

PEACE IN SIGHT.

Officials at Washington Consider the War Practically Ended.

TEXT OF PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S CONDITIONS TO SPAIN.

Mgr. Martinelli's Request to the American Authorities to Protect the Priests and Church Property - A Terrible Picture of Starvation and Death in Havana and Other Places - Six Thousand Sick People Being Cared for by the Forces of Shafter - The Regular Army to be Maintained at High-water Mark.

Despatches from the American Capital would indicate that the end of the hostilities between the United States and Spain are about at an end. Army and navy officials consider the war practically ended so far as actual hostilities are concerned, and that there will be no occasion hereafter to fire a hostile shot, except to the slight resistance that may be offered by Spaniards to the advance of the American forces participating in General Miles' Porto Rican campaign. At any rate, it is inconceivable that any new offensive operations will need to be undertaken, and that even if peace negotiations are conducted in the dilatory manner which has come to be inseparable from the Spaniards, an armistice can hardly be delayed beyond a week or ten days, for by that time the Spanish garrisons at San Juan and Manila will have laid down their arms as they did at Santiago. Under the circumstances, it is not surprising to find that in the War Department, as well as in the Navy Department, preparations for the new conditions of peace are rapidly going forward.

The following is the official statement given out by the President as to the terms of peace offered by the United States:

In order to remove any misapprehension in regard to the negotiations as to peace between the United States and Spain, it is deemed proper to say that the terms offered by the United States to Spain in the note handed to the French Ambassador Saturday last are in substance as follows:

The President does not now put forward any claim for pecuniary indemnity, but requires the relinquishment of all claim of sovereignty over or title to the Island of Cuba as well as the immediate evacuation by Spain of the island.

The cession to the United States and immediate evacuation of Porto Rico and other islands under Spanish sovereignty in the West Indies and

The like cession of an island in the Ladroneas.

The United States will occupy and hold the city, bay and harbor of Manila pending the conclusion of a treaty of peace, which shall determine the control, disposition and Government of the Philippines.

If these are accepted by Spain in their entirety it is stated that commissioners will be named by the United States to meet commissioners on the part of Spain for the purpose of concluding a treaty of peace on the basis above indicated.

The New York Herald Washington correspondent writes:

The developments of each day add to the difficulties of solving the Philippine problem, and events before the conclusion of peace negotiations may make it almost compulsory for the United States, as a dominant force in the island, to maintain control for the purpose of preventing anarchy or a reign of terror under the dictatorship of Aguinaldo.

The powerful influence of the Church may yet be exercised on the Spanish government with this end in view. It is apparent that if the United States should withdraw it would be difficult, if not impossible, for Spain to regain control of the islands with her fleet destroyed and her military forces incapable of making any headway against the insurgents. The insurgents are even more dissatisfied with the representatives of the Church in the islands than with the Spanish colonial government, and should Aguinaldo succeed in obtaining control there would be grave danger of excesses directed against the Church and its property.

The Vatican understands this, and representatives were to-day received by the United States through Mgr. Martinelli, the Papal Delegate, asking that care be taken by the United States forces to protect the property of the Church and the lives of the priests. Instructions in conformity with these representations have been sent to Major-General Merritt and Admiral Dewey, and they will protect the Church and its property within their lines just as they will protect the lives and property of all others.

An important detail in connection with the final peace negotiations will be the settlement of claims of American citizens for pecuniary damages on account of the destruction of lives and property in Cuba since the beginning of the insurrection. It is understood that the United States will assume liability for all these claims and they will be adjudicated and paid.

Some of these claims are for property destroyed by the Cuban insurgents, and these will probably be collected from the Government of Cuba, if such a Government is eventually established in the island. Of course these claims of Americans to swell the total indemnity the United States will exact

from Spain in the way of the cession of Porto Rico, one of the Ladroneas, and a military and naval base in Manila Bay, in the Philippines.

Advices from London go to show that the Spanish authorities are anxious for peace. The Madrid correspondent of the Daily Mail says:—The Government has accepted the principle of the American conditions, but the acceptance will not be made public until inquiries to Washington on matters of detail have been settled, thus rounding the preliminary basis.

The Gibraltar correspondent of the Daily News, telegraphing Monday night, says:—The censorship is daily becoming more severe; and little is known beyond that peace is assured. It is understood that the note from America asks only part of the Philippines and that Senor Sagasta having replied that the terms will be accepted hostilities are consequently suspended.

