The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

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NEWS OF VANCOUVER

Faith Healing Converts to Be Baptised in the Sea—Salvationists' Klondike Nurses.

Smelter Concessions About Arranged—The Magistrate's Salary—The Fraser Rising.

(From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, May 4.—Mr. Curtis (Samuel of Posen) is negotiating for the building of a theatre on the corner of Cambie and Hastings streets.

E. Blewett and associates have all but agreed upon terms with the city council for the erection of a smelter in the city. A by-law will shortly be submitted to the people.

Comparatively little interest seems to be taken outside of a limited number of athletic men and the hotel men in the proposal to arrange a boat race between Johnston and Gaudaur, to be held at Vancouver this summer, for the championship of the world. The partial failure of an ambitiously designed similar attempt in connection with the Vancouver carnival of 1896 has doubtless something to do with the present apathy.

The public baptism of converts by Rev. W. E. Chrismas and G. A. Fair is to take place next Sunday afternoon at English Bay. A song service is then also to be held and many cars will be run to convey a large number of spectators to the bay.

The continuance of the very warm, dry weather is, though pleasant enough for the individual, causing the gardens and orchards in and about Vancouver to be badly infested by the aphis and other noxious insects. In the wake of the aphis, however, the lady bug or lady bird and the ant are also putting in an appearance, but they are far more welcome as these insects regard the aphis as their natural prey. Mr. Thos. Cunningham, late of New Westminster some years ago, as it may be remembered by some, was instrumental in importing from California varieties of the useful lady bird insects, with a view to spreading them amongst the gardens and hop yards of the province, but the insects of this kind now seen about the local gardens are apparently of species indigenous to British Columbia.

Commissioner Eva Booth will, in company with six officers and two nurses of the Salvation Army, arrive in Vancouver next Saturday en route for Klondike and previously to their departure for the North hold special services on Sunday and Monday in the First Presbyterian church and the Salvation Army hall. At the Monday meeting Miss Booth will appear in costume, clothed in rags and tatters and got up generally as a London street waif. The Klondike party will also appear in their northern travelling costume and these novel features at the meeting are expected by the Salvationists to gather in a very large audience.

The Old Lavender performance at the Vancouver opera house last evening was well attended and was considered above the average as an entertainment.

The society for the prevention of cruelty to animals is now well established. At a meeting yesterday the following officers were elected: President, W. Hunt; vice-president, Rev. J. Reid; secretary and treasurer, C. J. South; executive committee, Ald. Foreman, Messrs. G. Hunt, W. S. Macdonald, J. Gibbons and T. Evans.

The city council has received an intimation from Mr. Maxwell, M.P., to the effect that the Dominion government intend this summer to dredge out False Creek, which has of late years been rapidly filling up. The news is received with much satisfaction in local shipping circles as the wharves on the creek are much used for small coasting vessels.

The city council is somewhat perplexed in regard to the position of the police magistrate. The members of the council desire to excuse him from private legal practice but being inclined to small economics, most of the members shrink from advocating the increase of the magisterial salary, without which the Attorney-General declares that the provincial government cannot consent to the suggested restriction.

General satisfaction is caused in Vancouver by the Hon. Mr. Turner's promise that the provincial government will provide the site for a drill shed for the two city militia companies. The artillerymen of Vancouver will thus for the first time be placed on an equal footing with their Royal City comrades.

The Young Women's Christian Association rooms will be formally opened by Mayor Gerden to-morrow afternoon, after which the lady directors of the institution will hold a reception.

There is already noticeable here a partial revival of activity in the Klondike outfitting trade, to which the city merchants believe a great impetus will be given immediately by the opening of the Stikine and connected northern waterways for general navigation.

Vancouver, May 5.—The city council has, subject to the ratifying vote of the taxpayers of Vancouver, agreed to pass a by-law granting to the Van Anda Gold and Copper Mining Company a subsidy of 40 cents a ton on ores smelted by it at a smelter to be built and operated at some point within five miles of the limits of Vancouver, the total subsidy payable to be limited to an aggregate of 125,000 tons, making $50,000 in all. The smelter site could be located within the townsite of Hastings at a distance of four and a half miles from the centre of the city. The council has under consideration the provision of much needed small recreation areas and tenders of suitable sites are being invited by advertisement.

