

Get the pictures we offer this week. Before long they will be all gone and you will miss a prize. See eighth page.

National Tribune

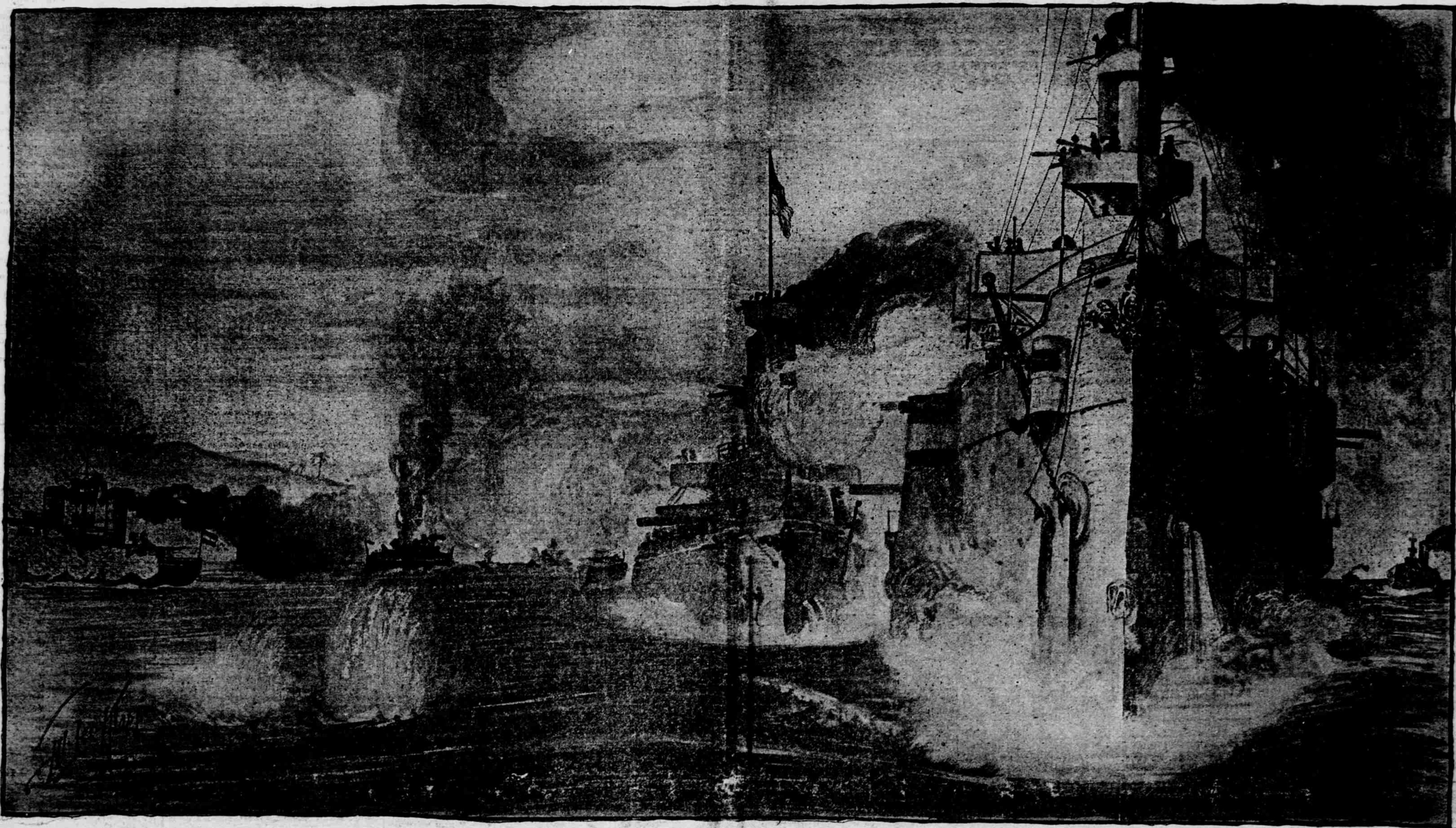


Two fine historical pictures of great value are given to subscribers this week. See eighth page.

ESTABLISHED 1877—NEW SERIES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1898.

VOL. XVII—NO. 40—WHOLE NO. 883.



THE CRISTOBAL COLON AND THE WRECKED SPANISH CRUISERS.

SANTIAGO ATTACKED

Fall of the City Expected In a Few Days.

Bombarded on Refusal To Surrender.

Hobson and His Companions Exchanged—Admiral Cervera and Other Prisoners Arrive—Peace Hoped For Soon—Spain's Attitude—Progress of the War.

