

# HONORS TO DEWEY.

### President's Message to Congress Reciting His Great Victory

#### SUGGESTING VOTE OF THANKS.

A RESOLUTION TO THAT EFFECT INTRODUCED IMMEDIATELY ON THE CONCLUSION OF THE READING OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S COMMUNICATION—BILL PASSED INCREASING THE NUMBER OF REAR ADMIRALS SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE DESERVED PROMOTION OF THE HERO OF MANILA BAY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 9.—The President to-day sent the following message to Congress to-day: To the Congress of the United States: On the 24th of April I directed the secretary of the navy to telegraph orders to Commodore George Dewey, of the United States navy, commanding the Asiatic squadron then lying in the port of Hong Kong, to proceed forthwith to the Philippine Islands, there to commence operations and engage the assembled Spanish fleet.

Promptly obeying that order the United States squadron consisting of the flagship Olympia, Baltimore, Raleigh, Boston, Concord and Petrel, with the revenue cutter McCulloch as an auxiliary dispatch boat, entered the harbor of Manila at day break on the 1st of May and immediately engaged the entire Spanish fleet of eleven ships.

PIANO.  
**Dewey May Be Said To Be An "Engine In Trousers," :: ::**  
 — but his victory at Manila harbor was no greater than ours will be over all competition if you will but stop to carefully examine the merits of the

**Stultz & Bauer**  
 Piano. **من من من**  
 — We know that comparison is a powerful search light, yet that is just what we want.

**Milligan, Wilkin & Co.**  
 1138, 1140 and 1142 Market St.  
**Buy the Waldo**  
 — Mandolins, Guitars and Banjeaux and you will make no mistake.

the President of the United States be requested to cause this resolution to be communicated to Commodore Dewey, and through him to the officers and men under his command."  
**DEWEY A REAR ADMIRAL.**  
 WASHINGTON, D. C., May 9.—The following is the bill passed by Congress raising the number of admirals from six to seven, to provide for Commodore Dewey's promotion:  
 Section 1.—That the number of rear

everything into the streets. The civil guards intervened and a desperate struggle followed in the passages of the building. The rioters were finally driven out by the civil guards, who frequently fired into the mob. Some of the rioters procured guns and returned the fire. Fourteen persons are said to have been killed and about sixty wounded. The local forces are not considered strong enough to cope with the disturbance and reinforcements of troops have been asked for.

After forcing an entrance into the town hall, the rioters pillaged the building, subsequently they captured the residence of the tax collector by assault. They demolished everything in sight, stole 2,100,000 pesos and a box of jewels, and attempted to set fire to the house.

Serious disorders have occurred at Brones, near Seville, at which place the village priest has been stoned to death. Revised figures show that twelve men were killed and fifty wounded. The bodies of the killed and the wounded persons were allowed to lie in the streets, the fusillade from the town hall being so incessant that it was impossible to rescue the wounded.

The last reports received from Lingres said the fighting was continuing and that, profiting by the confusion, merchants and others were introducing quantities of goods into the town without paying the duties.

### IF WE TAKE PORTO RICO.

Spain will be Crippled—Only Available Spot Which she Now Has in North American Water at Which to Strengthen the Sins of her War.

New York Press: Porto Rico's direct value to the United States while the war with Spain lasts is strategic. Even in the old days of sailing ships this island, and especially its capital, the fortified and strong harbor of San Juan de Porto Rico, were the objective points of almost every British expedition against the Spanish West Indies. That was because a fleet of sailing warships had to own a place where damages could be repaired, where fresh provisions could be obtained and where the sick and wounded men could be treated. Now in the day of the steamship, the possession of a fortified harbor near the scene of any considerable naval action is a necessity. The most desperate personal bravery is useless without it. The need simply has been changed from that of the old days to a new and paramount one, that of coal. Without coal a modern fleet is helpless. It lacks not only motive power, but even the power to fight its big guns, for they are worked with steam or with compressed air or electricity, which demand steam as the prime mover.