Yesterday a teller in one of Vancouver's bank spaid out a $1,000 bill in place of a $100 bill to a stranger passing through the city. The man could not be traced until two detectives were employed, who located him on this morning's train. A threatened arrest induced the stranger, who was a gambler, to refund $900. The train was held until the $1,000 bill was secured and identified.

Among the passengers for the North by the steamship Athenian were the Rev. Dr. McDonald and a party of men from the county of Inverness, Scotland, most of them were naturally in quest of gold, but the reverend gentleman is visiting the Klondike partly as a traveller and and partly with a view to offering ministerial services at points where they may be found to be in request. The Athenian, sailing to-night, had 200 passengers and a full cargo of freight.

Bathing has already commenced at English Bay as a result of the early arrival of warm summer-like weather. The water is, however, somewhat cold, its temperature being considerably lower than that of the atmosphere.

The steamer "Stikine Chief" was launched to-day at McAlpine's yards. She is the property of the Stikine River Trading Co. and is a staunch, handsomely appointed steamer, 150 feet in length and thirty-two feet beam. Capt. Nesbet, late of the Columbia river, is in command. When making a landing at the C.P.R. wharf the "Stikine Chief" ran into one of the new river boats doing considerable damage.

Mr. Galloway, stationer of Hasting street east, received this morning from a longshoreman a one dollar bill raised to a ten dollar bill in payment for a newspaper. Nine dollars and ninety-five cents was paid in change, and Mr. Galloway is waiting for the longshoreman to return.

His Honor Judge Bole decided an important police court appeal case on Tuesday last, quashing the conviction of a number of Chinamen for trespassing on an Indian reserve at Spuzzun in quest of placer gold. The Chinamen produced in support of their action a gold dredging lease from the government. This the judge deemed a sufficient justification of the Chinese as regards indemnity from police court proceedings for trespass, but as to the matter of civil right raised by the grant of a Provincial lease over the Dominion Indian reserve, Judge Bole gave no decision, that matter not being directly before the court.

The Methodist district meeting for the circuits of the New Westminster district was held yesterday, Rev. Joseph Hall presiding over a large attendance of ministers and laymen. Various reports were presented and committee men chosen for the conference, which is to take place in Victoria next week.

C. R. Graves, of Vancouver, a resident of the city since the big fire, had an experience in South Africa which at the time made him a remarkable figure in his regiment. Mr. Graves says that whilst acting as trooper in the First Mounted Riues in the Bechuana Land expedition near a place called Ronds Sprint, whilst he was engaged on picket duty in the afternoon he noticed a cloud of dust on the hills, and realizing it was caused by Boers approaching and that his orders were to arrest any persons crossing into Bechuana Land from the Transvaal border he called out the picket and lay in ambush till their approach. As the party drew near they were noticed to be composed of the now President Kruger of the Transvaal Republic and twenty of his followers under arms. Kruger then held the rank of colonel in the Boer forces. As the party were filing through a narrow pass in the hill sone picket stood out to halt them while the rest remained in ambush. "It was at that moment that I had to decide," says Mr. Graves, "whether to shoot down Kruger or arrest him. I did not give the order to shoot, however, and he was promptly surrounded and marched under arms to Kraal Spirit. He was then detained in Kraal four days until transferred to Capetown by orders from headquarters. Kruger gave much trouble while in Kraal attempting to escape, but he was guarded so closely that he was not allowed to move out of the shack where he was incarcerated. Two of the men in the picket when Kruger was arrested were afterwards killed in the Jameson raid.

WESTMINSTER NOTES.

Fishery Inspector McNab has fined each fisherman in the sturgeon regulation breaking cases the sum of $10.35 inclusive of costs.

As a result of the hot weather, the Fraser is now rising rather rapidly, but it is nevertheless hoped that there will be no serious floods up river, as much of the spring freshet has already come down stream.

Chief Ackerman of the fire brigade has been presented by the local brethren with a past chancellor's jewel of the Pythian order, of which the Chief has long been a distinguished leader and of which he is now a supreme lodge representative. In this capacity the travels to Indianapolis, as a British Columbian delegate, next August.

