# A PAPER BULLET

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It Was Fired With Great Success

By ALBERT KENYON

One evening during the war between the states, when we were lying in face of an enemy, I stole away from camp and in the darkness succeeded in passing the pickets. Climbing a tree, where I could hear if not see what the Confederates were doing, I heard so much going on that I believed they were preparing for one of those attacks just before dawn, the hour ustally chosen for an intended surprise. crawling through underbrush, retraced my steps, got safely through the pickets and returned to my own lines. There I made myself known and. him the whole story.

He was too much impressed with general to reprimand me for leaving camp without permission and hurried you, thar!" me to headquarters. It was midnight, and all were asleep there. But the captain called an aid, and the aid awakened the general, who gave orders that the command should be called (without beating the long roll) and formed in line of battle behind such natural defenses as the location afforded.

At 3 e'clock-dawn did not come till nearly 4-we heard the tramp of men and when their shadowy forms appeared astonished them with a storm of lead and iron that drove them back in confusion. They returned, but were again driven back, after which they prove me a secret service man. retired to their camps.

This sally of mine gave me all the by's men." When I would deny this growth behind me.

them in good condition to renew the I determined to fight.

free, and after riding through it for let pierced his brain.

for mine was by no means a new one very small and blackened by powder. - rather dingy, is fact - and needed close inspection to tell whether it was

was a Yankee soldier. I rode on over low ground till I came loaded with supplies that meant that mounting, rode away at a gallop. the enemy were preparing to retreat. If the wagons were empty it meant a good purpose. As soon as I got away that they were engaged in hauling supplies to the army; that they had brought a load and were returning for to roads and passed a number of citianother. I could see the white line of sens and soldiers, but the brand on my the road over which they would pass and that it made a turn not far from a sure protection. I soon made ground where they were. By riding across fields I could intercept them. I pushed forward and, taking them on the flank, rode along by them toward their rear.

"What yo' doin' in that uniform?" called a teamster. "To k it from a Yank killed in the fight yesterday," I replied. "My but-ternut suit was ragged. And look at the boots! I never let a Yank git away with his boots, especially if he's dead."

"Til give you a hundred dollars for

"Not much. I got all the money i

want, but only one pair o' boots." It was plain that the wagons were full of supplies. not only by the power required by the mules to haul them, but through the front or rear openings in the covers I could see the property stacked up inside.

Having learned all I wished to know, I continued my way to the rear end of the train, then turned into a wood, where I lost myself for awhile. It was where I lost myself for awhile. It was motive to perpetrate such a terribie now my object to ride northeastward crime and as yet, it has not been to General B.'s corps and deliver my order. While I was waiting I heard a rumble and a creaking in the road and recognized sounds made by artillery. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* If I had needed further evidence of retreat this would have confirmed my opinions, for the next thing to supplies a retreating army moves is its heavy guns—that is, unless pressed so hard brave sons of the Great Antille refense.

The direction I was now to take forced me to cross the road I had just left. Preferring to move through woods, I kept on among the trees as long as possible, then turned into the road, having a stretch of a quarter of a mile before I got down from the tree, choosing a me before striking other timber. While moment when the coast was clear, and, | making this interval I heard the quick thud of horses' hoofs behind me and, turning my head, saw a troop of Confederate cavalry coming. I turned into the wood on the north side of the road, making for my captain's tent, told and, though I did not alter my gait, I continued my course. I heard a "Hello, thar!" from the troop, but, pretending the importance of getting it to the not to hear, kept on. As I disappeared in the wood there came a sharp "Halt,

> I must make a quick decision. In Federal uniform I could not expect to federal uniform I could not expect to The daughter of a rebel delivered deceive an officer as I had deceived a herself to him under the condition teamster. I would be obliged to give an account of myself and would doubtless be detained. If the general's orders were found on me my Federal ders were found on me my Federal a gun discharge. "What does that uniform might not save me from the mean, general?" she asked. "Your gallows, for, although it was simply an father," order, it was evident that it was based on my observations of Confederate movements. I was certainly not on a direct line between the Federal general who had written it and the officer for a declaration of war. Their recogwhom it was intended. This would

