot from the Puritan Deadly in Its Effect—American Fire Effective.

A despatch from Key West, says—Reports of the bombardment of the Spanish batteries at Matanzas by the guns of the flagship New York, the monitor Puritan, and the cruiser Cincinnati continue to come. The first dispatches were not exaggerated, except that about ninety shots were fired from the ships instead of 900, as stated in the earlier cables from Key West.

The shots from the 8 and 12-inch guns of the United States ships reduced the batteries in short order, the engagement lasting but twenty minutes. One projectile, twenty-five inches long and weighing 250 pounds, was especially destructive. It cut through the long earthwork fortifications on the Rubalcava side of the Matanzas harbor, and undoubtedly killed many men. The exact number was probably never known to the United States, for the Spaniards in making their reports of the engagement state that they succeeded in repulsing the United States fleet after twenty minutes of hard fighting.

Located the Batteries. Admiral Sampson ran into Matanzas harbor with the New York and Cincinnati and the Puritan for the express purpose of drawing the fire of Spanish batteries. He wanted to see where they were. The day before one of the marked batteries had opened on the torpedo boat Dupont, and did its firing so neatly that the location could not be determined.

When the New York was about four miles out from Matanzas there was a puff of smoke from the long red bank of the further side of the harbor, and presently a projectile struck the water near the flagship. The forts were firing at the Admiral's ship, and the first shot had been fairly well aimed. The other projectile fell, this time near the Puritan, which had stopped, and was pointing directly at the harbor. A few signals and then the New York and the Puritan opened fire, advancing as they did so, until they were within two and a half miles of the shore batteries. The first few shots fell short, and then the earthworks began to crumble under the well-aimed shots from our men.

The Cincinnati came up behind the New York, and with portside to the land opened fire with her six-inch guns. The New York used five of her eight-inch guns.

Spaniards' Aim Was Bad. The Spaniards kept up a fire of shrapnel and solid shot, which was at first fairly aimed. About the time, however, that the United States silenced their batteries, their gunners were beginning to get the range, and two or three shots fell dangerously near to the flagship. One shrapnel burst about 80 or 100 feet above the New York and the falling fragments gave the boys a thrill, but did no damage.

The last shot was fired by the Puritan. It was from a twelve-inch gun and was aimed at a puff of smoke from the Cardenas battery. It reached its mark and plowed directly into the spot from which the Spaniards had fired. Then the big shell exploded. Sand and earth rose sixty feet and left a great gap. That one shot demolished nearly half of the Cardenas battery and is believed to have killed many men. After this the three ships steamed out of the bay, the Puritan and the Cincinnati remaining in the vicinity, however, and the New York returning to the neighborhood of Havana.

SPANISH SPY ARRESTED. Plans of Government Works at Port Eads Found On Him.

The government engineer officer at Port Eads, La., has arrested a man believed to be a Spanish spy. He gave his name as John Walsh and his home as New Orleans. Several undeveloped films and maps descriptive of the river and government works at Port Eads was found on him.

The man has been held pending the action of the army authorities.

Cruiser Charleston Injured. A despatch from San Francisco, says—The cruiser Charleston was injured by the recent earthquake. Its condensing tubes was injured, and it may be necessary to get new ones from the East. The cruiser can not be put in readiness as soon as had been expected.

PORTO RICO TERRIFIED. The New York Journal has the following by special cable:

"At San Juan, Porto Rico, five citizens of the United States who were talking in the streets were arrested, manacled, and beaten with swords. They were wholly unprepared, and there is no British gun boat there on which they may take refuge.

"Mr. Barnes, an American sugar manufacturer, has put himself under British protection. His children and his wife were attacked and his estate destroyed by the Spanish soldiers.

"On Monday an iron ship of 3,000 tons was sunk by the Spaniards. In the main chamber 24 torpedoes have been placed, wired in the fort. All the buoys have been changed. The Spanish gunboats and the cruiser Concha are at San Juan.

