

BRITISH MESSAGE

Received in Washington by French Ambassador.

PROBABLY MEANS PEACE.

Believed to Concede Most of Our Demands.

PERSONNEL OF THE COMMISSION.

No One Not in Accord With President's Views as to the Disposition of the Philippines Will Be Appointed—Our Government Will Stand by the Terms Offered in the Answer to the Spanish Government.

Washington, Aug. 3.—The reply of the Spanish government to the peace conditions laid down by the United States was received by the French ambassador, M. Cambon, yesterday afternoon. The reply came in sections, the first received giving only the opening passages of the Spanish reply. A few minutes later another dispatch brought a second section, and these kept coming uninterruptedly by procession of messengers until seven sections of the Spanish reply had been received at 4 o'clock, when the last part was still to arrive. In the meantime the cipher experts were at work and by 4:30 o'clock they were abreast of all that portion of the reply received up to that time, and there was a lull of some time, pending the arrival of the concluding portions.

Pending the receipt of the complete reply no steps were taken to fix a time for a conference with the president, as the time for that depends largely upon some of the features of the reply, and also upon the explicit instructions concerning the delivery of the answer which usually accompanies a document of this solemn character. Neither at the White House nor at the state department was there any official knowledge that the reply had reached Washington, and the usual office hours closed with no appointment made for a conference.

Pending the official delivery of the answer speculation was rife as to its contents. There was little or no further doubt that the length of the reply meant that Spain had not given a simple and direct affirmative to the American conditions. It was evident that if the reply was an acceptance it was accompanied by extended discussion and probably by conditions. This caused considerable apprehension in official circles here, for while it was felt last week that Spain would surely yield in every particular, it began to be felt that possibly there might be another period of discussion and possibly an indirect attempt to open up a diplomatic exchange on the nature of the terms.

All vital points were believed to be conceded—the abandonment of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Ladronez and the establishment of a commission to pass upon questions relating to the Philippines. In the carrying out of this program it was believed that Spain would seek to secure an understanding on many incidental points involved, some of them of considerable importance.

Late in the afternoon the president received an indirect intimation that the Spanish reply had come to the French embassy. A cabinet officer who was with him at this time said on leaving: "The information that has come from Madrid about the action of the Spanish cabinet indicates the Spanish have accepted our terms in a general way, but leaves several questions open that we did not include in the terms submitted. The communication offering those terms was explicit, specifically stating such points as would be left open to further negotiation. We will stand on those terms."

The administration has not yet given serious consideration to the personnel of the peace commission, but it can be stated no one not in accord with the president's present views as to the disposition of the Philippines will be appointed, and Mr. McKinley favors keeping at least Manila harbor and bay and sufficient territory around it for its support and protection, if not the whole of Luzon Island. As to members of the cabinet as members of the commission, there are precedents for their appointment, notably the treaty of Ghent.

The concluding portion of the Spanish reply was received during the evening, but it was not until a late hour that it was deciphered as a whole and gone over by the ambassador. No effort was made to communicate it to the United States government last night beyond a note to Secretary Day advising him that the document had been received, but not disclosing its contents. It is probable that the reply will be delivered to the president before the cabinet meeting today, although no hour has been fixed.

There is complete reticence in all quarters as to the text of the reply, but there is reason to believe it is not an unqualified acceptance of the American terms, but is framed on the theory of accepting the essentials and trusting to a hoped for conciliatory spirit on the part of the government to moderate to some extent features which the Spanish government seems to regard as essential.

SACRIFICE OF THE CORTES

Necessary For the Cession of Any Spanish Territory. London, Aug. 3.—The Madrid correspondent of the Times says: "All the best authorities agree that the government has decided to accept the American conditions. The answer of the Spanish government declares that the Spanish government does not discuss the American proposals, but only accepts them, because they are imposed on her by force. Only two essential changes in the American demands were asked for and it is expected that President McKinley will refuse them. The king, according to the common belief, has the right to declare war or make peace, any cessation of military operations requires the sanction of the king, and any minister con-

senting to such cessation without this sanction is liable, according to the penal code, to imprisonment for life. It will be necessary, therefore, to convolve the cortes some time before the treaty of peace is ratified, but the government has not yet decided at what stage of the proceedings this necessary formality will be observed."