A very large concourse of sorrowing friends, relations and professional colleagues attended the funeral of Mr. H. G. Clinton, which took place this afternoon at Holy Trinity cathedral. New Westminster. The Revs. A. Shildrick and H. G. F. Clinton officiated, the services being exceptionally impressive.

ROUTES TO YUKON.

Engineer Jennings Says the Edmonton Scheme Would Cost Thirty Millions.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Ottawa, May 5.—Engineer Jennings gave evidence before the Senate Yukon committee to-night. He said he thought a good line could be secured either up the Skeena or Naas valleys, then following the telegraph trail. So far as he could learn no reliable data existed regarding the Alice Arm or Observatory Inlet routes. Speaking generally a railway could be carried almost anywhere in British Columbia after an altitude of 3,500 is reached. Good lines could be procured either up the Fraser valley or from Ashcroft north. A railway from Edmonton to Selkirk would cost thirty million dollars.

THE FULL COURT.

Argument in Henry vs. the Canadian Pacific Railway Occupies a Day.

The Full court was engaged all yesterday in hearing argument in Henry vs. the C.P.R. This action arose out of the killing of a horse on the company's track near Hastings. Henry, the owner of the horse, sued the company for damages, the action being tried before Mr. Justice Irving and a special jury, the judge directing the jury to bring in a verdict for the defendants, which they did. The plaintiff appealed on the ground of misdirection by the trial judge. The Full court reserved their decision. D. G. Macdonell for plaintiff, appellant; E. P. Davis, Q.C., for defendants, respondents.

The peremptory list for to-day follows: Golden Gate Mining Co. v. Granite Creek Mining Co.; Canessa v. Nichol; Eves v. Genelle.

Spanish officials say that when Commodore Dewey demanded the surrender of the Spanish guns, torpedoes, etc., Governor-General Augusti replied: "Come and take them."

NEWS OF THE CAPITAL.

Miners' Licenses to Issue at the Summit Because Many Arrived There Without Them.

Slow Atlantic Steamship Contractors Granted a Further Extension of Time.

Secretary of State Repudiates the Spokesman for the Government at Rome.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

Ottawa, May 4.—Mr. Sifton acknowledged in the house to-day that he had adopted a new policy regarding the issue of free miners' licenses, authorizing all customs officers in the Yukon district to supply them. He explained that Major Walsh recommended this, owing to numbers reaching the summit without the necessary document and not desiring to go to Dawson. He said Major Walsh was not returning.

The supplementary contract between the government and Peterson & Tate, brought down to-day for ratification, gives the contractors until May 1, 1900, in which to have all the steamers constructed and in operation. The reason assigned for the extension is the engineering strike. Provision is made for calling at a port in Ireland.

The W. C. T. U. had an all day sitting discussing a vote of censure on Lady Henry Somerset.

The Yukon military contingent have all arrived here and are in camp on Carter Square. Dr. Borden stated that the force will cost $200,000 more yearly than if it had remained in the East. While Selkirk will be the headquarters a detachment will remain at Teslin until late in the fall.

The French Conservative senators made a lively attack on members of the government in reference to the visit to Rome of Mr. Charles Russell in connection with the school question. Senator Landry produced a letter from Mr. Russel to Cardinal Rampolla in which Mr. Russell said he spoke for the government of Canada. Hon. R. W. Scott, secretary of state, denied all knowledge of the matter.

Ottawa, May 5.—A bill to increase the pay allowances of the Major-General commanding to $6,000 was discussed in the Commons this afternoon. Sir Charles Tupper said he would cordially support the measure if no portion was for General Cascoigne, and he would cheerfully vote a sum to get that officer out of Canada. General Gascoigne, he added, had disgraced and degraded the office he held. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Dr. Borden defended the General and expressed regret that Sir Charles Tupper should have attacked an officer not in a position to reply. Sir Charles Tupper replied that a cad is not protected simply because he wears the Queen's uniform.