TUESDAY, JULY 6.

PREMATURE EXULTATION IN MADRID.

Almost instantaneouly enthusiasm prevailed at Madrid today over the arrival of Admiral Cervera and his squadron from the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. The Admiral's name was on every tongue, and it was claimed that he saved Santiago, by saving it, "adding to Gen. Linarez's handiwork." Brave sailors to man the guns ashore and brave sailors to sail the ships were the cry.

In every age the destinies of the great Nations of the earth have been determined and the currents of history changed by momentous battles at sea.

As the years go by the astonishing victory of the American ships that of Spain off Santiago de Cuba will be more and more fully recognized as one of those epoch-making sea-battles which make new departures in history and start the world moving in a different direction.

It does not mean merely that the final terrific blow has been given to a crumbling empire which once held the whole world in awe.

Spain could have been struck out by Great Britain, France or Germany without making more than a convulsive ripple on the surface. But to have the blow delivered by the Young Giant of the West—the champion and exponent of a newer and higher civilization—shakes the old systems of the world to their foundations, and foretells a quick shift of the center of the dominion of the world's politics, commerce, and intellectual and industrial activities. To-day, as the result of that battle, the world turns its eyes most eagerly on Washington, as it once in turn looked with most anxious interest on Athens, Carthage, Rome, Constantinople, Madrid, Paris, and London.

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The world stands agast at the stunning victory. It is the first time that the higher types of the modern battleships have been put into battle by highly civilized peoples, and the overwhelming triumph of the Americans starts the whole world as it has not been startled by any one event for centuries. It overthrows far more than Spain, and in a few brief but momentous hours the supremacy of the United States upon the seas was established.

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THE AMERICAN LORDSHIP OF THE SEAS

Was Firmly Established by the Great Naval Battle off Santiago, July 3, 1898.

GLoucester

Oregon

Brooklyn

Texas Iowa

Special correspondence of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE
CRUISER ST. PAUL

Dramatic Story of Her Encounter with the Terror.

How She Put Out of the Battle the Torpedo-Boat Destroyer—Sharp Manuvering To Separate Her and Her Consort—Good Work By American Gunners.

BY HERBERT M. ARMSTRONG, CHIEF YO-

MAN, U. S. S. ST. PAUL

The St. Paul, having parted company with the blockading squadron off Santiago de Cuba, arrived off the harbor of San Juan, Puerto Rico, on the morning of the 22d of June, after a cruise of two days and a night along the southern coast of Haiti in search of Spanish vessels. Aside from the boarding of one British steamer for contraband, the cruise was uneventful. But the events of the first day off San Juan were enough to cheer the hearts of the officers and "old salts" who had spent their years in the service without fearing that they would be called to action, and of the fresh recruits who were eager to try the mettle of the Spaniards.

It fell to the honor of the St. Paul to fight the second naval engagement of the war. A little after noon, the St. Paul, standing off the Morro, came in sight of a fortification, but beautiful and formidable looking fortress situated on a high bluff at the eastern entrance of the harbor, heading eastward with head on to the fresh trade wind, which was stirring up a rough sea, sight of a small rigging in the harbor, but as it rounded the Morro we made it out to be either the Infanta Isabel, or the Isabel II, which are sister ships of the Don Juan de Austria and Don Antonio de Ulloa, which were sent to the harbor to capture Commodore Dewey's fleet at Manila. All hands were called to "General Quarters," and, at 12:30 p. m., the Isabel fired the first shot. We instantly replied whereupon the enemy, who had now advanced some distance toward the Morro, but still out of range, opened fire with a rapid broadside, completely enveloping herself in smoke.

Closely inshore, and under cover of this smoke, a torpedo-boat destroyer had stolen her course, but she had not gone far when she was discovered by the Isabel. The Isabel now moved a little to the westward, firing quite frequently, and we, in turn, replied with an occasional gatling shell to test the range and to let the Dons know that we were ready for them. Their broadside was so well directed that it cut through the Isabel's signal tower, completely enveloping herself in smoke.

The Isabel, however, continued to fire, and the soldiers and sailors of the Spanish force were not much better. The Isabel now moved a little to the westward, firing quite frequently, and we, in turn, replied with an occasional gatling shell to test the range and to let the Dons know that we were ready for them. Their broadside was so well directed that it cut through the Isabel's signal tower, completely enveloping herself in smoke.