LACK OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

General Shafter's Report on Sick and Wounded at Santiago. Washington, Aug. 3.—General Shafter, in a report to the war department, emphatically denies that he is responsible for the inadequate provision made for the sick and wounded brought from Santiago to the United States on the Seneca and Concho. Everything possible, he says, was sent with the sick and wounded. The matter of shortage of water, he says, is inexcusable. He concludes his report as follows: "There is no excuse for lack of food, as there has at all times been plenty of that. I have no doubt that many more were put on the ship than should have been, owing to the great desire to get home, as they had the fear of yellow fever, and were almost wholly without hospital accommodation. "The sick and wounded had only the clothing on that they wore into battle, and of course that was ragged and worn out by the time they reached home. There was none to issue to them at the time they left, and not even their extra clothing they could not get out. There has never been a case of suffering here that could be remedied by the means at hand that was not attended to. The surgeons have worked as well as any men that ever lived, and their complaint has been universal of lack of means and facilities. From the day the forces left Tampa until the present time there have never been sufficient medical attendants or medicines for the daily wants of the command. Three times since reaching Cuba has the command been almost entirely without medicines."

THAT "ROUND ROBIN."

Three-Fourths of Shafter's Men Were Sick With Malaria. Washington, Aug. 3.—General Shafter telegraphed the president regarding the publication of the "round robin" signed by the general officers of his command as follows: "I can very readily see what intense excitement the publication must have occasioned—a great deal more than the situation warranted. Situation is greatly aggravated from the fact that before any of the men were taken ill they were thoroughly exhausted. At least 75 per cent. of the command had been down with malarial fever, from which they recover very slowly and are in no condition to stand an attack of yellow fever or dysentery. Placed here now in the condition in which they were when they came here, I do not believe they would be in any particular danger. The regiment of immunes that recently arrived is not suffering at all, and I do not believe they will. They can keep out of the sun, are well clothed and well fed. What put my command in its present condition was the twenty days of the campaign when they had nothing but meal, bread and coffee, without change of clothes, without any shelter whatever, and during the period twice as stormy as it has been since the surrender. Fresh troops reaching here in the middle of August, with good camps, good water, abundance of tentage, which they will find here, need not apprehend serious danger."

TWO NAVAL CHANGES.

Sigsbee Goes to the Texas and Goodrich to the Newark. Washington, Aug. 3.—Two important changes in the command of vessels of the navy were announced last evening by Secretary Long. Captain Charles D. Sigsbee, who commanded the battleship Maine when she met her fate in the harbor of Havana, and who has been in command of the auxiliary cruiser St. Paul since the war began, has been ordered to relieve Captain John W. Philip of command of the battleship Texas, now undergoing repairs in New York. It is understood that Captain Philip will be assigned to shore duty, probably the command of the Mare Island navy yard at San Francisco.

Secretary Long announced also that Captain Caspar F. Goodrich, of the auxiliary cruiser St. Louis, had been ordered to the command of the Newark, Commodore Watson's new flagship, to succeed Captain Albert S. Barker, who has been transferred to the battleship Oregon on account of the illness of Captain Charles E. Clark. Hobson Calls on Cervera. Annapolis, Aug. 3.—Naval Constructor R. P. Hobson came here yesterday from Washington, spent three hours and left again for that place. Lieutenant Hobson took a carriage on his arrival and went directly to call on Admiral McNair, the superintendent of the academy. After a few minutes' chat he went over to see Admiral Cervera, who is occupying a house in the same row with the superintendent's residence. Here he and the Spanish prisoners exchanged reminiscences of their former meeting when Hobson was rescued from the waters of Santiago harbor by the admiral.

Spanish Prisoners Sent to Spain.