"The city is ordered in darkness at 8 o'clock nightly.

"Three Spanish steamers have arrived, with 12,000 tons of food. The warehouses are stocked for two months of siege. The lighthouses along the entire coast have been extinguished."

TO MEET DEWEY AT SEA. The New York World's London correspondent cables his paper that Manila salutes say the Spanish squadron has sailed to meet Commodore Dewey's fleet on the high seas, in order, if possible, to avoid the bombardment of Manila, German and English interests, it is said in London, according to the World, will be much injured by an American invasion of the Philippines.

INVASION OF CUBA.

Steamers Chartered for Troops.

It is now only a question of a few days when the first detachment of United States troops will sail from Tampa to be landed on Cuban soil. Eight large steamers have been chartered by the government as transports and 5,000 men of the regular army will be speedily conveyed to some Cuban port, acting as guard and escort for the munitions of war which are to be supplied to the insurgents. At the same time a vessel laden with supplies for the starving reconcentrados will be sent to Cuba and will be protected by ships of war. The regular troops will be commanded by Brig. Gen. W. B. Shafter, who for twenty years has been engaged in fighting Indians on the Mexican border. He is at present in command of the Department of California.

The fleet blockading Cuba continues vigilant and effective. The Spanish steamer Guido, of 2,065 tons and laden with money and supplies, was captured by the gunboat Machias and the monitor Terror after an exciting chase. Shells fired from the Terror during the pursuit demolished the pilot house of Guido and inflicted fatal wounds upon the Spaniard who was at the wheel. All of the prizes secured by American naval vessels are at Key West.

The developments regarding Hawaii are of interest and importance. It is learned that President Dole carried with him from Washington a copy of a bill to be submitted to the Hawaiian Congress authorizing the Hawaiian government to surrender control of the islands to the United States. It was President Dole's opinion that this bill would be enacted when war was declared, and it is not at all unlikely that the annexation of Hawaii may be accomplished by this method, which will not require further action in Washington. Minister Hatch called at the State Department with reference to the Hawaiian situation, and learned that no immediate action was contemplated by the administration. While awaiting developments at Honolulu the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations will not attempt to press the annexation treaty.

Congress continues to deal with urgency war legislation. The bill to repeal the limitations on the purchase of Quartermaster's supplies has been passed by the House and will be speedily enacted by the Senate, while the legislation necessary to enroll a volunteer force of 10,000 men whose immunity from yellow fever has been tested will also be promptly passed. The war revenue bill will be agreed to in the House without the formality of a roll-call, and the Senate will proceed to its consideration immediately. There is no doubt that the opposition in the Senate to the proposed issue of bonds will be of no avail, and within a week the measure will be finally adopted without practical change from the text agreed to in the House.

France has proclaimed neutrality, and Portugal promises to follow suit. The action of Portugal has evidently been deferred until the Spanish fleet was ready to sail from Cape Verde Islands.

Great Britain will send a warship to Havana to afford safe conduct to British subjects who desire to leave the island.

FORCE SPAIN'S FLEET TO MOVE. Result of Action of British Government Against Our Ships.

A despatch from London says—The dismissal of the United States squadron from Hong Kong, and the apparent severity of the British government in regard to the United States torpedo boat Somers, at Fal-mouth were incidents prearranged by American and British diplomacy, their real object being to force the Portuguese government to order the Spanish fleet to leave the Cape Verde Islands, and to prevent other nations, at a critical moment, from offering similar hospitality.

An extraordinary issue of the London Gazette contained the customary royal proclamation of neutrality, defining the attitude of British officials and British subjects during the war between Spain and the United States. It is identical with the proclamation issued at the time of the China-Japanese war.

The instructions of the Foreign Office to the admiralty and colonial authorities, regarding the belligerent's use of British ports, dated April 23, and gives the belligerents twenty-four hours to leave.

