FOUR AMERICANS KILLED

Sixteen Hours' Battle with Spanish Forces at Guantanamo.

FIRST ATTACK BY THE SPANIARDS.

Fighting Lasted All Night—Spanish Loss Unknown, but it is Believed to be Heavy.

By Special Dispatch to the Associated Press. Jacksonville, Fla., June 12.—Via Kingston, Jamaica, June 12.—(Copyrighted, 1898.) The following is the Associated Press dispatch from Guantanamo, Cuba, June 11, via Haiti, June 12, as received by the Associated Press at Kingston, Jamaica, June 12: Four men were killed and one wounded today in the fighting between the Spanish forces and the Americans at Guantanamo. The Spanish forces were driven back from the trenches around the hill guarding the entrance to the harbor of Guantanamo, but were repulsed in heading off a rash attack of the Spanish guerrillas and regulars on a picket Saturday afternoon.

The fighting was almost continuous for about hours, until a truce was made when reinforcements were sent from the Morro fort. Four men were killed and one wounded. The adverse reports made by Lieut. Brumby and Shaw are unsupported by fact.

Among the killed is Assistant Surgeon John Blair Gibbs, son of Maj. Gibbs of the regular army, who fell in the Cuban campaign. His home was in Richmond, Va., but he has been practicing in New York and entered the service when the war began. He was a very popular officer. The others killed are Sergeant Charles H. Rudolph of Kentucky, Private William Dunfee of Gloucester, Mass., and Private James McGuire of Somerville, Mass. Sergeant Glass was accidentally wounded in the hand.

The Spanish loss is unknown but it is probably considerable. The bodies of men found at daylight at the positions the Spanish occupied in the evening, indicate, but their comrades carried off the killed and wounded.

The engagement began with desultory firing at the pickets, a hundred yards inside from the camp. Capt. Kent's company was doing picket duty at the front, and finally retiring on the camp and repulsing the enemy by a volley. The bodies of Private McGuire and Sergeant Rudolph were found close after daylight near Kent's lines. The large cavalry force of the Spanish, which inside a mile of the yards, have a battery and infantry, outnumber the volunteers very much at close range.

The bodies were stripped of shoes, and cartridge belts and pockets, and ammunition taken away. When they were brought in the whole battalion lined three sides of a hollow square and the camp on the hilltop. Below the camp were the wreckage of shanties in the land front of the camp in Guantanamo and behind the air strong line of the different country, as every inch of the ground was taken. The sky was twinkled with rocket and when the sun set a war blooming forward. Night is also black impenetrable. The dense force concealed in the chaparral gave had the advantage, the enemy fire,