

nailed to pay out her cable and drop away and she did so. In the meantime on the Brooklyn the men in charge of the forward compartments went to their stations, closing the water tight compartments and preparing without any outward sign of excitement, for the expected collision. The Massachusetts cleared away her booms and prepared for the collision, not daring to ship the anchor for fear of running herself on the sandbar in close proximity or driving into the Texas.

Faster and faster went the Brooklyn toward the battleship and the men at the stations on both vessels stood unflinchingly ready to perform the special duty assigned to them in case of collision. There was no confusion. On the bridge with cool heads, sharp eyes and active brains, were Captain Cook and his executive officers, while on the after bridge not interfering with the management of the officers of the ship stood Commodore Schley and his lieutenant, Sears, watching with as little excitement as they watch a practice cruise, the big ships coming together.

A conflict of orders would have meant disaster but there was none. One order from the captain and one of the big anchors comes rattling up and the ship drifts on a little faster toward its evident fate. Then in obedience to the helm, the stern now almost scraping the Massachusetts bow swings out and the head, partly controlled by the anchor, swings in as if to take the blow. It is within a few yards of the huge battleship and all are awaiting the crash.

Captain Cook looks over the port side of the bridge and then says:

"Full speed astern."

There is a clang of bells, a shiver as the wheels turn and then the cruiser slides rapidly clear of the Massachusetts with barely a hand to spare.

"Cleverly done," says Commodore Schley, as he goes down to breakfast.

Clever seamanship, perfect discipline and cool headed judgment had averted a disaster.

"This ship obeyed her engines perfectly," said Captain Cook, modestly, after he had anchored further out.

The storm continued without abatement all day, and the patrol boats that keep the harbor closed had rough night's work. This morning there was little abatement of the gale.

Savannah, Ga., April 28.—The big storm reported up the coast last night had nearly spent itself when it reached here. No damage done.

Jacksonville, Fla., April 28.—No trace of the big storm on the upper coast was felt here.

Cape May, April 28.—The severe northeaster which began yesterday developed into the worst storm on the south Jersey coast since last October. The wind maintains a velocity of forty miles an hour. The rain fall has been one and eight-tenths inches for the twelve hours ending at 8 o'clock this morning, the heaviest in years. Three inches of snow fell about 1 o'clock this morning, followed by hail and rain. The tides are beating fiercely on the beach, and will probably damage the railway seriously. The meadows between the beach and mainland are massive seas.

Newport News, April 28, 3 p.m.—The warships have suffered no damage in the gale which is blowing. It is exceedingly rough, but all ships have their sea anchors down and are perfectly secure.

Vancouver, B. C., April 28.—Oriental advices received by steamer tell of a shocking massacre which occurred early on the morning of March 31st at a hamlet some 20 miles south of Talpoh, at the house of one Yang Kin Shang. It would appear, according to the information of one of the unfortunate family's neighbors, that a party

of over 20 robbers entered the house and murdered Yang, his wife, his mother and children and servants, fifteen persons in all, who resisted them in their attempt to loot the house and attack the daughters. When the raiders had butchered all the inmates they set the house on fire.

Easton, Pa., April 28.—The town of Dover, in Morris county, N. J., and the country within a radius of twenty miles was startled this afternoon by a series of terrific explosions, the first of which occurred in the Atlantic Powder company's works and the plant is now a mass of ruins. Six workmen were killed and four others were seriously injured, some probably fatally. The remains of the dead have not yet been recovered.

The dead are: Alfred Rarick, William Stumpf, Casper Ray, David Scheer, William Haycock and Elias Abers.

All the killed were married and leave families. The works were situated in an isolated spot seven miles from Dover, in a rough country. There were ten buildings in the group and all have been destroyed.

The first explosion occurred in one of the packing houses, caused, it is thought, by a spark from the pipe of a careless smoker. The concussion set off the explosives in another packing house near by. Debris and burning timbers of the wrecked buildings were carried high into the air and fell in a shower on the remaining buildings, setting fire to the main factory and the other five packing houses and the two shell houses. In a brief time the explosives in these buildings were set off and left death and destruction in their wake.

Washington, April 29.—Gen. Shafter, with his adjutant general, Col. Babcock, is expected to leave Washington tonight on his return to New Orleans.