This accounts for the departure of the United States squadron from Hong Kong, and the orders given to the Spanish torpedo boat Audaz to leave Queenstown.

The proclamation flows four pages of the Gazette, and begins: "Victoria R.

"Whereas, We are happily at peace with all sovereign powers, and whereas, a state of war unhappily exists between His Majesty, the King of Spain, and in his name and during his minority, between her majesty, the Queen Regent of the kingdom, and the United States of America, and between their respective subjects, citizens and others inhabiting within their countries, territories or dominions."

Some of the newspapers assert that the rule in regard to the coal being contraband of war is new, but it is identical with Lord Granville's proclamation of 1873, at the time of the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian war, and identical with the proclamation issued at the time of the commencement of hostilities between China and Japan, prohibiting supplies being furnished to belligerent ships, except provisions and coal sufficient to carry a vessel to the nearest port of her own country, no coal being again supplied to the same ship, without special permission, within three months of the time she had previously been supplied.

TO REMOVE BRITISH CITIZENS. England Will Take Her Subjects From Cuba on Warships.

Owing to the arrest of some Englishmen in Cuba as American spies and their ill-treatment, representations have been made to the Foreign Office, and negotiations have been opened for taking off British subjects by English men-of-war.

The continued rise of wheat causes uneasiness, the price now being higher than at any time during the last twenty years. A meeting of professionalists in London, again agitated in favor of a government reserve of wheat in England.

FIELD OF LABOR. Illinois has 853 coal mines. Chicago press leaders won strike. Germany imports Tennessee wood. Connellsville has 18,000 coke ovens. Spain has 100,000 registered beggars. Milk costs 6 cents a quart in London. London lamp posts furnish hot water. Chicago sprinkler-fitters get \$2.50 a day. Schenectady Carpenters' Union is twenty-five years old. Rockland (Me.) has 600 union lime-burners. An Indianapolis printer has worked 66 years. Chicago newspaper carriers will join the Federation of Labor. Syracuse milk peddlers use a union label. Pittsburgh hod carriers want \$2.50 a day on May 1. Chippewa (Wis.) sawmill men struck for ten-hour day. A label league is to be established in each ward of Chicago.

In Wales, 60,000 coal miners struck for 10 per cent. advance. New York Central Union rejected a motion opposing war.

Chicago unionists want a unionist on the Civil Service Board. Indianapolis Master Painters' Association employs only unionists. In Belgium last year 90 per cent. of the strikes were successful.

WINGED BY TERROR.

Three Shots Were Put Into the Steamer Guide.

TRIED TO RUN BLOCLADE

Put Out Her Lights and Ignored Signals to Heave to.

ONE MAN WOUNDED.

The Spaniard Was Bound from Corunna to Havana With a Cargo of Provisions and Money Thought He for Spanish Troops—Her Captain Was Game and Did Not Abandon Efforts to Escape Until He Saw Hope Was Gone—In the Meantime the Terror Had Put Two Shots into the Guido's Pilot House and One in Her Upper Works.

A despatch from Key West says—Aside from the news of the Matanzas bombardment which set the town wild with joy, the event practically marking the end of the first week of war, was the arrival of a big prize, the steamer Guido. She was captured by the Terror and the gunboat Machias, ten miles off Cardenas, but not until after a stern chase. Five shots were fired, four by the Monitor and one by the gunboat, though the shot by the Machias did not take effect. Two of the Terror's shots went through the pilot-house and one struck the upper works.

Manuel Hivas, a sailor, was in the pilot-house of the Guido, and the flying splinters penetrated his breast, inflicting wounds which may cause his death. He was brought ashore and taken to the hospital. Capt. Kiehlendo received a flesh wound in the wrist from a splinter when the shot went through the pilot-house.

The Guido was bound from Corunna to Havana with a cargo of provisions and money thought to be for the Spanish troops. The Terror first sighted her and began the pursuit by sending a shot across her bow. The Spaniards promptly put out all her lights and started in a desperate attempt to run away.