Washington, Aug. 3.—Confirmation was received by Adjutant General Corbin last night from Colonel Humphrey, in charge of the transportation arrangements at Santiago, that the Spanish hospital ship Alicante sailed from there yesterday with 600 of the Spanish prisoners for Spain. It is supposed that the Alicante carries a majority of the sick and wounded of General Toral's army, as he would naturally send them first. The war department has no definite information as to the time of the sailing of the other Spanish vessels. Wife Murderer Defies Arrest. West Newton, Pa., Aug. 3.—John Evans, armed with two revolvers, went to the home of his wife yesterday and fired three shots at her head. She died in a few minutes. Falling in his attempt to commit suicide, Evans fortified himself in the cellar of the house, and so far has been able to resist arrest. Policeman Harvey was shot in the leg by Evans while trying to crawl through a cellar window. Evans is 50 years of age. His wife was nearly as old. They did not live together.

DEATH OF GENERAL POLAND.

Victim of Typhoid Fever, Contracted at Chickamauga. Asheville, N. C., Aug. 3.—Brigadier General John S. Poland died here yesterday of fever contracted at Chickamauga. General Poland came to Asheville several days ago with the hope of recovery from the attack of typhoid fever, but despite the efforts of the doctors his disease was beyond control. Mrs. Poland and their son and daughter were here when death came and they, with Lieutenant Wrenne, accompanied the remains westward. Brigadier General John S. Poland was born at Princeton, Ind., on Oct. 14, 1836, and would have had over two years to serve before reaching the age for retirement. He was appointed a cadet at the United States military academy in July, 1856, and was graduated from that institution to the class of 1861, which entered the service just at the beginning of the war. On March 1, 1866, he became lieutenant colonel of the Twenty-first infantry, from which regiment he was transferred to the Seventeenth infantry as colonel in August, 1891. On May 4 of this year Colonel Poland was appointed by the president a brigadier general of volunteers, his name being included in the first list of regular army colonels raised to that position.

ROUGH RIDERS LEAVE CUBA.

Colonel Roosevelt's Men Sail From Santiago For Montauk Point, L. I. Santiago de Cuba, Aug. 3.—The First regular cavalry and the First volunteer cavalry, Rough Riders, sailed today on the transports Miami and Matanzas. Of the Rough Riders the following remain here sick: Second Lieutenant William Timony, Troop K; Corporal Edgar A. Schwan, Troop G; Privates William Hoyle, Troop E; G. Whalen, Troop A, and T. D. Stedman, Troop D. They will probably leave in ten days in care of Dr. Gonzalez. The Rough Riders came to town by rail from their camp at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon. At the station they fell into line, each company being preceded by a red and white banner bearing the number of the regiment and the company letter. Colonel Roosevelt rode at the head of the regiment as it marched down the Alameda skirting the water front to the dock, where the Miami was moored. All the men looked fit, but worn out. They presented a picturesque appearance. Some wore new khaki uniforms, while others were attired in heavy blue flannel shirts, with their old equipment. All expressed regret at leaving their five companions behind, but were wild with joy at the prospect of so soon returning home. They take no tents or baggage with them. The work of embarkation was very easy and was quickly performed. The men are ready and eager to return for the Havana campaign in the fall.

TROOPS ACTIVE IN PORTO RICO.

General Brooke Moving on San Juan With 10,000 Men. Ponce, Porto Rico, Aug. 3.—A general advance of the American forces has begun. The remainder of General Eric's brigade, constituting the advance center, supported by two batteries, moved out at 6 o'clock yesterday morning and a part of the Eleventh infantry of General Henry's division started to the left toward Adjuntas. Troop A of New York, the Philadelphia City Troop and Troop H, of the Sixth regulars, are conveying General Brooke's transportation column along the coast road through Salinas to Arroyo. Wire communication with General Brooke, on the right, has not yet been established. Colonel Rice, of General Miles' staff, will probably be assigned to the command of the Sixth Massachusetts. General Wilson has moved the headquarters of his division from Ponce to Juan Diaz. General Schwan, with the Eleventh regular infantry and two batteries, moved yesterday through Yauco toward Mayaguez. General Brooke is moving north from Guayama with 10,000 men.

Shafter's Health Report.

