

AL MACIAS IS SCEPTICAL DOES NOT BELIEVE IN THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

General Wilson's Men Have an Engagement with Spaniards at the Crest of the Mountain Near Coamo, Porto Rico—Spanish Officers Refuse to Surrender Until They Can Communicate with Madrid Authorities.

At the Front with General Wilson's Column, Five Miles Beyond Coamo, Porto Rico, Aug. 12. (Evening.)—Delayed in Transmission.—General Wilson moved one Lancaster battery out to the front this afternoon for the purpose of shutting the Spanish position on the crest of the mountain at the head of the pass through which the road winds. The enemy occupied a position of great natural strength, protected by seven lines of entrenchments and a battery of two Howitzers. The Spaniards were eager for the fray and earlier in the day had fired upon Colonel Biddle, of the engineer corps, who with a platoon of troops from New York, was reconnoitering on their right flank.

As our batteries were ordered to curve in the road, two thousand yards way, the enemy opened an artillery and infantry fire. Four companies of the third Wisconsin which were posted on the bluffs to the right of the road were not permitted to respond to the enemy's fire. The guns advanced at a gallop in the face of a terrific fire, were unimpeded and were soon hurling common shell and shrapnel at the enemy at a lively rate, striking the emplacements, batteries and entrenchments with the rhythmic regularity of a trip hammer. The enemy soon abandoned one gun, but continued to serve the other at intervals for over an hour. They had our range and their shrapnel burst repeatedly over our men. One shell burst, the fragments hitting Corporal Swann, of Company L, and seriously wounding Corporal Yanke and Privates Bunce and Vought.

BRITISH OFFICER'S AID. Captain Paget, the British army officer who is with the American forces for the purpose of observing the operations in the fight distinguished himself by aiding Dr. Woodbury.

When Captain Paget and Private Sizer, of company F, were wounded by Mauser bullets. In about two hours the enemy had abandoned the other gun and began fleeing from the entrenchments towards a banana grove in the rear. Our guns shelled them as they ran.

One gun was ordered to advance to a position a quarter of a mile further on. It had just reached the new position when Spanish infantry reinforcements fled into the trenches and fired down a deadly fire upon our men, compelling the latter to take a gallop. Then both the enemy's Howitzers reopened and shrapnel screamed and Mausers sang. Another gun galloped from the rear but our ammunition was exhausted.

Colonel Bliss, of General Wilson's staff, went forward to the enemy's line with a flag of truce and explained that peace negotiations were almost concluded and that their position was untenable and demanded their surrender. The Spanish have no communication with the outside world, but the commander asked until tomorrow morning in order that he might communicate with Governor General Macias, at San Juan.

General Wilson and his staff viewed today's action from a hill at the right of the battery. The enemy's guns were fired from a high elevation with low velocity. The Spaniards have the ranges as accurately as they had at Santiago. Their position from the front is almost impregnable, but it can be turned.

Estimates of the strength of the enemy range from 500 to 1,000. Their position is five miles from Alibonito.

ORDERS COUNTERMANDED. Headquarters of General Wilson at Coamo, Aug. 13, noon (Delayed in transmission).—The orders to advance given to General Ernst's brigade were countermanded by the orders of the president's order this morning sent a party with a flag of truce to notify the Spaniards of the suspension of hostilities, but the flag was not respected. This was by order of Governor General Macias. As General Macias has no communication with Madrid he may thus cut himself off from official notification of the situation, although Spanish leaders have been sent through the Spanish lines to spread the news that a cessation of hostilities had been ordered.

The soldiers of the American army generally receive the news of peace with delight, although some are disappointed that there is to be no further fighting and ordered them to drive on. They reached the city gates after 1 o'clock at night, and there were inspecting by the custom house officers, who, after making sure that they were conveying nothing contraband on their persons, kindly provided them with a few indispensable garments. Gossipy get hold of the story, and Rome the unlucky widow is known in Rome as the "Venue of Pivoli."

A different story comes from Grosseto, in the valley of the Arno, near the sea, on the railroad between Rome

and Leghorn. Grosseto lately had waterworks and an aqueduct constructed, but differences arose between the authorities and the contractors as to the quality of the work, and a commission was appointed to settle the difficulty, with Signor Romanin, deputy in parliament, as chairman. Signor Romanin, with the other commissioners, two engineers, and some laborers, the party consisting of thirteen persons, set out one fine morning to inspect the aqueduct. They had entered a path six feet wide, running between the aqueduct and the river Ombrone, when they noticed a young man with a double-barreled gun some distance ahead. When they got near him he brought the gun to his shoulder and quietly asked them to get together 1,000 lire at once or he would fire. The commission mostly tumbled over backward, but as no one showed any inclination to fight and the path was too narrow for flight, diplomacy was brought into play and an offer of 100 lire was made. The brigand, however, treated the offer with scorn.

"You are very fine gentlemen," said he to Romanin, "one of the deputies who steal millions. Fork out what you have about you, otherwise I won't give you time to say a 'Hall Mary.'"