All the Shots Found the Mark. The monitor then brought her six-pounders into play and sent three more shots directly at her, all finding the mark. She also trained her big twelve-inch guns on the Guido, prepared to sink her if the Spaniards did not leave to.

Meanwhile the Machias had come up and sent a shot from a four-inch rifle at the fugitive. Capt. Kiehlendo, seeing that he had two such powerful enemies to combat, surrendered. Lieut. E. F. Quilgrove, Ensign J. F. Hubbard, and two marines were put aboard as a prize crew, and brought the steamer into Key West. As soon as Capt. Kiehlendo and his crew learned of the conditions existing in Cuba they asked to be landed there.

The Guido is a steel screw steamer, of 3,133 tons gross and 2,572 tons net. She was built by Harland & Wolff, of Belfast, and is registered by Lloyd's as Al. She is owned by "La Flecha," and is 360 feet long, 41 feet wide, and has a depth of 36 feet. Her port of registry is Bilbao. She carried a crew of thirty-six, and is worth at least \$400,000.

Prizes Lie in the Harbor. All of the prizes still lie in the harbor, and, according to instructions received by United States District Attorney Stripling from the Department of Justice, will remain there indefinitely. These instructions were to the effect that the crew and passengers of the Panama, which carried four fourteen-pound guns, and which was captured by the Mangrove, should be held as prisoners of war. The crew of the other prizes are also to be detained aboard until further orders, and will be allowed no communication with the shore.

BRITAIN'S POSITION. Proclamation of Neutrality Will Follow Precedent Very Strictly.

It is announced that the Prince of Wales held a council at Marlborough House on behalf of the Queen for the purpose of approving the draft of the neutrality proclamation. It is supposed that the proclamation will be strictly in the line of precedents, calling attention to the British foreign enlistment act, etc., and warning British subjects against blockade breaking or aiding the belligerents in any way.

The Foreign Office will send to the Treasury the Home, Colonial, War and India departments the usual notices prohibiting Spanish and American ships the use of British harbors for warlike purposes.

The coaling question will be met by a provision that belligerents will be supplied at British ports with not more coal than is sufficient to carry them to the nearest port of their own country or some nearer destination, and no more coal will be supplied to the same vessel within three months except by special permission.

Armed ships will be prohibited from carrying prizes into British ports, including those of the colonies.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS. Chili and Peru are reported to have signed a protocol settling the boundary dispute between them.

Hayti and San Domingo have asked the Pope to arbitrate a boundary dispute between them.

Yachts of American millionaires now in the Mediterranean are said to be in much danger from hostile warships.

The Norway Parliament adopted a measure for universal male suffrage.

The Nicaragua and Costa Rican government have agreed as a basis for peace to settle questions of an international character by a board of arbitration, to consist of one member each from Guatemala, Costa Rica and the Diet of the Greater Republic of Central America, to meet on board the United States battleship Albatross.

There are renewed rumors in London that Great Britain has begun negotiations for an alliance with the United States in foreign affairs.

The United States minister at Athens has received many applications from Greeks to enlist in the American Army.

There is a great popular excitement in Guayaquil, Ecuador, over the imprisonment of Governor Ignacio Robles by the military commander of that city as a result of a personal difficulty.

The Governor of Jamaica has sent a message to the legislative council of that island urging an increase in the local defense forces.

GEORGIA'S GEOLOGICAL FREAK.

A Group of Sand Hills Thought to Be of Artificial Origin.

The plantation of Mr. James M. Tift is directly east of Albany, a distance of about one mile, and is famous throughout southern Georgia as the Sand Hill or Sand Mountain place. It embraces 8865 acres of land, much of which is exceedingly fertile and especially adapted to the cultivation of fruits. There is a good deal of timber on the place, and some pines that are of truly astonishing proportions grow in certain localities.