A commission will be appointed to determine the basis of peace. The chief difficulty, it is asserted in official circles, is as to the date and manner of the evacuation of the Spanish possessions. There is also the question of the disposal of the war material in Cuba. Senor Sagasta, if he has a chance, will probably represent a restitution of the material as a diplomatic victory. It has just been asserted here that the Premier has succeeded in obtaining slightly improved terms. The treaty will not be signed before September.

The terrible story of death and starvation in Havana and other places was vividly yesterday by a number of passengers of the steamer Fridolf, from Sagua, which arrived at New York two days ago. She brought twenty nine refugees, most of whom were Spaniards, who had made all sorts of sacrifices to escape from the island in anticipation of its becoming controlled by the insurgents. Many of them were well supplied with funds, having turned all their available property into cash. They paid \$250 each for passage.

One woman who had reached Sagua by rail from Havana said that the condition of affairs in the capital was deplorable, and was daily growing worse.

There is plenty of money, she said, but of what use is it when it will hardly purchase anything? It is impossible to get beef at any price, and even horse-flesh costs \$1 a pound. Bread costs 25 cents a pound and is bad at that, and eggs, which are brought in from the country in small quantities, cost 35 cents each. The supply of condensed milk is practically exhausted, and the little left is sold at \$2 for a can such as you buy here for 82 cents.

On an average, ten to twelve persons are found dead of starvation in the streets every day, and this takes no account of the scores who daily died of hunger in the houses. No words can describe the horrors of Los Fosos, the place at the foot of the Prado, where the wretched reconcentrados are herded together. I was told that there were no less than four thousand of these miserable people in the place when I came away, and they are dying by hundreds, for, of course, nothing is being done for their relief, when the government has not enough food for its own soldiers. Worse than this, the officials beat and abuse them shamefully.

A few gas lamps as still burning in the streets, but the electric lights are only lit on Thursday nights, when there is music in the Parque Central. What a ghastly mockery those band concerts are with so many people starving to death within sound of the music! All the theatres are closed, and their lobbies are nightly crowded with the homeless poor. Wine is the only thing in the city that is plentiful and cheap, so that even the poor can get a little at times.

Almost all the stores in Wyler and O'Reilly streets are closed, as are all the principal hotels. The stock of coal is almost completely exhausted, and for a few days the local trains that ran to the Vedado, past the Santa Clara battery, were stopped for want of fuel. They are now burning wood, but even that will soon be gone.

Juan Zarraga Ugarte said:—I do not know anything of the condition of things in Havana, but I do know that there is much misery in Cardenas and Matanzas. Things, however, might be worse, considering the stringency of the blockade. Much starvation has been avoided by the foresight of the merchants, who, in anticipation of the outbreak of the war, laid in big stocks of provisions. Of course, they have sold at high prices, and many have made fortunes. I heard of one man who made \$400,000 in a speculation in flour in Sagua. All the stores which have provisions are kept under constant guard by the soldiers to prevent the starving people from looting them. Every one is tired of war, and on all hands one hears prayers that peace will soon come.

Gen. Shafter's health reports state that he is now caring for over 6,000 sick people, including Spanish soldiers, many of whom were found to be very ill. The task is a formidable one, and the attempt to care for all hands probably explains in a measure the lack of adequate preparation of the transports employed in bringing home some of the wounded and sick. The conditions on these boats were found to be so shocking as to demand an immediate official investigation, which was begun to-day, and some court-martials may be looked for in high places, unless it can be shown clearly that the lack of preparation was unavoidable.

The regular army of the United States, which has been expanded during the war from a strength of 25,000 to an approximate numerical aggregate of 75,000 men, will in all probability remain upon its war footing for several years, the country having been awakened to the expediency of maintaining a greater standing army at home, while the enlarged responsibilities in Alaska, Hawaii, Cuba and Porto Rico, with, perhaps, the Philippines, imperatively demand a considerable force for garrison duty. For some time, at least, Cuba cannot be trusted to work out the problem of self-government without the guardianship of at least 50,000 trained American soldiers, and Porto Rico will undoubtedly require another 10,000.

John Murphy & Co's

ADVERTISEMENT.

Special Offerings

FOR A SLOW MONTH!

AUGUST on the whole is rather a slow month in the selling of OUTGOING business, altho' the INCOMING business in preparation for the great Fall season makes it, on the other hand, one of the busiest months in the year. To equal up a little on the OUTGOING side, we will offer, from time to time during the month, some special clearing lines such as the following:

DRESS GOODS.