Mr. McDougall asked a question regarding Mr. Charles Rusell's letter to Cardinal Rampolla, in which he said that he had returned to Rome at the urgent request of the Catholic members of the government and parliament of Canada in connection with the school question. Sir Wilfrid Laurier replied that the government never had any knowledge of this letter and does not know of its existence or of its genuineness.

Mr. McNeill again pressed for early consideration of his imperial preferential trade resolution which he said was one of the most important subjects in the whole range of higher politics. After discussion the debate was fixed for the 18th of May.

It is stated on excellent authority that the government has definitely decided not to bring down another Yukon communication project this session.

French Canadian members are urging the appointment of a French judge of the Exchequer court.

The Plebiscite bill was read a second time to-day. Sir Wilfrid Laurier declined to say whether the government would accept a majority of those voting on the question as warrant for the introduction of a prohibition bill, or whether a majority of the registered voters would be required. The vote will be taken some time in the fall.

The Beaver line steamer Lake Ontario will not be sold to the United States government, the minister of justice having warned the company that they would render themselves liable to serious penalties for infraction of the neutrality laws if the vessel were sold to a belligerent power.

The Canadian Pacific has made a compromise with Mr. Douglass on the bill regarding the transit of grain, and will aid the farmers to fight the elevator men.

The Lake Bennett & Klondike Railway company are now seeking power to construct a sixteen-foot wagon road on their side of the Miles Canyon. The bill has been sent back to the railway committee to permit of this change.

Lady Aberdeen is credited with having given wholesome advice to Ottawa's fair sex on Saturday. She told them to be more sociable to visiting ladies and not let them be wallflowers.

The May term of the Supreme court opened to-day. The British Columbia appeal for the release from imprisonment of a Chinaman named Sud Sing Kaw was postponed until the Ontario list is disposed of.

The house sat until 6 o'clock this morning, the Postmaster-General being on the gridiron.

Senator Macdonald will initiate a discussion in the upper house in regard to injuring Victoria and Vancouver trade by the new order regarding free miners' licenses.

The bill to incorporate the Edmonton and Peace River railway was drawn today as there is indisposition to grant a charter in view of the existing one held by Col. Domville's company.

Sir Louis Davies announced that he hopes to induce his colleagues to consent to securing a second government vessel for service in British Columbian waters. He also stated that a training ship for youths to be drafted for the government protection service will be established.

Turkey has notified the United States minister that she has decreed neutrality.

CANADIAN NEWS NOTES.

Mrs. Sternaman's Second Trial Commencing—Remarkable Painting by a Convict.

The British warships Pelican and Cordelia have been unexpectedly ordered from Halifax to Barbadoes.

Capt. Kent, R.E., torpedo expert of the Halifax garrison, has returned from Washington. He says the Maine was blown up by a mine placed underneath, perhaps only a short time before the explosion.

At the Toronto horse show sergeant instructor J. Page, of "B" squadron, Winnipeg, took the second prize in the sabre competition for non-commissioned officers and men and Sergt. McMillan of "B" squadron took third prize for the mounted competition. Major Leslie took first in the officers' lemon cutting competition and Lieut. Peters second.

The remains of the late Lady Cartier, widow of Sir Geo. E. Cartier, will arrive in Montreal on Sunday next by the Parisian.

The new trial of Mrs. Sternaman, charged with poisoning her husband, is likely to stretch out many days. There are witnesses in all 56 for the crown and 30 for the defence.

Convict McGuire, a Cobourg man, serving a life sentence in the Kingston penitentiary for attempted murder, has completed a large oil painting of Christ's Ascension, to replace the picture destroyed by fire in the Catholic chapel of the institution some time ago. It is pronounced a magnificent piece of work.

A party of eighteen employees of the Bertram Iron Works, Toronto, have passed through Winnipeg for Vancouver to put together one of the new C.P.R. steamers to ply this stason on Stikine river.

Hon. Messrs. McMillan, Cameron and Wilson, who left Winnipeg a few days ago each taking different railways and starting in different directions, are all going to Ottawa on business concerning recent provincial railway legislation and contemplated Dominion legislation. Some amendments to the Rainy River Railway Company's charter will probably be urged at the federal capital in order to render acts of the local legislature more effective.