All this was but a flash in my brain. My decision was made upon the imadventure I wanted for the rest of my portance of getting the order through. term of service, for it made me the If I succeeded it would give our troops general's chief scout. I almost always a great advantage; if I failed a fine went out for information in uniform. opportunity would be lost. I determin-In the first place, I preferred being ed to run for it. Having passed out of captured or shot to being hanged for sight, I put spurs to my horse and, a spy, against which death my uni- though I was obliged to dodge the form was a protection. I have ridden trees, made good progress. I was in into the enemy's lines rigged as a Fed- hopes that those who had seen me eral trooper, acknowledged myself to would not consider me of sufficient imthe people as such and was not portance to chase. But these hopes the island. believed. "You can't come that on us," were blasted by hearing one or more they would say. "You're one of Mos- horses crashing through the under-

they would insist that I had adopted A lightning flash before me indicated the Yankee uniform for secret service. that the wood had no great extent and liberation of Cuba, the freedom of After one of our fights, in which nelther side seemed to have got an evident that I must soon fight or surdvantage, I was sent into Confederate | render. While I was thinking about territory with a view to determining it I came to the end of the wood and whether the enemy were taking steps entered a field. Soon after doing so I to continue the fight or withdraw. looked back to see by how many I was But a far more important object was pursued. But one man thus far had to carry an order to General B., on our left the wood. I rode on at a breakflank, to join in a simultaneous attack neck pace for about half a mile, then without command in case I found the looked back again. Only the one purenemy inclined to retreat. If I found suer was in sight. This decided me.

fight and preparing to do so I was But, realizing that I was more likely to destroy the order, and if the re- to be taken alive than killed, after verse I was to deliver it. It was writ- drawing my revolver I took the mesten on tissue paper, giving details of sage from my holster. What would I time of attack, etc., and rolled into a do with it? If I threw it away the ball about the size of a pistol bullet, man chasing me would see it and look I carried it in my holster in order that for it. I stuffed it in the muzzle of I carried it in my holster in order that for it. I stored it in my horse, the smile of her betrothed, but she is might have it ready to throw away my pistol, then, reining in my horse, the smile of her betrothed, but she was indulgent, though her face show-I went out, as usual, in my blue jack- He was within a hundred yards of me et with yellow cavalry facings, my at the time and, drawing his weapon, carbine slung to my saddle and a re- came on. My horse was standing still, volver at my hip. I emerged from our which enabled me to take a good aim. lines into a wood, through which by When he came within range we both the general's direction a skirmish line fired almost simultaneously. His bulhad been sent to determine whether it let cut the edge of my ear, though I lly, as the maudlin youth took her larm and left the office. The law does was occupied by the enemy. It was did not know it at the time. My bul-

half a mile I came to a clearing. Be | No sooner had the man fallen from fore entering upon it I looked over his horse and I saw blood oozing from what was in front of me, for, being on his forehead than I bethought myself an eminence, I could see quite a dis- of the situation. If no more Confedtance. There were no camps in sight erates came for me and I could find nor any large force, only stray bands, the dispatch I might yet carry it to mostly cavalry. So I started out, in- General B. I calculated that on actending to ride forward, keep my eyes count of its light weight it had not open and be guided by circumstances. | gone more than a few yards from my Descending a slope through a corn- pistol and, calculating the direction of field, I struck a road leading southeast | the wind, began to hunt for ft. Seeing ward, the direction in which the ene a bit of paper, I took it up and found my were supposed to be. I could see it to be the dispatch. It had been approaching bands or persons and di- partially opened by pressure against rected my course so as to avoid them. the atmosphere. Had it not been for One would have had to come near me this I doubt if I should have found to see that I were a Federal uniform, it, since in its globular form it was

My first act after finding it was to look to see if any more pursuers were Confederate or Union. So, while I saw emerging from the wood. None apall I cared to see, no one saw me with peared. Noticing C. S. A. branded on sufficient distinctness to know that I the trooper's horse, I decided to take him instead of my own. I also took his hat and his belt, the latter havto a ridge from which I could see the ing the same letters. He wore no Confederate camps. A wagon train coat or I would have taken that too. was header southward. If it was But I threw away my own coat and.