20 PIECES FINEST PLAIN MOHAIRS—In all the Summer Shades, all pure Mohair and worth from 90c to \$1.50 per yard. Choice for 45c per yard.

50 PIECES ASSORTED DRESS GOODS—In this lot will be found Fancy Mohairs, Summer Tweeds, Finest All Wool French Challies, etc., regular value from 80c to 75c. Choice for only 25c per yard.

300 YARDS PLAIN ALL WOOL DRESS GOODS—Cheviots, Basket Serges, etc., just the goods and colors for Summer Wear, cheap at 75c. Special price 40c per yard.

3000 YARDS FINEST ALL WOOL GRANET CLOTH—Just purchased from a French manufacturer, Black and All Colors in lot, made to sell for 75c to 85c. Our price will be 50c per yd.

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JOHN MURPHY & CO.

2843 St. Catherine St.

CORNER OF METCALFE STREET.

TELEPHONE No. 3833.

DOINGS IN ENGLAND'S CENTRES.

The Opponents of Ritualism Attack St. Thomas' Church, Liverpool.

A Public Playground Proposed--The Liberals and the Irish Party --A Social Club for Irishmen--The Cause of Commercial and Technical Education--The Speech of the Vice-President of Liverpool Chamber of Commerce on the Subject.

LONDON, July 25.

Quite a disgraceful scene took place at St. Thomas' Church, Liverpool, on Sunday, the 17th inst. This is a Ritualistic church, and the character of the services were such as to arouse the ire of a number of fanatical Protestants who assembled in large numbers and made an organized attempt to reach the altar, upon which were several lighted candles, with the expressed intention of wreaking their vengeance upon the "Ritual symbols." Thanks to the assistance of the police, who were called in the attacking party was repulsed. After singing a couple of Protestant hymns they left the church shouting "no surrender" as they departed.

The vicar of St. Thomas is the Rev. Ernest Underhill, and the late Mr. Gladstone was the patron of the living.

Lord Iveagh has subscribed £100 towards the purchase of Prince George's ground, Rayne's Park. It is proposed to turn these grounds into a place of recreation for the poorer class of Londoners.

The Liberal papers here, and generally throughout England and Scotland, are giving considerable space these times to recounting the great sacrifices made by their party in the interest of Irish Home Rule, and lamenting the so-called ingratitude of the Irish party. It never seems to strike the Liberals that they owe a great deal to the Nationalists. It was the Irish votes that put them in office in 1892, as they did in 1885, and it was the support of the Irish party which made the carrying of more than one of their pet reforms possible.

Of course, the Irish members are grateful to the Liberals for any favors received in the past, and hope to have further reason for gratitude in the future, but the mission of the Irish representatives at Westminster is not to support either Whig or Tory, but to obtain every possible concession towards justice to the Irish people.

A movement is on foot here to start a social club for Irishmen. There are thousands of Irishmen in London, and while other nationalities have their places of meeting for social intercourse, the Irish residents of the metropolis have no headquarters. Mr. Francis C. Sills is a leading spirit in this movement.

The constantly growing sentiment in commercial centres in favor of a better education for the youth whose ambition it is to enter the commercial arena is certainly calculated to produce some good despite the apathy in certain quarters. The vice-president of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, speaking here recently at a conference in regard to Commercial and Technical Education, said:

After all, at this Conference we want to bring together the experience of business men, and we want to know if we are to establish schools of commerce in England such as that which we are now establishing in Liverpool, that they will

THE "HOWARD" PIANO,

Warranted First-Class.

Price: \$300, at \$7 Monthly.

Some eight months ago we introduced to the public of Montreal and the Province of Quebec a large and elegant Cabinet Grand American Piano, made by the D. H. Baldwin Co., of Cincinnati.

This piano proved an instantaneous success because of its surprising value in tone and appearance. Its sale was rapid, and continues large, even in this warm mid-summer weather.

This week we have disposed of eight Howard Pianos. Next week ten more will arrive, in Mahogany, Oak and Walnut Cases. Price to everybody is \$300, on terms of \$7 monthly.

Inspection will prove the Howard to be easily equal to any other piano in the market for which \$400 and higher is asked.