Washington, Aug. 3.—General Shafter's sanitary report for Aug. 7 is as follows: Total number of sick, 3,445; total number of fever cases, 2,498; total number of new cases, 412; total number fever cases returned to duty, 408; deaths Aug. 7: Private Ranger Mellin, Ninth Massachusetts, typhoid fever; Private Charles Wren, Eighth infantry, nervous anemia; Private Daniel Gruber, Eighth infantry, typhoid fever; Private Hans Larsen, Third infantry, typhoid fever; Private Fatlick Stevens, First cavalry, typhoid fever; Private Frank J. Muck, Thirty-fourth Michigan, typhoid and gastric fever; Corporal George L. Hopper, Private Ira L. Reyer, Corporal Dudley Wilson and Private Frank Dibley, Eighth Ohio, yellow fever; Private Charles Diggs, Twenty-fourth infantry, yellow fever.

Sick Soldiers at Port Myer.

Washington, Aug. 3.—Secretary Alger visited Port Myer yesterday afternoon with a view of ascertaining personally whether everything possible was being done for the soldiers of Camp Alger who are in the hospital at the fort. Each one has a good bed which is kept immaculately clean and fresh, and is all receiving excellent medical attention and nursing. At present there are about 375 men in the hospital. Some of them are very seriously ill and a few are not expected to recover. Thus far the fatalities among the troops at Camp Alger have numbered 39. This is not considered a great loss in an army of nearly 30,000 men during the three months the men have been in the service.

To Master Out Troops.

Washington, Aug. 3.—It is understood here that immediately upon Spain's binding herself to evacuate Cuba and Porto Rico and ceding our rights in the Ladronez and Philippines, 150,000 men will be mustered out of the service. This will leave an army of 125,000, which is believed to be sufficient to cope with the situation.

Immunes For Santiago.

Savannah, Aug. 3.—Two battalions of the Fifth regiment, United States volunteers (immunes), sailed yesterday afternoon on the transport Rio Grande for Santiago. The third battalion will sail on the arrival of the transport Leona.

VIEWS IN MADRID

Spain's Answer Declares Questions Must Be Settled

BY A JOINT PEACE COMMISSION.

A Report That England Offered to Mediate, and the Offer Was Favorably Received, but Not Accepted. Quibble Over Philippines.

Madrid, Aug. 3.—It is said that as soon as the American reply is received Senor Sagasta will nominate peace commissioners. The Cuba debt; the date and manner of evacuating Cuba and Porto Rico, and the manner of protecting Spaniards and Spanish interests there; whether Spain shall withdraw its artillery, arms and ammunition now in Cuba and Porto Rico; the future of the Philippines. The treaty will be signed, subject to approval by the cortes, which will be convoked immediately. The cabinet council will appoint Spanish commissioners to meet the Americans to arrange as to the future of the Philippines and other details. El Liberal says: "The government received an offer from England to mediate. The offer was favorably regarded, but was not accepted. The presence of a large British squadron near Gibraltar is clear evidence of an understanding, if not an alliance, between England and the United States." Desire For Generosity. Paris, Aug. 3.—The Temps says it is to be hoped the noble resignation of Spain will touch the heart of President McKinley and that he will consider it honorable to show that if the United States is strong, it is great and magnanimous enough to spare the vanquished enemy, not to abuse its victory and to desire by the generosity of its acts to make the treaty with the people they have learned to respect on the battlefield a veritable pact of friendship. It is certain, The Temps adds, that Spain will be rewarded for his wisdom. Freed from the Cuban incubus, she will regain energy and vitality and march with joyful steps towards a calm and prosperous future.

Negotiations May Occur in Paris.

London, Aug. 3.—The Madrid correspondent of the Times says: "The promptitude with which the Spanish cabinet accepted the terms on receipt of the American explanations, shows that it does not desire to waste time in dilatory procedure. The question when direct negotiations will begin is rather doubtful, probably because the cabinet is resolved to act scrupulously in accordance with the letter and spirit of the constitution and the best authorities disagree in the interpretation of the constitutional law. It is believed that the direct negotiations will occur in Paris."

Spanish Internal Troubles.