> The change of horse and belt served from my dead enemy I slowed down and rode at a moderate pace. I took horse and the letters on my belt were occupied by neither army and by noon rode into General B.'s camp and delivered my dispatch. After reading the instructions General B. acted upon them at once and attacked the enemy in force. My own commander heard his guns, and, joining him, the two made a complete rout, capturing many

prisoners and stores. In my chest of war relics I have my paper bullet, which General B. afterward gave me, and it is of course more prized than any other of my souvenirs.

WHO BLEW UP THE MAINE ?

Written for The Centre Democrat y Arturo Grant Pardo, of Porta Rico, senior student at Penna. State Col-

Some people say that the direct cause of the Spanish-American War was the blowing-up of the Maine. It has been a matter of discussion as to blew it up. Contradictory rewho ports have placed the blame some-times on Spain, sometimes on the United States. Spain herself had no proved conclusively where the blame lies. Impartial critics assert that it was neither the fault of official Spain nor the fault of official United States. The disaster was casual; this is the safest ground to take.

Be it as it may, we can not overlook the real situation of Cuba in those critical days of her rebellion. For the second time in ten years the mother country. Butcher after butch er had been sent there to quell the revolutionists. Thousands of Cubans were killed every week. The gallant Maceo followed the Martyr Jose Marty as a victim of the deadly Spanish bayonet. Millions of dollars worth of American property had been destroyed, and the natives had exhausted of their resources. General Weyler, the King of Butchers, began work of extermination. He vio lated the sanctity of the home: with his ferocious disposition he committed acts well worthy of a Nero.

One day General Maceo had chance to wreck Weyler's train, and kill him; but Maceo told to his sol-"Do not kill Weyler; while there is a Weyler there is a revolu-tion. Let him live." The Cuban spirit was animated to continue the fight each time that Weyler executed his infernal designs. The following story shows the Butcher in his own relief. that he would pardon her father. The Butcher consented. A few days later while he had her in his quarters well under his personal control, she heard was his reply.

The American people learned with mpatience of these atrocities. Their human feelings were aroused in the face of such a carnage. Only the slightest opportunity was needed for patriots exasperated the Spaniards who were eager to deal a blow to the hated yankee. Such was the state of affairs when the Maine exploded.

A cry of horror burst from the hroats of the offended American peo ple. War seemed inevitable. President McKinley asked Spain for an indemnization of \$20,000,000, and the immediate granting of independence to the Cubans. To the former request, Canovas del Castillo, who was the Prime Minister, answered: "Spain will send you 20,000,000 bullets." the second request he responded by reinforcing the number of soldiers in

There was nothing left for this ountry to do but to declare war. Judging by its effects, it has been one of the most beneficial wars ever fought. It resulted in the complete wholesale killing of brave men and women.

By granting independence to the Cubans, the American people gave a lasting proof of their good faith. The history of the world is without parallel in such a wonderful act of gener-

MUST START SOBER.

Pennsylvania's new marriage law threatens to throw the time honored bachelor's farewell into the discard. An alcoholicly enthusiastic bridegroom to be went into the office of the marriage license clerk at Harrisburg and smilingly asked for the necessary permit. His bride to ed the tiniest trace of care. The marriage clerk had often seen the kind of smile the man was wearing. He knew the symptoms, so he told the couple to come back after the effects of the liquor had worn off. "He met too many friends," said the girl, wearnot allow the issuance of a license to anyone visibly under the influence of liquor, so the girl who marries a man to reform him must start long enough before the wedding to have him sober when they apply for the license.-Williamsport Sun.

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