

The fort we are in is a good deal like the Utah penitentiary. It has a high wall all round and the windows are covered with iron bars. We look like prisoners. In fact we are. They only let five of us out at a time. I have been out but once since we came here.

Night before last two Utah boys from Battery B were over at Cavite. The natives shot one of them dead and the other can't live. I don't just know how it happened but I believe the boys were a drunken row and being drunk themselves got into a quarrel that ended in the shooting. GEORGE.

PRaises FOR UTAH TROOPS.

Martin J. Egan, special war correspondent of the San Francisco Chronicle, has a full page, illustrated, in that journal of scenes around Manila during the siege in which the Spanish were routed and the city taken. The correspondent gives full praise to the Utah troops for their gallantry. He says:

Half an hour before the fleet got into position the Utah artillery opened from behind the breastworks south of Malate and were planting shells in Malate as fast as their seven guns could be worked, and off on the right the Astor battery, with one battery of the Utah's, began on Blockhouse 14. The operations in the immediate vicinity of Malate could be plainly seen from the fleet, but a column of white smoke that arose from the bamboo forest was the only signal to the fleet of the bloody work off on the right.

Suddenly there was a burst of flame and smoke from the starboard battery of the Olympia, a great jet of water shot up close to shore and then a resounding report echoed across the water. The Olympia had opened at 4,000 yards with an eight-inch, and in the haze that a drizzling rain made along the beach had misjudged the range of Malate. She followed a moment later with a six-pounder that was fired by mistake, and then with a couple of fives that went to their mark. It was 9:55 o'clock when the flagship opened, and it was some minutes before she got the range.

Then the Raleigh opened with her six and followed with a series of fives, and next the Petrel with her sixes. The Raleigh and Petrel were more fortunate than the Olympia in getting the range, and the majority of their opening shots exploded in the Spanish ranks. The game little Callao, commanded by Lieutenant Tappan, was the next to open, and after her the pigmylike Barcole with her rapid-fire piece. Off on the left drifted the rest of the fleet with every gun loaded and primed, but silent. Their orders were not to fire on the walled city unless the city batteries opened. The Spanish batteries remained silent, too, and the rest of the fleet was not engaged. The Olympia, Raleigh, Petrel and Callao kept on pounding Malate, the gunners of the Utah battery hammered away and the First Colorado in the trenches with the artillery sent in volley after volley.

The fleet was partially hidden in a cloud of smoke that was weighted down and kept in place by a light rain and over the fort that was a target for hundreds of guns hung another equally heavy cloud. The effect of the fire was terrific. The walls of the fort were torn down, buildings were destroyed by exploding shells and the beach and road were plowed up. The Spanish made no reply to the fire of the fleet, and the bombardment lacked the dash and excitement of an engagement. At 10:15 o'clock all four ships had the range perfectly and were mak-

ing Malate and its environs too hot for the Spanish, who commenced to retire. Greene at once began advancing along the beach, and when the jack tars made out the little brown column, with its bright banners waving above it, they broke into a cheer.

At 10:30 o'clock Dewey signaled to stop firing, and a few minutes later Major Thompson's signal station on shore signaled to ask that fire be kept off the fort at Malate, as the American troops had occupied it. The signal had hardly been read before an American flag went to the top of the staff of the fort, and there was another cheer from the watching fleet. The Callao was sent close in shore to cover the advance of the American troops, and the flagship, followed by the Raleigh and Petrel, steamed up the bay to a point opposite the walled city. The flagship slowed down off the Luneta and raised the international signal, "Do you surrender?" It was just 11 o'clock, and the guns of the Olympia, Monterey, Baltimore, Boston, Charleston, Raleigh, Petrel, Concord and McCullough were trained on the city batteries. All were in easy range and all were ready.