It is reported that Premier Greenway has not yet signed the agreement between Mann and Mackenzie and the government for the construction of the southeastern railway.

STORES FOR INSURGENTS.

Landed in Cuba Under Protection of a Gunboat Which Demolished Spanish Blockhouse.

New York, May 5.—The Mail and Express correspondent at Key West cables the following account of the landing of a small expedition from the tug Leyden in Cuba: The tug left Key West on Monday and at daybreak her men made the first attempt to land an inspector to confer with a party of Cuban insurgents who were waiting on the beach. While the conversation was being held the people on the Leyden discovered 50 Spanish cavalrymen coming down from a hill towards the shore reconnoitering. The Leyden signalled danger to the insurgents and the latter took to the bushes. Up to that time no cases of Winchester rifles had been landed. Seeing the cavalrymen the Leyden's boat returned alongside, lying a quarter of a mile off shore. The cavalrymen levelled rifles at the tug but hesitated about firing. The insurgents meanwhile had opened fire, driving the cavalrymen back to the hill, the latter firing as they fied. The cavalry returned shortly with reinforcements. They paid no attention to the insurgents, but began a sharp fusilade at the tug. Bullets flew around the tug so fast that the lookout came down. The Leyden, seeing no chance to land the ammunition, picked up the men she had landed and steamed back to the flagship off Havana, reporting it would be impossible to land the cargo unless protected. The gungoat Wilmington was immediately ordered to help the Leyden. On returning to the landing point the Wilmington held off shore about a mile aid a half, the Leyden going close into the beach. The tug was signalled by the insurgents that the coast was clear. Manned by four men, a boat left the Layden with ammunition and two large boxes of dynamite. When a short distance from the beach a man aloft on the Leyden sang out that the cavalry were coming down the beach again in strong force. The Leyden then signalled the Wilmington and the latter came a little closer to shore and with stern facing the beach fired four shots from her four-inch rapid-firing guns. The cavalrymen retired and the boat's cargo was then landed.

While waiting to attack the cavalrymen, the Wilmington fired a blockhouse further down the beach. There were some fifty Spanish regulars sitting on top of the blockhouse watching the Leyden and the insurgents. The Wilmington's first shot went wild. The twelfth and last shot hit the bull's eye. When the smoke cleared away the block house, men and all, had disappeared as though swallowed up. The Spanish colors that had flown from the house were seen high up a tree where a shot had driven them.

The Leyden and the Wilmington returned to the flagship and the former then came here. There are dozens of holes in the tug's smokestack from the bullets of the cavalrymen.

WITHOUT AMMUNITION.

Explanation of the Inactivity of the Spanish Squadrons.

London, May 5.—The Daily Mail's Paris correspondent hears on indisputable authority that five Spanish ships, including the Pelayo and Alfonso XIII., are not yet supplied with ammunition. The Daily Mail's Paris correspondent says that want of ammunition for the Cadiz fleet caused the delay in the sailing of the Cape Verde fleet, and will probably compel the latter to return to Cadiz.

A Seattle report states that negotiations are pending between the government and the Pacific Coast Steamship Co. for the purchase of the steamers Queen and Senator, to be used as transport ships in case troops are sent to Manila.

The cortes has passed a "resolution of homage" in honor of those killed in the naval engagement off Cavite.

Naval officials at Washington are duly grateful for the consideration shown by the Chinese government in withholding the issue of the decree of neutrality until informed that the Americans had secured a base in the Philippines.

ANXIETY ABOUT DEWEY

The Venturesome Commodore's Fleet Perhaps Bottled Up in Harbor of Manila.

Five Days Without News Makes Washington Think—Hurrying Hawaiian Annexation

Spanish Fleet for Philippine Relief Afterwards to Bombard San Francisco.

Washington, May. 5.—Although naturally anxious to hear from Commodore Dewey, the President and members of the cabinet are not at all alarmed at the non-arrival of news of the Manila fleet. It is pointed out that the cable office is about 100 miles or more distant from the city and the connecting land line is in the hands of the Spanish, who, it is assumed, cannot be dislodged by the commodore with the force now at his disposal. The commodore it is said may have been compelled to send a slow vessel out, or he may be waiting to send news of the surrender of the island. In any event, the contingencies are such that no definite time can be fixed for the arrival of the report.