The deputy hastily poured out the contents of his pocketbook on the path and was allowed to go to the rear. One commissioner after another was then called out to do the same, but the laborers were spared. The party then withdrew a few hundred yards back and turning around saw the robber shake out their pocketbooks and take the money. "Not even 1,000 lire (\$200) in the whole pack, barely 750. I am ashamed to have had anything more than this," he shouted at them, turned his back on them, and soon disappeared in the swamp thickets. The commission then went back, picked up its emptied pocketbooks, and returned to Grosseto, refusing to continue the inspection of any more of that aqueduct.

TWISTED SPIRE ON A CHURCH. According to the Legend a Beautiful Woman or the Devil Caused It.

From the Philadelphia Record. The parish church at Chesterfield, England, has a curious spire. Instead of being perpendicular, it is bent and twisted, so that the spire deviates from the perpendicular some six feet to the eastward. The legend is that a beautiful woman or the devil caused it.

One tells that pretty and virtuous women were exceedingly scarce in the town, so scarce that when one day a good looking woman stepped within the church to be married, the steeple was astonished and bowed to the bride, and that the bend was made when attempting to regain its original position. The legend is still more unlikely.

Another story is that the steeple that never will lie upright position regained until another model woman is married beneath.

With many legends the Prince of Darkness is connected, and the best of these is as follows: The steeple, which has also been powerfully warped by the action of the sun beating through the lead on to the greener parts of the woodwork.

Rumors that the spire was unsafe have arisen in the times, which have also been powerfully warped by the action of the sun beating through the lead on to the greener parts of the woodwork.

It is for Adams, impassionate, cold; Who waits for instructions, and does as he's told.

B stands for Brooklyn, commanded by Schley; The hottest of liners he takes on the fly.

C is for Cuba, a tight little isle; To get what you may have to fight quite a while.

D is for Dewey, a teacher of Spanish; The first lesson caused all his pupils to sneeze.

E stands for Evans, whose never so happy As when there's a chance to get in something "scrappy."

F is for Freedom, which means a great deal When your neck has been under a vile Spanish heel.

G is for General, whose rule employees Should learn better manners; he taught to pay please.

THE MARKETS.

Wall Street Review. New York, Aug. 15.—The animation of today's stock market was far less than that of last Saturday and the gains on the day's transactions were much less striking. The actual signing of the peace protocol brought no enthusiastic buying but on the other hand it brought a realising sale, such as are likely to occur on the culmination of an event heralded and discounted.

Active buying in a few stocks was conspicuous especially Northern Pacific common, which showed another point to its peak. The Grangers, Union Pacific and Union Pacific added an advancing tendency.

Furnished by WILLIAM LINN ALLEN & CO., stock brokers, Mears' building, rooms 705-706. Open-High-Low-Close, est. est. ing.

Table with columns: Am. Cotton Oil Co., Am. Ry. Co., Atchafalpa, Am. Tobacco Co., Am. Sugar Ref., Am. Spirits, Brklyn Rapid Trans., Bay State Gas, Canada Southern, Chic. & G. Western, Chicago & N. W., Chicago & Q., Chic. Mil. & St. P., Chic. Rock I. & Pac., Chic. St. P. & O., Cleve. C. & C., Erie, Gen. Electric Co., Louis. & Nash., Manhattan, M. & K. & T. Pr., Missouri Pacific, Nat. Lead Co., N. Y. Cent. & H. J., Northern Pacific, Northern Pac., Pac. Mail S. Co., Phila. & R. D., Southern Ry., Southern Ry., Texas and Pacific, Union Pac. 1st Pr., U. S. Rubber Co., U. S. Leather, U. S. Leather, Wash. St., Wash. St., West. Union, West. Union, Met. Traction Co., Ches. & Ohio.

CHICAGO GRAIN MARKET. WHEAT. Open-High-Low-Close. Sept. 1898, 83 1/2, 84 1/2, 83 3/4, 84 1/4.

Scranton Board of Trade Exchange Quotations—All Quotations Based on Par of 100. STOKES. Bid. Asked. National Boring & Drill Co., 20.00. First National Bank, 100.00.

Philadelphia Provision Market. Philadelphia, Aug. 15.—Receipts: Beef, 2,500 head; sheep, 7,500 head; hogs, 3,500 head.

East Liberty Cattle Market. East Liberty, Pa., Aug. 15.—Cattle: Steady; 100 head; sheep, 1,000 head; hogs, 1,000 head.

Shades of Meaning. A Discussion as to What Is Implied by Various Formalities. From the Chicago Post.

New York Produce Market. New York, Aug. 15.—Flour—Steady. Rye Flour—Spot—Steady. Wheat—Spot—Steady.

Chicago Produce Market. Chicago, Aug. 15.—Indications of a spring market movement on a scale commensurate with the exceptional heavy crop caused a sharp decline in wheat in July, September closed 1/2c lower.

THE TABLE'S OPPORTUNITY BEAR

POPULAR CLEARING HOUSE for the Benefit of All Who Have Houses to Rent, Real Estate or Other Property to Sell or Exchange, or Who Want Situations or Help—These Small Advertisements Cost One Cent a Word, Six Insertions for Five Cents a Word—Except Situations Wanted, Which Are Inserted Free.

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