THE "HOWARD" is sold only by

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Daily Suburban Train Service between Montreal and Verdun leave Montreal 9:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 6:00 p.m. Returning leave Verdun 9:00 a.m., 10:55 a.m., 7:12 p.m., 10:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday to Monday Excursion tickets are now on sale to numerous points, particulars of which may be ascertained by obtaining from Grand Trunk Ticket Offices "Weekly Excursions" Pamphlet.

PORTLAND-OLD ORCHARD BEACH.

Ex. Sun. Daily. Lve. MONTREAL 8:40 a.m. 8:45 p.m. Arr. PORTLAND 5:45 p.m. 6:40 a.m. Arr. OLD ORCHARD 6:22 p.m. 7:15 a.m. Buffet Parlor Car on \$40 a m. train and Buffet Sleeping Car on 8:45 p.m. train.

FAST EXPRESS TRAINS - TORONTO AND WEST.

Daily. Ex. Sun. Lve. MONTREAL 9:00 a.m. 10:25 p.m. Arr. TORONTO 3:40 p.m. 7:15 a.m. Arr. HAMILTON 6:35 p.m. 8:45 a.m. Arr. NIAGARA FALLS 8:10 p.m. 10:55 a.m. Arr. BUFFALO 10:00 p.m. 12:00 a.m. Arr. LONDON 9:00 a.m. 11:25 a.m. Arr. DETROIT 11:45 a.m. 1:30 p.m. Arr. CHICAGO 2:00 p.m. 9:10 p.m. On Sundays leave Montreal 8:00 p.m.

For tickets, reservation of space in Sleepers and all information, apply to Company's agents.

City Ticket Offices, 137 St. James Street, and Bonaventure Station.

OUR DOLLAR BARGAINS Are Taking Immensely.

LADIES' BOOTS AND SHOES, worth from \$1.50 to \$2.50, are being cleared out at A DOLLAR a pair.

ONLY FAULT--Sizes Irregular.

We may have your size, Worth while to Call.

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be of benefit to the English nation, and that we will not require these wretched foreigners any longer. Well, being a foreigner myself--only naturalized thirty-seven years ago--I think I may speak both as a foreigner and an Englishman. The schools to which I went were in Holland and in Belgium, and when my schoolmates and myself left school we all spoke fluently four languages to begin with. We had also had a thorough training in mathematics, physics, chemistry, political economy, and international law.

But the last few years of our study, continued the speaker, were worth all the rest, for business was taught to us by practical men and not schoolmasters. We had men who perhaps had not been the most successful in business, who had gone through a varied experience as importers, exporters, shipowners, and brokers, and who were only too happy to give the benefit of their long and painful experience to a number of young students in a practical way (laughter). This is the kind of school that we are trying to form in Liverpool, though, of course, we will follow it at first in a small way. We are trying to teach the pupils elementary French and German, and if they know sufficient of those we are trying to provide a special commercial course to be taught in English, French, German and Spanish by commercial men. There are plenty of men in Liverpool and Manchester quite able to give this teaching, and it is by following these methods that so many German clerks are at present in England and her colonies. It is that training, gentlemen, which you wish to establish in England, and it has my hearty support. Let boys receive a classical education till they are 15 and 16, and then let them go to these commercial schools till they are 19, and it will be found that these three last years are by far the most valuable.

Our subscribers are particularly requested to note the advertisements in the True Witness, and when making purchases, mention the paper.

THE S. CARSLY CO., Limited.

Notre Dame Street. Montreal's Greatest Store. August 6, 1898.

The Biggest July Month on Record

The Biggest Six Months on Record by Thousands of Dollars.

To-day The Big Store finishes the biggest and most successful JULY CHEAP SALE it has ever had. July the 30th ends our business half year, which also is the largest ever done. To-day the management thinks speaks well for the company, showing as it does the influence of giving the best value possible for ready money--a thorough knowledge of the various wants of the public who will always go where the largest variety and best values are given.

THE BIG STORE'S GREAT REMNANT SALE.

This great REMNANT SALE is the result of the last six months' tremendous trade. In a large establishment like The Big Store one can hardly imagine the enormous quantities of Remnants there are accumulated. The latest reports from floor walkers say that there are thousands upon the usands of good useful remnants in stock (which is more than there should be) this fact does not alter the case, the fact remains, the remnants are here and the

REMNANTS MUST BE SOLD--And Sold in Two Weeks.