### PREY TO LIGHT ENEMIES.

In the whole western world Spain has no coaling basis when she is deprived of Cuba and Porto Rican ports. It is all well enough to speak of coaling at sea, but there is no naval commander who does not know that it is a desperate chance to take in the face of a watchful and strong enemy. Coaling vessels are a ready prey to swift vessels, even though they be practically unarmored and lightly armed like our great fleet of hastily equipped auxiliary cruisers.

The possession of Porto Rico, then, at this time, even though its direct value to us were not great, is of enormous indirect benefit because it cripples Spain. Without Porto Rico as a port of call and a supply base, the Spanish vessels must steam more than one thousand miles further west to reach the next port, that of Havana, and every mile that they steam in this direction means a mile further into a possible trap from which they may never emerge. They can reach Porto Rico from the open sea, where at least they have an even chance to manoeuvre and a fair chance to run if they must, for their squadron speed is good. But let them once be forced to steam further west and they are in a network of islands and channels where a battle means that they must take it as and when it is offered by the enemy and where defeat means surrender or destruction.

### THE ONLY WAY OUT.

Porto Rico is the most eastern of the Greater Antilles. Stretching westward and northward thence like a big chain are San Domingo, an independent and neutral island; Jamaica, a British and neutral possession; and Cuba, a hornet's nest, blockaded from the sea and limited on shore except in a few harbors which may be in the possession of the United States at any time. The strength of this chain may be understood best from the fact that in one of the more recent geological periods these islands formed a bridge of solid land between the North and South American continents. They are separated to-day by narrow sea passages, and if the Spanish fleet gives unsuccessful battle inside of these islands, its only way back to Spain or to the Canaries, the nearest port at which it can refit, is through the narrow Windward Passage between Cuba and San Domingo or through the still more narrow Mona Passage between San Domingo and Porto Rico.

The only other way out of the trap would be the southern course, through the Caribbean Sea, and thence through the maze of the Leeward Islands, which are owned by Great Britain, a nation



**PRESIDENT THOMAS ESTRADA PALMA.**  
 The Man Who Has Fought Hardest in the Civil List for Cuban Independence.

No man rejoices more over the Cuban situation than does Thomas Estrada Palma, minister plenipotentiary from the provincial government of Cuba. Thomas Estrada Palma was born in Bayamo, Cuba, in 1838. He was the son of one of the wealthiest growers on the island. At an early age he was sent to Spain to school. There he received a magnificent education and returned to

Cuba a finished linguist in French, English, Russian, German, Italian and Spanish. Soon after his return the condition of Cuba appealed to him and he entered the ten years' war as a volunteer, fighting for Cuban liberty. He was the author of the bill framed by the Cuban provincial government that any man who accepted peace on any other terms than those of absolute independence should be shot. He saw this order executed many times.

Mr. Palma succeeded Don Carlos de Cespedes as president of the Cuban government and ruled wisely until such time as was thought best to send him to this country. He came here to represent Cuba, and he nobly worked at the head of the Cuban Junta. When the junta went out of existence he went to Washington and directed Cuban affairs from there. For a long time he maintained a private academy at Centerville, N. Y., where his wife and daughter now live.

distinctly in favor of the United States. There are few coaling stations great enough to supply any considerable number of ships there, and it would take much coal to reach them, going at top speed, as a feeling feet would have to go.

In peace Porto Rico is of great value to the United States in two ways—one as a rich and productive possession, and the other as a key to the Caribbean Sea, a sea which will control the great Nicaragua Canal. It is settled as a matter of the highest policy that this great canal must not be left uncontrolled, and that no nation except the United States must be permitted to hold that control. We cannot exercise the authority without a foothold in the West Indies, and the only really good position in the West Indies is the group known as the Greater Antilles. In that group Great Britain owns a fine coaling station and military, naval and commercial base in the island of Jamaica. San Domingo is controlled by the two independent republics of San Domingo and Hayti.

Cuba will be free, and whatever influence her position will have on the control of the canal and the commerce through it will be almost directly under the hand of the United States. The possession of Porto Rico thus will complete a chain of defense which will bring the control of the waterway directly under the two great Anglo-Saxon nations of the world. That those two nations will have more interests in common from year to year is clear, for the other European powers are following policies which bid fair to make it a question soon of Great Britain and America against the world, industrially, at least. With Hawaii on the Pacific side, and

Porto Rico on the Atlantic entrance, the greater part of the commerce to the Orient is in our hands and we will exercise the same enormous influence on the world that Great Britain does now through her control of the Suez Canal.