Nor are the President and his advisers disturbed at the situation of the Oregon and the Marietta. They have no fear that the Cape Verde fleet is en route to intercept them as such a move would be the height of folly. In case of an attack it is confidently believed that the Oregon would sink at least one or two of the assailants, so that if the enemy were to succeed in defeating her he would have suffered an equal or greater loss himself. This exchange the Spaniards are in no position to make. Although the government has had no official news of the whereabouts of the Cape Verde fleet, no doubt exists it has returned to Cadiz as reported by the Lloyds. Wherever it is, the government has no reason to hope that it will venture into these waters.

DEWEY'S POSSIBLE FIX.

Chicago, May 5.—A special to the Journal from Washington says the fear that Dewey may be bottled up in Manila harbor is gaining ground. It is recollected that the entrance to Manila harbor is through a channel planted with mines. Dewey passed these in the night and no opportunity was given the Spaniards to fire them. Now if he has not forced a surrender of the city and gained control of the switchboards used in firing the submerged explosives an attempt to leave the harbor by any of the ships composing the Asiatic squadron would be met by an attack from the mines.

TO BOMBARD CALIFORNIA.

Madrid, May 5.—(Via Paris.)—It is said that two ironclads, two cruisers and three torpedo boats are about to leave Cadiz to drive the Americans from Manila and then bombard California.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Washington, May 5.—The Hawaiian question came up before the house committee on foreign affairs to-day. There was a strong majority favoring annexation. The meeting adjourned without taking any definite action, for a more full consideration next Tuesday. It is understood that if there should be a report from committee in favor of annexation the speaxer will not interpose any objections. It is also stated that the administration is pressing for early action.

PORTO RICO IN DANGER.

Madrid, May 5.—Considerable anxiety is expressed here as to the fate of Porto Rico. It is feared that Admiral Sampson's squadron has gone to seize San Juan, the capital of that colony, and the Spanish coal supply at that port.

Madrid, May 5.—At a cabinet council to-day over which the Queen Regent presided the Premier, Senor Sagasta, explained the war situation and reported the arrival at Porto Rico of the steamer Alfonso XIII., having on board, it is said, reinforcements of troops and a very valuable cargo including ammunition and supplies.

The Premier also announced the opening of the Cuban parliament and the Queen Regent signed the resources bill. The cabinet afterwards held another meeting and deliberated upon the financial situation and measures taken and contemplated to preserve public order in the localities where disturbances have occurred.

THE INSURGENT ALLIES.

Washington, May 5.—The senate passed an important measure authorizing the President and general officers of the army to supply the Cuban insurgents with arms and munitions of war and empowering officers of the army serving in Cuba to supply needy inhabitants of the island with medicines and subsistence.

Rumors having been afloat that the British embassy had been advised of the fall of Manila just before the cable communication broke, Sir Julian Pauncefote declares that he has had no such information.

There is no idea of surrender in Madrid either in ministerial circles or among the populace. On the contrary, the war will be pushed with greater vigor. The Spanish authorities entend to throw the whole naval strength of Spain into one united and supreme effort against the United States. It is stated by those who are responsible for naval movements that they have determined to avoid isolated combats on unequal terms with a superior enemy, and that they now intend to throw their united naval strength into one supreme effort to crush the American squadron in Cuban waters. "Until this engagement is fought no proposal of intervention will be listened to."

The second Spanish squadron at Cadiz consisting of the warships Pelayo, Alfonso XIII., and Victoria have nearly completed preparations for active service. It is reported, however, that great difficulty is experienced in fitting out the ships, owing to lack of money. British engineers have refused to serve on board them owing to a belief that they will be liable to heavy punishment under the foreign enlistment act.

ONE PRIZE TOO MANY.

Blockading Squadron Take in French Mail Steamer With Permit for Hawaii.

Despite Explanations and Remonstrances the Ship is Towed to Key West.

But Somebody Blundered and the "Lafayette" Will Be Escorted to Havana.