London, Aug. 3.—A special dispatch from Madrid says: "The government has sent a squadron of cavalry and a company of infantry in pursuit of a band of seven men, who with cries of 'long live the Republic' invaded a farm at Alcala de Chiverst, in Valencia, and seized a number of rifles belonging to customs officers and members of the municipal guard."

A "BUMPER" WHEAT CROP.

Reports Indicate the Largest Yield in the Country's History. Chicago, Aug. 3.—The Post says: "According to reports received by railway companies and business men the largest wheat crop in the history of the United States will be harvested within a fortnight. The winter wheat yield which aggregates from 375,000,000 to 400,000,000 bushels will be increased to the extent of nearly 350,000,000 bushels from the spring wheat region. The 'bumper crop' of 1891 will be eclipsed this year by 100,000,000 bushels from present indications." Reports received from members of the National Association of Merchants and Travelers, who are assembling here to attend the fall meeting afford positive proof, it is declared, that a new era of prosperity is at hand throughout the great west. Railroad officials who have just come in from extended trips through the spring wheat and corn growing states make equally optimistic reports. Kansas and Michigan say, 'A bumper crop is here,' and the Pearson Taft Land Credit company, which holds \$9,000,000 worth of farm mortgages in the west, has but \$17,000,000 of property under foreclosure."

Colored Troopers Rescue Comrade.

Tampa, Fla., Aug. 3.—The Ninth cavalry (colored) is now on its way to Montauk Point, L. I., with one member whom his fellow troopers rescued from the county jail at Tampa. The prisoner was given up only after the soldiers had stormed the building. They claimed he had been arrested unjustly, and 30 of the men, armed with rifles and revolvers, set out to release him. At the jail they demanded that the jailer give up the prisoner, which he at first refused to do, but after the soldiers had fired a volley of shots at the building he surrendered the man. The governor will make a formal demand on the United States authorities that the prisoner be brought back for trial.

A Papal Envoiyment.

Rome, Aug. 3.—The pope has issued an encyclical protesting against the suppression of Catholic journals during the recent insurrection, which it declares "illegal, contrary to Christianity, specially directed against the papacy, and calculated to embitter religious conflict, prejudicial to Italy, and to remove a conservative force against socialism and anarchy. Nevertheless, Catholics, though opposed to all rebellion, will not alter their policy either for threats or violence. They will submit to the existing state of things, though they will never support it."

General King For the Philippines.

San Francisco, Aug. 3.—Brigadier General King will sail with troops on the transport Arizona early this week for Manila. General King will join General Merritt's forces in the Philippines, and the Arizona will be kept in eastern waters for the purposes of transport and as carrier of stores. She is one of the fastest boats in Uncle Sam's service in the Pacific.

WAR BREVITIES.

Wednesday, Aug. 3.

Our officials are apprehensive of trouble with Aguinaldo's insurgent forces in the Philippines. General Shafter reports that all political prisoners in Cuban prisons are being promptly released. All sick and wounded soldiers, when able to travel, will be granted a month's furlough and transportation to their homes. President Palma, of the Cuban junta, declares that the Cubans are too grateful to harbor slight or fanciful wrongs against their benefactors. Thursday, Aug. 4.

After the war is over our European squadron will be largely increased. The squadron of the Spanish Admiral Cervera, now at Cadix, is totally unfit for sea service. Lieutenant Colonel J. Lewis Good has been sworn in as colonel of the First Pennsylvania regiment, now at Chickamauga. Secretary Alger issues a statement admitting the privations of sick and wounded soldiers on the transports Concha and Seneca. Measures have been taken to prevent a repetition.

Friday, Aug. 5. General Wood, military governor of Santiago, has perfected arrangements for thoroughly cleansing the city. The Madrid press strongly blames Porto Rico volunteers for yielding without resistance to Americans. General Grosvener, of Ohio, in an interview in London, declared that this country would form no alliance. Miss Helen Gould is taking an active part in furnishing relief for sick and wounded soldiers.

Saturday, Aug. 6. Captain Clark, of the battleship Oregon, has been invalided home. Immune regiments are being sent to Cuba to replace those being sent home. The daughter of the captain general of San Juan, Porto Rico, is drilling the gunners in the forts. The repair ship Vulcan, an innovator in modern naval equipment, has proved a thorough success.