Aside from the importance of the island in this respect, Porto Rico should be a profitable addition to the territory of this country, for it is not only healthy, but its climate is much more healthy and supportable than that of other West Indian islands. Its shores are mountainous, and there is comparatively little fever in its cities. Harbors are not abundant, but they are good, and its principal city, San Juan de Porto Rico, could be made a great trading port if it were in the hands of a thriving commonwealth instead of in the grasp of a bankrupt and selfish nation that cares only for the last bitter cent which it can grind out of the country.

### SIZE OF THE ISLAND.

The island is a beautiful one, and makes a delightful place to visit. It is as large as two Rhode Islands, having an area of 3,550 square miles. It is about 100 miles long and thirty-six miles wide. Its population numbers about 800,000, of which there are about 23,000 in the pretty capital of San Juan de Porto Rico.

Dotting the rich mountain sides that face the lazy seas are many sugar, coffee and tobacco plantations. There is gold on the island, as there is in most of the West Indies, and this particular one was the scene of much fighting in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries on account of the stories of its wonderful wealth.

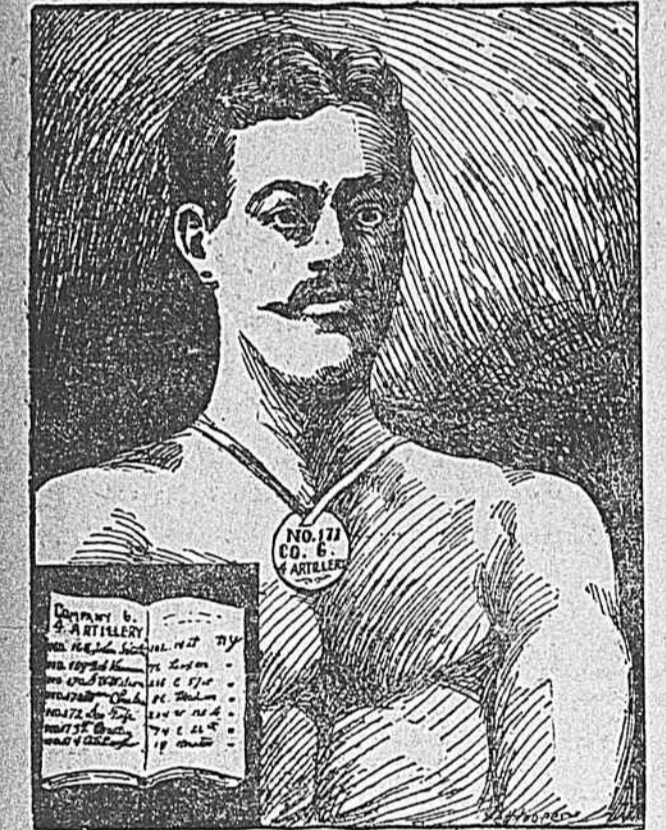
Columbus discovered Porto Rico in

1493, and Ponce de Leon, in his search for gold and the fountain of youth, conquered it in the early part of the sixteenth century. The Spaniards went through the quiet and peaceful place like furies for many years, and did not desist even when the original inhabitants had been exterminated. Slaves were brought from other islands and they, in turn, were killed.

### EPIDEMIC OF SMALLPOX.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.  
**WELCH, W. Va., May 9.**—A smallpox epidemic is raging throughout this section and is assuming alarming conditions. Fifty cases are reported at Pocahontas, Va., and twenty more scattered through the coal fields. Criminal court has adjourned at this place on account of one of the jurors who was exposed to the disease taking seriously ill, and his sickness has developed into a genuine case of smallpox. Strict quarantine has been established against the infected districts, and the authorities are doing all in their power to check the disease.