Key West, May 6.—(6 p.m.)—Commodore Watson this afternoon received orders from Washington, instantly to release the French Mail steamer Lafayette and to send her to Havana under escort. The capture of the Frenchman by the gunboat Annapolis turns out to have been an unfortunate incident resulting from mistake, but no protest has been made to the representatives of the French government in the Untied States. Officials declare that this will close the affair. It appears that before the Lafayette sailed for Havana the French legation in Washington was instructed to communicate with the state department. This was done and permission granted to the steamer to enter and discharge her passengers and cargo, with the understanding that she would take on nothing there. Instructions for the fulfillment of this agreement were sent from Washington to Admiral Sampson's squadron and it was only learned today, after the capture was made, that they were never delivered. This afternoon United States Commissioner Otto, United States District Attorney Stripling, and a number of other federal officials went out to the Lafayette, examined her papers and cabled the state department for instructions. These came without delay in the form of an order to Commodore Watson.

The capture was affected shortly before sundown, the story being thus told: "The Lafayette, while heading for Havana, was boarded by an officer from the Annapolis and warned not to enter the port. She afterwards made an attempt to do so, and was taken after an exciting chase. The Wilmington, Newport and Merrill took part in the capture of the Frenchman. After an examination of the Lafayette's papers she was made a prize and a crew from the Annapolis was placed aboard and she was sent to Key West, escorted by the Wilmington. Previous to this step being taken, Commodore Hunter, of the Annapolis, the temporary flag officer, and Commander C. C. Todd, of the Wilmington, exchanged signals over an hour. Despite the international question thought to be involved in the capture of a French steamer, they finally decued to send her to Key West. The fact that she left the Spanish port of Cornuna on April 23, after the declaration of war on April 21, seems to warrant holding the Lafayette."

FLOODS IN ARKANSAS.

Rivers at the Highest on Record and Rain Yet Falling in Torrents.

Little Rock, Ark., May 6.—A special from Vanburen, Ark., says water spouts and torrents have played havoc there and done hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of damage. Three houses were blown down eight miles east of here last night, and it is reported that Winslow, a summer resort on the top of the Boston mountain, is entirely gone. Two bridges on the Frisco road over Clear creek have been swept away and the road abandoned. Their trains have run for two days around via Claremore, I. T., and then down the Kansas and Arkansis valley road, but the latter had a two mile washout and 300 yards of landslide and Vanburen is now entirely cut off, save by way of Little Rock.

The Arkansas river is twenty-five miles wide in places and is now four inches higher than it was in 1892, which was the highest on record. All last night boats were busy in the bottoms rescuing the inhabitants. Thousands were rescued and it is feared that many have been drowned. Two houses were seen going down the river, but boatmen could not reach them. Rain is falling in torrents and the end is not in sight.

TOLD IN PARAGRAPHS.

The Spanish minister of war has submitted a bill authorizing him to mobilize the second reserve corps in Madrid.

The Relai of Paris says negotiations are pending which will result in Great Britain favoring the United States if the other nations favor Spain by attempting to stop the war before the United States has received satisfaction. The United States, it is said, has promised in return to capture the Canary Islands and cede them to Great Britain.

A mob of about 8,000 striking miners have made a tumultuous demonstration at Murira, capital of the Spanish province of that name, thirty miles from the port of Carthagena. They shouted "Death to the thieves," "Down with the taxes." A force of troops prevented the rioters from moving on the port of Carthagena. A number of men were wounded.

No confirmation is obtained of the various reports concerning the movements of Admiral Sampson's fleet. It is stated with some appearance of authority that the Admiral has to seize Porto Rico, but on the other hand it is asserted that the fleet has gone to meet the Oregon and bring her in safety to the north.

The Hongkong correspondent of the World says Chief Aguinaldo has arrived and had a conference with Consul Wildman. He has agreed to submit to Commodore Dewey's orders and will conduct the land forces and with the 30,000 so-called insurgents, effectively back up Dewey when he gains control of Manila. He has promised to act in a humane way.

The Madrid correspondent of the London Daily Mail says: "There is no longer any doubt that the internal situation is causing the government almost as much uneasiness as the external. Last night's demonstration was one of the most serious in some time, since those openly participating showed their revolutionary tendency."