The group of steep, white sand hills, which has made the place celebrated, covers an area of about 350 acres, and presents a remarkable and most interesting sight to even those persons who have viewed it many times. It is located on a rich, flat stretch of farming country, unbroken by other hills or ridge of any description, with broad cultivated fields, and valuable timber lots succeeding each other mile after mile. Nowhere hereabouts is there a rise of ground that deserves to be dignified by being called a hill, except on the Sand Hill place. The country is uniformly level for many miles in every direction from Albany.

These sand peaks are more than a hundred in number. They are grouped in the shape of an elongated circle just a mile in length in length and half as wide. There is not a hill in the group less than 20 feet high, while many of them of them rise to a height of from 75 to 80 feet. The sides, almost without exception, are remarkably abrupt for such sandy soil. The hardest rains that ever fall in this section cannot cause water to run down the slopes, as it sinks from view immediately on touching the surface. The hills, however infertile they may appear, are covered with a growth of wiregrass, which serves to prevent heavy winds from drifting the sand.

A person may begin at a point where the bottom of one of the hills borders on the outside of this group until he reaches the starting point, and all the while there will have been on his one side steep, sandy hills, and on the other an uninterrupted stretch of flat country with a soil black and fertile. It seems that these hills must have been made after the creation of the world, and many persons believe that they represent hundreds of years' toil of the mound builders. A fact that would seem to support that theory is this: While the soil all around these great piles of sand has a solid clay foundation, the hills themselves are nothing but sand, from summit to base. One of them might be cut down to a level with the surrounding country, and no soil but white, shifting sand would be encountered.

Another theory that has often been employed in an effort to account for the existence of these remarkable peaks is that they are a diluvial formation, perhaps thrown up by the action of a great whirlpool at a time when this country was covered with water. The absence of fossil remains indicative of the presence of the sea in past centuries, however, favors the mound builders theory.

A number of persons have endeavored to induce Mr. Tift to make excavations in some of the sand hills for the purpose of settling, if possible, the question of their origin. Many persons believe there is little doubt that the hills contain evidence that they were built by the hand of man. It is a little remarkable that Mr. Tift has never yielded to the importunities of his friends, but he now states that he has at last decided to make one or more excavations. The result will be watched with a great deal of interest by the people of this section. It has been estimated that these hills contain above the level of the surrounding country, more than 70,000,000 cubic feet of white sand.

A Conjurer's Trick. The Ceylon Independent, in some remarks in connection with a proposed visit of Carl Hertz, the well known conjurer, to Colombo, tells this story: "It was at a quiet party, and Carl Hertz, the famous conjurer, had been delighting the company—especially the ladies—with many of his finest tricks. All this time one of her parlor maids had been passing in and out with cups, cakes, glasses, and so on. She was much interested and when the hostess gave a sign that nothing more was needed, the girl still lingered on to see the completion of the trick just begun. "Will some one oblige me with a heavy shawl or cloak?" he said. "Now," he went on, selecting a big cashmere shawl, "you observe the thickness of the shawl?" they all did, breathlessly, including the maid at the door. "Now, will one of you be good enough to write a number of three figures on a piece of paper, being careful not to let me see what is written." With trembling fingers one of the girls did so, while the maid at the door leaned forward and began to breathe hard. "Now, place the written paper, with the figures on the upper side, under the shawl as I hold it." It was done, the thickness of the shawl being between Carl Hertz and the paper as he looked down toward it. There was breathless silence. Then he said: "Surely, the number is 761." It was. He had apparently seen right through the thick shawl. Every one was dumfounded and amazed. Then upon the silence broke the shriek of the maid at the door. With one final gaze at the shawl and one at the handsome conjurer, she hid her rosy face in her hands, yelling at the top of her voice, "What's the good of me clothes?" and fled.—London Chronicle.

The property of the Presbyterian church in the State of California is estimated at \$2,000,000.