the colony, when the most terrible and gloomy accounts of drouths in New South Wales were written, those which have afforded such abundance of sen-sational material to later writers hav-ing no personal knowledge of the Aus-tralian colonies, the nearest place from which supplies could be obtained was the Cape of Good Hope. Those were the days of slow sailing vessels, and the delay and difficulty experienced in obtaining the necessary supplies naturally assisted in magnifying the terrors of drouth. But those times have passed away. Intercolonial rali-ways and ocean steam navigation have completely revolutionized the situa-tion. Moreover, only a comparatively small portion of the island continent was settled.

completely revolutionized the situa-tion. Moreover, only a comparatively small portion of the island continent was settled. With the progress of settlement came change, for a drouth does not by any means affect all the Austrian colonies at once; and the seed of one becomes to not explore the average of another, so that drouths have become shorn of their olden terror, and it is only in the pas-toral districts, the Australian" dry woutry," that they become formidable. But even there the utilization of vast subterranean supplies of water, by argin, drouths, as a rule, cover but a orver involving the whole of a colony, even of New South Wales, at once; and tis a common thing when a district is built and evelcome change. The again, drouths to move the live fock to another in which water and feed are plentiful. It may also be further than it otherwise would. The built the pastoralists to overstore this to another in which water so this to another in which water so this a common thing when a district is an advisor of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-abundance of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-abundance of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-abundance of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-abundance of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-abundance of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-abundance of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-abundance of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-abundance of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-abundance of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-abundance of grass and water continu-tive stock that the frequent super-stock that the frequent super-stock the and desolation;" the "sun rises of a hazy morning, satis in a white start through a cloud starts the imagination of a hazy morning starts in a white start through a cloud star

ILA QUASINA BATTLE.

ILA QUASINA BATTLE. Juragua, Cuba, June 25.—Per Associat-ed Press Dispatch boat Dandy, via Kingston, Jamaica, June 26.—[Copy-righted, 1898, by the Associated Press.] —The initial fight of Col. Wood's rough riders and the troopers of the First and Tenth regular cavalry will be known in history as the battle of La Quasina. That it did not end in the complete slaughter of the Americans was not due to any miscalculation in the plan of the Spanish, for as perfect an am-buscade as was ever formed in the brain of an Apache Indian was pre-pared and Lieut. Col. Roosevelt and his men walked squarely into it. For an hour and a half they held their ground under a perfect storm of builets from the front and sides and then Col. Wood at the right and Col. Roosevelt at the left led a charge which turned the tide of battle and sent the enemy fiying over the hills toward Santiago. It is now definitely known that fif-teen men on the American side were killed, while sixty were wounded or

It is now definitely known that fif-teen men on the American side were killed, while sixty were wounded or are reported to be missing. It is im-possible to calculate the Spanish loss-es, but it is known they were far heav-ier than those of the Americans, at least as regards actual losses of life. Already thirty-seven dead Spanish sol-diers have been found and buried, buried,

while many others are undoubtedly lying in the thick underbrush on the side of the gully and on the slope of the hill where the main body of the enemy was located. The wounded were all removed. That the Specie

That the Spanlards were thoroughly posted as to the route to be taken by the Americans in their movements to-ward Sevilla was evident as shown by the careful preparations they had made. The main body of the Spanlards was posted on a hill, on the heavily wooded slopes of which had been erect-ed two blockhouses flanked by irregu-lar intrenchments of stone and fallen irres.

trees. At the bottom of these hills run two roads, along which Lieut.-Col. Roose-velt's men and eight troops of the First and Tenth cavalry, with a battery of four howitzers, advanced. These roads are but little more than gullies, rough and narrow, and at places almost im-passable. In these trails the fight oc-curred curred.

Nearly half a mile separated Roose-velt's men from the regulars, and be-tween them and on both sides of the road in the thick underbrush was con-cealed a force of Spaniards that must cealed a force of Spaniards that must have been large, judging from the ter-rific and constant fire they poured in on the Americans. The fight was opened by the First and Tenth cavalry, under Gen. Young. A force of Spaniards was known to be in the vicinity of La Queeing and

A force of Spaniards was known to be in the vicinity of La Quasina, and early in the morning Lieut. Col. Roose-velt's men started off up the precipi-tous bluff back of Siboney to attack the Spaniards on their right flank, Gen. Young at the same time taking the road at the foot of the hill. About two and a half miles out from Siboney, some Cubans, breathless and

Siboney, some Cubans, breathless and excited, rushed into the camp with the announcement that the Spaniards were but a little way in front and strongly

but a little way in front and strongly entrenched. Quickly the Hotchkiss guns out in the front were brought to the rear, while a strong scouting line was thrown out. Then cautiously and in silence, the troops moved forward until a bend in the road disclosed a hill where the Spaniards were located. The guns were again brought to the front and placed in position, while the men crouched in the road, waiting impatiently to give Roosevelt's men, who were toiling over the little trail along the orest of the ridge, time to get up. Ae 7:30 a. m. Gen. Young gave the command to the men at the Hotchkiss guns to open fire. The command was the beginning of a fight that for stub-bornness has seldom been equaled. The in stant the Hotchkiss guns were fired, the hillsides commanding the road gave forth volley after volley from the Mau-sers of the Spanish. "Don't shoot until you see something to shoot at." yelled Gen. Young, and the men, with set jaws and gleaming eyes, obeyed the orders.

eyes, obeyed the orders.

eyes, obeyed the orders. Crawling along the edge of the road and protecting themselves as much as possible from the fearful fire of the Spanish, the troops, some of them stripped to the waist, watched the base of the hill, and when any part of a Spaniard became visible, they fired, and never for an instant did they faiter.

One husky warrior of the Tenth cavalry, with a ragged wound in his thigh, coolly knelt behind a rock, loaded and firing, and when told by one of his comrades that he was wounded, laughed and said: "Oh, that's all right. That's been there for some time."

In the meantime, away off to the left, was heard the crack of the rifles of Col. Wood's men and the regular, deeper-toned volley firing of the Span-ish. Over there the American losses were the greatest.

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left. "In the meantime the fire of the Spaniards had increased in volume, but, notwithstanding, an order for a general charge was given, and with a yell, the men sprang forward. Col. Roosevelt, in front of his men, snatched a rifle and ammunition belt from a wounded soldier, and cheering and yelling with his men led the advance. For a moment the bullets were sing-ing like a swarm of bees all around them and every instant some poor fel-low went down.

"On the right wing, Capt. McClin took had his leg broken with a bullet from a machine gun, while four of his men went down. At the same time men went down. At the same time Capt. Luna, of mfmmmmwwwaaaaaa Capt. Luna, of troop F, lost nine of his men. Then the reserves, troops K and E, were ordered up. Col. Wood with the right wing, charged straight at a blockhouse, 800 yards away and Col. Roosevelt, on the left charged at the same time. Up the men went, yelling like flends, and never stopping to re-turn the fire of the Spaniards, but kept on with a grim determination to cap-ture that bockhouse.

ture that bockhouse. "That charge was the end. When within 500 yards of the coveted point, the Spaniards broke and ran, and for the first time we had the pleasure which the Spaniards had been expe-riencing all through the engagement, of shooting with the enemy in sight." In the two hours' fighting, during which the volunteers battled with a concealed enemy, enough deeds of hero-ism were done to fill a volume. One of the men of troop E, desperately wounded, was lying squarely between the lines of fire. Surgeon Church hur-ried to his side, and with bullets pelt-ing all around him, calmly dreesed the man's wound, bandaged it and walked unconcernedly back, soon returning with two men and the litter. The