**M. L. YOCUM, Cameron, Pa., says:** "I was a sufferer for ten years, trying most all kinds of pills, remedies, but without success. De Witt's Witch Hazel Salve was recommended to me. I used one box. It has effected a permanent cure." As a permanent cure for piles De Witt's Witch Hazel Salve has no equal. Charles R. Goetz, Market and Twelfth streets; Chatham Sinclair, Forty-sixth and Jacob streets; A. E. Scheele, No. 607 Main street; Exley Bros., Penn and Zane streets; Bowle & Co., Bridgeport.



### OUR SAILOR BOYS TO BE TAGGED.

Each one of our boys in Cuba will be decorated by the war department with a metal tag which will be worn around the neck and will be inscribed with his number and company. By comparing the number on the tag with the number in the book which will be kept by the war department, also a duplicate to be kept by the captain of the company, the soldier's name, address and nearest relative will be found. In this way no hero will go to an unnamed grave.

which were under the protection of the fire of the land forts. After a stubborn fight, in which the enemy suffered great loss, these vessels were destroyed or completely disabled and the water battery at Cavite silenced. Of our brave officers and men not one was lost and only eight injured, and those slightly. All of our ships escaped any serious damage. By the fourth of May, Commodore Dewey had taken possession of the naval station at Cavite, destroying the fortifications there and at the entrance of the bay and paroling their garrisons. The waters of the bay are under his complete control. He has established hospitals within the American lines where two hundred and fifty of the Spanish sick and wounded are assisted and protected.

The magnitude of the victory can hardly be measured by the ordinary standards of naval warfare. Outweighing any material advantage is the moral effect of this initial success. At this unsurpassed achievement, the great heart of our nation throbs, not with boasting or with greed of conquest, but with deep gratitude that this triumph has come in a just cause and that by the grace of God an effective step has thus been taken toward the attainment of the wished-for peace. To those whose skill, courage and devotion have won the fight, to the gallant commander and the brave officers and men who aided him, our country owes an incalculable debt.

Feeling as our people feel and speaking in their name I at once sent a message to Commodore Dewey, thanking him and his officers and men for their splendid achievement and overwhelming victory, and informing him that I had appointed him an acting rear admiral.

I now recommend that following our national precedents and expressing the fervent gratitude of every patriotic heart, the thanks of Congress be given Acting Rear Admiral George Dewey, of the United States navy, for highly distinguished conduct in conflict with the enemy, and to the officers and men under his command for their gallantry in the destruction of the enemy's fleet and the capture of the enemy's fortifications in the Bay of Manila.