An army officer says the military balloon is a failure and declares that its use at Santiago caused the deaths of 300 men. Secretary Alger proposes having the bodies of all the dead at Santiago brought north and interred in the National cemetery. Monday, Aug. 8.

General Miles reports the capture of Guayama, Porto Rico, by United States volunteers. One hundred and seven sick and wounded soldiers arrived at Fort Monroe from Santiago. Commodore Schley was misrepresented in saying it was possible to enter Santiago's harbor. Colonel San Martin, commander of Ponce, Porto Rico, captured by General Miles' forces, was court martialed and shot. Privates Forsythe and Dunn, of Companies B and A, respectively, Fourth regiment of Immunes, were struck by a train and killed near Fredericksburg, Va.

Refuse a Statue to Gladstone. Dublin, Aug. 3.—The municipal council of Dublin has refused to comply with a request of the Gladstone Memorial society for its co-operation in erecting in Dublin a statue, commemorative of the life and services of Mr. Gladstone, similar to those which the society will erect in London and Edinburgh. A resolution was passed that "the corporation of Dublin is strongly of opinion that no statue should be erected in Dublin in honor of any Englishman until the Irish people have erected a fitting one in memory of Charles Stewart Parnell."

Soldiers Killed by Lightning.

Miami, Fla., Aug. 3.—A severe electrical storm passed over camp yesterday afternoon resulting in the death of Private Charles Egill, Company K, First Louisiana and Corporal E. K. Humphreys, Company E, First Texas.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS.

As Reflected by Dealings in Philadelphia and Baltimore. Philadelphia, Aug. 3.—Flour strong, winter patents, \$2.15@2.20; do. extras, \$2.05@2.10; Pennsylvania roller, clear, \$2.00@2.05; do. straight, \$1.90@1.95; western winter, \$1.85@1.90. Wheat advanced 1/4¢. No. 2 red, spot, 75¢; do. August, 75¢@76¢; do. September, 75¢@76¢. Corn firm; No. 2 mixed, August and September, 37¢@37 1/2¢; No. 2 yellow, for local trade, 36¢@36 1/2¢. Oats quiet and steady; No. 2 white, clipped, old, 34¢@34 1/2¢; No. 2 white, old, 34¢; beef steady; smoked beef, 17¢@18¢; lard dull; western steamed, 15¢; butter firm; western creamery, 14¢@14 1/2¢; do. factory, 13¢@14¢; Eggs imitation creamery, 13¢@14¢; No. 1, 12¢; do. fresh, 10¢; do. creamery, 10¢@11¢; Pennsylvania fancy prints, wholesale, 22¢. Cheese steady; large, white, 7¢; small do., 7 1/2¢; large, colored, 7 1/2¢; small do., 7 1/2¢; light skims, 6¢@6 1/2¢; part do., 5¢@5 1/2¢; full do., 2¢@2 1/2¢. Eggs steady; New York and Pennsylvania, 14¢@15¢; do. imitation, 13¢@14¢. Grain freight steady; steam to Liverpool, per bushel, 15¢; August; Cork, for orders, per quarter, 33¢@35¢, 6d., August; 2s. 3d., 95¢. September. Sugar strong; granulated, 5¢@5 1/2¢; Butter steady; fancy creamery, 16¢; do. imitation, 15¢; do. lard, 14¢@15¢; good lard, 13¢; store packed, 11¢. Eggs firm; fresh, 12¢; Cheese steady; fancy New York, large, 14¢@15¢; do. medium, 13¢@14¢; do. small, 12¢@13¢. Lettuce, 50¢@75¢ per bushel box. Whisky, \$1.25@1.50 per gallon for finished goods in 410; pure, 50¢@55¢. Rough, \$2.50@3.00. Sheep 10¢@11¢ per lb. common.

Gold on the Marla Teresa.

Playa Del Este, Aug. 3.—The Potomac has recovered \$10,000 from the Infanta Maria Teresa, which was driven ashore at the time Admiral Cervera attempted to escape from Santiago, and which has been floated and will proceed to Norfolk, Va.

BRIEF ITEMS OF NEWS.