It was an anxious moment for the die must be quickly cast. True to his nature the Spaniard was for procrastination and to the top of the signaling staff on the walls of the city went a request for a conference. It was decided to give Haudenes one and Dewey selected Flag Lieutenant Brumby as his representative and Merritt, who had watched the progress of the fight from the Zafiro, delegated General Whittier as his. The two officers were taken ashore in the launch of Belgian Consul Andrea, which, under a flag of truce, had hovered about the fleet all through the morning, waiting for the conference of surrender. Brumby and Whittier were not met at the landing. They spent nearly half an hour in an effort to get into the walled city before they connected with a couple of carriages that had been tardily sent to meet them. They were escorted in and held a lengthy conference that was not decisive and necessitated a further reference to General Merritt.

The three commands in position were part of the brigade of Gen. MacArthur and were sent against blockhouse No. 14. They advanced from the east end of the Pasay road and it was with the greatest difficulty that the guns were got into position. One battery of Utah artillery had advanced also and got in to position first. The mountaineers opened fire and were sending in shell hot and fast when the New Yorkers got into position. Both found the range very quickly and centered a terrible fire on the sturdy stone house and the trenches and rifle pits around it. The infantry moved up quickly and added the force of a series of well-directed volleys to the storm of shell that centered among the Spanish.

The fight there did not last long. The Spanish made a spirited reply, but when sections of the blockhouse came tumbling down on their heads concluded it was time to leave. The retreat was along the road leading Singalon and through the swamps and jungles that skirt it on either side. The Spanish retreat was followed by an immediate advance, but the battery could only make poor progress. The men had to drag their guns along after them and they mired every few rods, the wheels sank to the hubs and it seemed a hopeless task. The men were not to be stayed, however, and pressed on. They were not aware of the position of the Spanish and did not care. Their objective was Manila and onward they pressed as quickly as they could drag their cannon.

After Singalon had been stormed MacArthur's advance guard skirmished its way into Ernita, which immediately adjoins the walled city on the south. On the right the fighting began with heavy firing from the front and right. The Utah Battery opened the battle there and sent a hail of shell and shrapnel into Manila. The First Colorado, which also occupied the trenches, opened simultaneously and sent volley upon volley in along with the shells of the fleet and field pieces.

OUR INVALID ARMY.

While the work of transporting the conquered Spanish soldiers back to their native land has been progressing, there has been a simultaneous transfer of the conquering American troops from Santiago to the United States. If the Spaniards had fully realized how seriously the army of General Shafter had been weakened by hardships and disease, it is scarcely probable that General Toral would have surrendered without further resistance. The American people will not be satisfied until they are convinced that every phase of the Santiago campaign has been rigidly investigated, with no political screen for the negligent or the guilty. It is declared that this country—the richest and presumably the most enlightened in the world—dispatched an army to the tropical jungles of eastern Cuba at the height of the season of rains and fevers, without medical supplies or any kind of adequate provision whatsoever for the principal dangers that everyone knew the army would encounter. To send the army to Santiago without every precaution against the real enemy—namely, the fever fiend—was every whit as absurd as it would have been to send it without ammunition for the rifles. There is not even the excuse that the expedition was gotten off in haste. It took an inordinate time after Cervera's fleet had been bottled up in Santiago harbor by our navy to get General Shafter's army on board the transports and fairly started. Unhappily, there has seemed, even after these matters had been pointed out, very little capacity on the part of the authorities of the army to improve sanitary conditions. Nothing could have been more severe than the physical examination to which the volunteers were subjected when the regiments were formed at the opening of the war. We sent into the various camps something like three hundred thousand young men, every one of whom was in excellent health. It needs no argument to show that the experience of being in camp in the United States in the pleasant months of May, June and July, far from breaking down the health of these young men, ought to have just the opposite effect. The regular life, systematic drilling, and careful attention to personal and camp hygiene that were not only feasible, but plainly obligatory, ought to have put our army into a superb physical condition by August or September. That is what would have happened in France or Germany. It is not what has happened in the United States. The camps have been infested with typhoid fever, malaria, and enteric troubles of all sorts, with the alleged result of a shocking average degree of debilitation.—From "The Progress of the World," in the American Monthly Review of Reviews for September.

Two freight trains united in a head-end collision at Grace, a small station on the Short Line east of Soda Springs, Tuesday night. The injured are Conductor Byrne and Brakeman Griest and Fireman Kellburg is said to be missing. The wreck will delay trains ten or twelve hours.