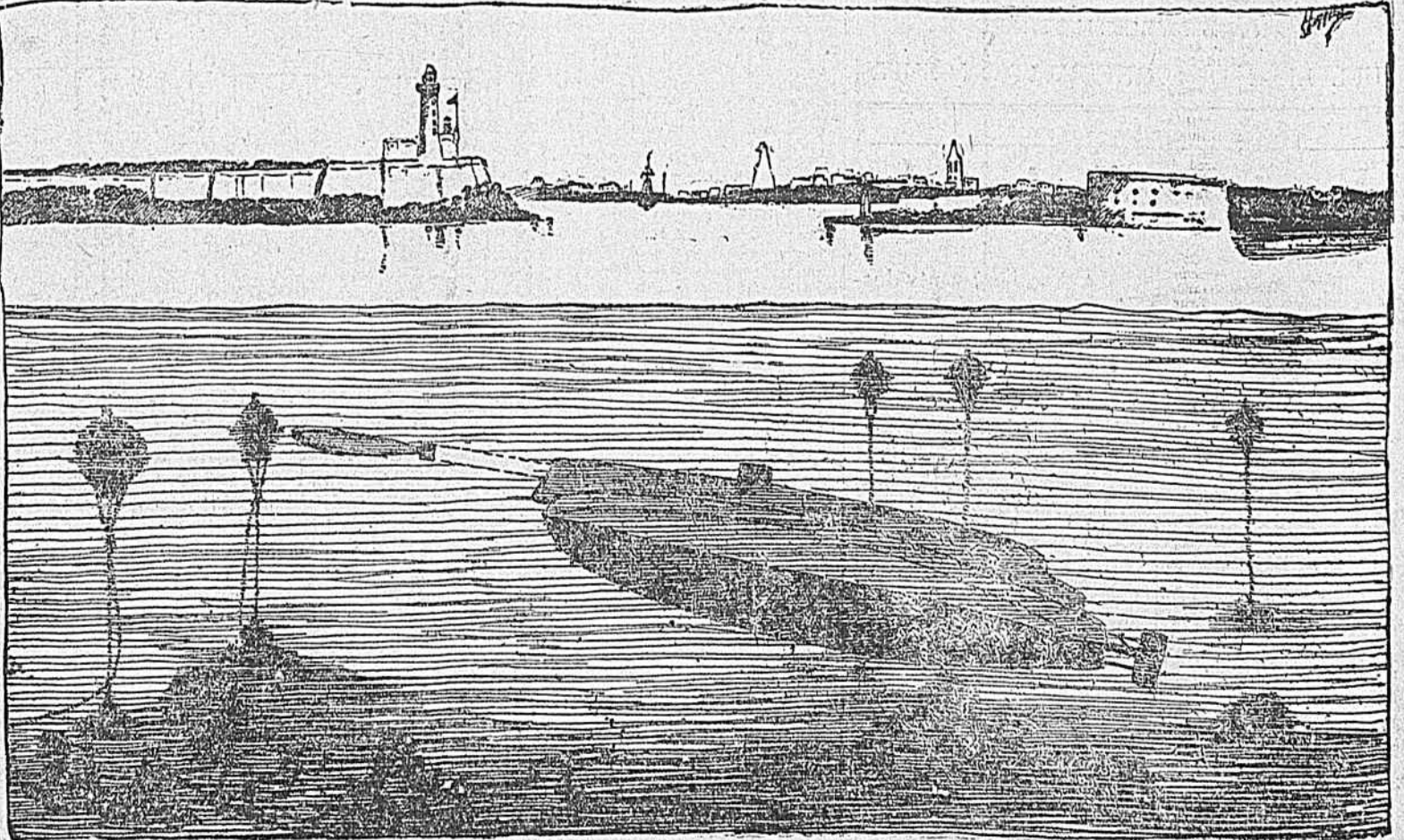
(Signed,) WILLIAM McKINLEY, Executive Mansion, May 9, 1898.  
 Immediately after the reading of the message the following joint resolution was introduced in the house:  
 "Resolved, By the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that in pursuance of the recommendation of the President, made in accordance with the provisions of section 1508, of the revised statutes, the thanks of Congress and of the American people are hereby tendered to Commodore George Dewey, United States navy, commander-in-chief of the Asiatic station, for highly distinguished conduct in conflict with the enemy as displayed by him in the destruction of the Spanish fleet and batteries in the harbor of Manila, Philippine Islands, May 1, 1898.  
 Section 2, That the thanks of Congress and of the American people are hereby extended through Commodore Dewey, to the officers and men under his command, for the gallantry and skill exhibited by them on that occasion.  
 Section 3, Be it further resolved, that

admirals in the United States navy now allowed by law be and is hereby increased from six to seven, and this act shall be construed and taken as validating and making in force and effect any promotion to said rank of rear admiral in the United States navy made heretofore or hereafter, and during the existing war and based on the thanks of Congress.

### SPAIN'S INTERNAL TROUBLES.

Serious Rioting at Linares—Town Hall Pillaged—Twelve of the Rioters Killed.

MADRID, May 9.—There was serious rioting at Linares, twenty-three miles from Jaen yesterday. The mob assembled in front of the town hall and finding the doors locked, tore out the windows, swarmed into the building and threw



**HOLLAND SUBMARINE BOAT IN HAVANA WATERS.**  
 The Holland submarine boat has been sent by the United States government to Havana waters, and she is now there waiting for orders to blow up the mines in the harbor of Havana. Now that this submarine boat is with our fleet the mines in Havana harbor are absolutely useless. It can clear the harbor of mines in less than thirty minutes, and then our entire fleet can sail in safety into the harbor of Havana and can destroy the city with perfect safety.