The war department is very seriously concerned over the publication in some of the morning papers of its intention to select General Shafter to command the First detachment of troops to be sent to Cuba. To prevent any further disclosure of the plans of campaign Secretary Alger this morning issued a most sweeping order directed to all bureau chiefs of the war department and all officers on special duty, from the highest to the circumstances to give any information to the press on any subject connected with the war. While this seems to work a hardship upon the newspapers that feel impelled to aid rather than obstruct the government in its campaign, it is said to be necessary to meet the present conditions. This condition exists in the navy department.

Atlanta, Ga., April 30.—A special to the Journal from Key West says:

Fort Cabanas, a small fortified town, 35 miles west of Havana, on the northern coast of Cuba, was fired upon Friday evening, and demolished. The firing began at 6:30 and lasted 15 minutes. Ten shots were fired from the New York batteries. The New York and Helena tried to draw fire from the batteries of Havana and Mariel, but failed.

About noon the New York steamed up the west coast. Following the flagship for quite a distance came the Iowa, Indiana, Helena and torpedo boats Porter and Ericsson. But after Havana was passed, where the Helena went in so close that a crash gun from Morro was momentarily expected, the ships, with the exception of the torpedo boats, soon returned to their station.

Under a full head of steam, the flagship bowled along until Mariel was reached. It was easy, from aboard the dispatch boat, without glasses, to see the commotion raised by the presence

of the warships in the pretty little village.

The people rushed wildly about and small boats quickly put in shore. But there was no apparent life in either of the forts on two hills that cover the approaches to the harbor.

The Porter steamed within half a mile of them and the New York swung leisurely at anchor at a mile range.

After Admiral Sampson had surveyed Mariel to his apparent satisfaction, he sent the flagship clipping merrily further up the coast.

Again the flagship rode unconcernedly half a mile from the forts and the Porter and Ericsson pushed their way ahead.

Suddenly there was a roar of a heavy gun, a puff of smoke from the shore and the little torpedo boat came scurrying back under the lee of the flagship.

The officers and men disappeared from the decks of the New York like magic and in less time than it takes to tell it, one six-inch gun from her bow belched forth. The evening was fading fast. Quick, good work was necessary. Another shot from the flagship, one more from shore, and the fort's guns were silenced. Three six-inch shells had sufficed.

Five more shots put a quietus on the fortifications. The first shot was fired at 6:20. At 6:35 the New York let go two six-inch shells, one at the fortification to complete the job. There was no answer. Ten minutes later the flagship let go two of her eight-inch turret guns, and the shrieking shells left a trail of fire easily seen in the dark shadows of the evening.

At this time the shore was hardly visible and the New York put back to her station.

Key West, Fla., April 30, 10:30 a. m.—Incoming boats say that the firing by the flagship New York last night was on Cabanas, a small fort about ten miles west of Mariel.

The torpedo boats Porter and Ericsson were scouting close to the coast when a small battery opened fire on them with a rapid fire gun.

The torpedo boats quickly withdrew and notified the flagship, which was cruising slowly in a westerly direction.

The New York promptly returned the fire, sending in, it is said here, about 12 shots from her six and eight-inch guns. The batteries ashore made no response. The firing was by no means in the nature of a bombardment.

On Flagship, off Havana, via Key West, Fla., April 30.—In answer to volley fire from Spanish battery on shore at Cabanas, 38 miles west of Havana, last evening, the New York sent 11 shells in the direction of the Spaniards. Enemy's fire was silenced after first shot from the New York.

Whether any Spaniards were killed or wounded not ascertained. Spanish shots were not observed to come anywhere in vicinity of flagship, which at once returned to station off Morro.

Spaniards would never have been fired upon had they not provoked the attack.

Madison, Wis., April 30.—Will B. Estor and William Fuller, the two robbers arrested at Waukesha for the murder of an aged couple and the burning of the bodies at Black Earth, Wednesday night, pleaded guilty to the crime here today.

They were sentenced to life imprisonment and were taken to Waupun prison. They landed in prison 30 hours after the crime was committed.

Both made a full confession to the sheriff and district attorney last night. They admit everything, but each puts the actual killing on the other.

In reply to a question, the President has been informed that New Orleans could furnish for service 50,000 yellow fever immunes.