Although Gen. Total was probably anxious to resist to the bitter end, the utter hopelessness of holding out against a siege by land and sea must be forcing him to yield. His losses have been heavy. The reinforcements were seen with vessels, communicating with the station on the signal-tower in back of the Morro, and from which their movements were probably directed. Apparently it was the intention of the crew of the Isabel to hold on until range of the Morro and the shore batteries. But Capt. Sigbee would undertake no such foolhardy course; for, besides the 8, 10 and 12-inch guns mounted on shore, more dangerous to a vessel of our deep draft were the shoals as the ship approached the shore.

No other American ship was hit during the engagement, which lasted only a few minutes.

The Reina Mercedes sank at once. It was not known whether she attempted to escape from the harbor or whether the Spanish had tried to sink her near the hull of the Merrimac, and thus to block the entrance to prevent the Americans from getting in.

The Alfonso XII., the best vessel the Spaniards had at Havana, was discovered trying to run the blockade. Fire was opened on her, and she was driven ashore and destroyed. She was an iron gunboat

and high-gum-power combined in a way that we had not approached. The traditions of 400 years of Spanish sea-power inspired their officers.

The final demonstration—the supreme test of the value of European and American ideas—came on the morning of July 3. The Spanish Admiral attempted to execute a well-conceived plan of piercing our line of blockade and escaping to the sea. In spite of all that is said to the contrary, the plan was a very hopeful one. If the crews could have changed ships the Americans would have carried out the plan to entire success. The Spaniards had a compact squadron of four very fast ships, so heavily armored as to seemingly defy pounding, and armed with guns stronger than the average armament of our ships. Our vessels were scattered over a line so long that the more distant could not arrive on the scene until the battle was decided. Cervera had much reason to hope that he could hurl himself upon a part of the line, quickly overpower the ships he might encounter, and make good his escape before we could concentrate our superior force upon him. He was foiled, overwhelmed, and utterly crushed by an amazing superiority in the American ships in every essential feature of naval warfare.

The fleet tactics were such as to at once throw against him a combination of force equal to his own, and force him to a battle on nearly equal terms. Then, our ships were handled with the greatest skill, the discipline of the crews was perfect, the machinery and appointments of every one of our ships was fully equal to the terrible strain put upon them, and the marksmanship of our gunners was beyond anything ever dreamed of in naval warfare. The most of the fight was broadside to broadside between ships of comparatively even strength. But our fire overwhelmed the enemy, shattered his armor, pierced to the vitals of his ships, covered his decks with oil and wounded, and destroyed his motive power, while we lost but one man killed, and sustained no

injury to our men.

Never in the world has there been seen such a conclusive battle won, because it demonstrates a naval superiority in Americans such as no other people who ever fought at sea have been able to show. In all naval victories previous to those of Manila and Santiago the vanquished have shown an ability to cope with the victors that gave at least the foundation of a hope that another trial might result differently. There can be no such ray of hope in the Spanish breast. It is doubtful if any Frenchman, German, Italian or Russian can really expect to come off a great deal better in a contest with the astonishing Americans.

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EXCHANGE OF LIEUT. HOBOSON.

The Spaniards finally agreed to surrender Lieut. Hobson and his men. The place decided upon was a tree about two-thirds of a mile in front of the center of the town, where the British Red Cross Society had its headquarters.

They have killed two Surgeons, Daniel and Tracy, and are now being held as prisoners of war. It has not been decided what to do with them, but we thought likely that they will be executed.

Two of them at least are former convicts.

AWAITING REINFORCEMENTS.

Everything is awaiting at Santiago the arrival of sufficient reinforcements to allow the capture of the city.

Gen. Shafter appears to think that the city could be now taken if Admiral Sampson would enter the harbor.

But most people do not think it would be wise to risk the sinking of a single ship for the purpose of capturing Santiago when it would only have been necessary to take Agudores to make the capture of Morro Castle easy.

TWO MORE SPANISH SHIPS DESTROYED.

Just after midnight of Monday, the cruiser Reina Mercedes was seen drifting slowly out of the narrow entrance of Santiago by the American scouts.

In moments the fleet—sixty ships and almost instantly an awful hail of shells was hammering down upon her.

It is not known whether she returned to the harbor, but two of them were suffering from remittent fever.

They said that on the whole they had been well-treated, and given good food and quarters,

and that there was disposition on the part

of some of the officers and men to treat them savagely. They were loud in their praises of Admiral Cervera's chivalrous courtesy.

The Civil Governor of Santiago, Senor Lopez de Mier, Senor Bustamante, the President of the Upper Court of Justice came to Caney and delivered themselves up to our forces. They had been forbidden by Gen. Total to leave the town, but fearing death, they sneaked away, and the mountains in a crowd of refugees, and the Americans allowed them to treat them savagely. They were loud in their praises of Admiral Cervera's chivalrous courtesy.

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