The Democratic victory in the Alabama election is almost a complete one. Sir Thomas Lipton will challenge for the America's cup. His yacht will be called the Shamrock. Ex-Congressman James O. Broadhead, of Missouri, formerly minister to Switzerland died at St. Louis. Governor Voorhees, of New Jersey, yesterday appointed John Hunter deputy factory inspector for Passaic county. There were 20 candidates. Pickett's men were formally welcomed at Independence hall, Philadelphia, and then went to the G. A. R. encampment at Washington Park, N. J. Advertisers received from Cocos, Guayama, show that the revolutionary movement there has assumed a phase jeopardizing the interests of foreign residents. Stevenson Archer, who robbed Maryland of \$152,401 while state treasurer, and was sentenced to five years' imprisonment, died in a Baltimore hospital, says the

DEFENDING SAMPSON

Against Attacks by Letter Writers to Navy Department.

HIGH PRAISE FOR HIS WORK.

Secretary Long Protests Against the Cruel Insinuations Cast Upon the Admiral, and Speaks a Good Word For All the Gallant Men.

Washington, Aug. 3.—The secretary of the navy has received several letters violently attacking Admiral Sampson. In his reply to one of these he says: "I am in receipt of your letter, and hasten to assure you that what you say about Admiral Sampson is so unjust that it can only be pardoned on the ground of your ignorance of the whole matter. You have no appreciation of the responsibilities that have been upon Admiral Sampson; of his very superior attainments as an officer, and the splendid work he has done in preparing for the navy victory which was the crowning accomplishment of his efforts for weeks and weeks before Santiago. Justice is always done in the long run. But when you indulge in such unfounded criticism I cannot forbear to protest, as I should feel bound to do if you had referred in similar terms to any other of our deserving officers."

"I can well understand why the friends of other officers should be so enthusiastic and earnest as I am in giving them the credit they so richly, every one of them, deserve for their glorious work. I cannot conceive of anybody so mean as to detract by a single hair from their merit. But I cannot understand why such a bitter feeling is manifested in many quarters towards Admiral Sampson, when all these officers, subordinate to him, in their reports, clearly and cordially recognize the fact that, although at the beginning he was, by orders from Washington, going to confer with General Shafter, yet the battle was fought under his order, and that the victory was the consummation of his thorough preparation. For myself, I know of no prodiction for any one of these gallant men. I would crown every one of them with laurel. I want them all to have their just deserts. Every one of them deserves unstinted praise; not one of them deserves anything less than full measure for that day's work. And, therefore, I can think of nothing more cruel than a depreciation of the merit of the faithful, devoted, patriotic commander-in-chief, physically frail, worn with sleepless vigilance, weighed with measureless responsibilities and details, letting no duty go undone, for weeks with ceaseless precautions blockading the Spanish squadron, and at last, by the unerring fulfillment of his plans, crushing it under the fleet which executed his command, yet now compelled in dignified silence to be assailed as vindictively as if he were an enemy to his country."

"I am sure that no one more deprecates such an attack than the officers of the fleet—commodore, captains and all. Among them all in peace; whatever disquiet there may be elsewhere, the navy is serene."

PAY DAY AT CAMP THOMAS.

Soldiers at Chickamauga Are Being Paid For July. Chickamauga Park, Ga., Aug. 3.—Chief Paymaster George R. Smith began paying the troops yesterday. The following regiments received for July: Third Tennessee, Fifth Pennsylvania, Third United States cavalry, First Pennsylvania, First New Hampshire, First Vermont, First West Virginia. There are numerous furloughs being granted to convalescents in accordance with the recent order to allow patients recovering from serious illness 30 days' furlough and transportation home. Trained nurses are badly needed here in the camp hospitals. Five deaths in the present daily average in each of the division hospitals. In the Second division there are 200 patients lying very ill and not enough attendants to care for them properly. Men are dying every day who might have been restored to health with proper care and treatment. Private Charles E. Dolan, of Company E, First Pennsylvania regiment, died from the effects of a second surgical operation, performed to relieve his bowels of an obstruction. His remains will be shipped to Philadelphia.

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