- USEFUL REMNANTS OF BLACK GOODS. 1 yard to 8 yards. USEFUL REMNANTS OF RIBBONS. 1 yard to 6 yards, very cheap. USEFUL REMNANTS OF OILCLOTHS. Odd Lots of Ladies' Straw Sailors, half price. USEFUL REMNANTS OF DRESS GOODS. 1 yard to 8 yards. USEFUL REMNANTS OF DAINTY MUSLINS. 1 yard to 10 yards. USEFUL REMNANTS OF PRETTY PRINTS. 1 yard to 10 yards. USEFUL REMNANTS OF LINENS. Desirable lengths. USEFUL REMNANTS OF SHEETING. Good lengths. USEFUL REMNANTS OF FLANNELS. Marked cheap. USEFUL REMNANTS OF FLANNELETTES. Marked very cheap. USEFUL REMNANTS OF EMBROIDERIES. 1 yard to 5 yards. USEFUL REMNANTS OF SILKS. 1 yard to 5 yards. USEFUL REMNANTS OF TWEEDS. 1 yard to 7 yards, marked very cheap. USEFUL REMNANTS OF CARPETS. Old Lots of Ladies' Leather Belts, half price.

Odd Lots Ladies' Dress Skirts.

Old Lots Ladies' Crash Dress Skirts, worth \$1.00, for 57c. Old Lots Ladies' Duck Dress Skirts, worth \$1.25, for 73c. Old Lots Ladies' Pique Dress Skirts, worth \$1.95 for 82c.

Odd Lots Ladies' Shirt Waists.

Old Lots Ladies' Fancy Shirt Waists, worth 35c, for 15c. Old Lots Ladies' Stylish Shirt Waists, worth 50c, for 39c. Old Lots Ladies' Smart Shirt Waists, worth 75c, for 47c. Old Lots Ladies' Pretty Shirt Waists, worth 80c, for 50c.

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Grand Cheap Sale

... FOR AUGUST ...

WING to the extreme heat of July, which made shopping and outing so uncomfortable and unpleasant, we have decided to renew our Cheap Sale during the month of August. Our stocks are complete in every department, and well worthy of inspection, more particularly as every article is so cheap. We have a full stock of Tin and Enamelled Ware with a small stock of Glass and China Ware, as well as a big stock of Glass Fruit Jars; during this coming week quarts at 5c each, half-gallons at 6c each, which means complete rubber bands, etc. Our stock of Dress Goods, Silks, Satins, Velvets, Tweeds, Coatings, Suitings, Pantings, Flannellettes, Table Linens, Roller Towellings, Napkins, Tickings, White and Gray Shirtings, Pillow Cottons, White and Gray Cottons, Prints, Muslins, Lawns, Gloves, Hosiery, Ribbons, Ladies' and Men's Underwear, Lace Curtains, Cretonnes, Curtain Net, etc. This Cheap Sale will continue throughout the month, and the earlier you come the better the bargain at the

Great Au Bon Marche, ALPHONSE VALIQUETTE & CO.,

1883 and 1885 Notre Dame Street. Opposite Balmoral Hotel Block. 3000 Big Big Bar Laundry Soap, worth 10c for 7c a Bar.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

There is a better feeling in the egg market for choice stock, but owing to the continued liberal receipts of inferior which are somewhat of a drag at present, dealers find it difficult to obtain any advance in prices for the better grades.

The demand from local buyers is not up to the average for the season, but there is a fair enquiry from foreign buyers for fresh stock. We quote: Selected new laid 13c to 14c; No. 1 candied stock, 11c to 11 1/2c; P.E.I. 9c to 10c; and cut, at 8c to 9c per dozen. Receipts were 1,767 cases. The demand for beans is limited, and the tone of the market is easy, but no actual change has taken place. We quote: Primes, 9c to 9 1/2c, and choice hand-pecked at \$1 to \$1.05 per bushel.

PROVISIONS.

Trade in hams and bacon is still fairly active, there being a good demand from both local and export buyers, and in consequence prices are fully maintained. Other lines are quiet and unchanged. We quote: Canadian pork, \$16 to \$16 50 per barrel; pure Canadian lard, in pairs, at 8 1/2c to 8 3/4c, and compound refined at 5 1/2c per lb; hams, 10c to 11 1/2c and bacon, at 11 1/2c to 12c per lb.

Cash quotations on provisions closed at Chicago: Pork, \$8.85 to \$8.90; lard, \$5 25 to \$5 27 1/2; ribs, \$5 10 to \$5 40; shoulders, 4 1/2c to 4 3/4c; short clear sides, \$5 00 to \$5 80.

The highest mass of milling wheat are from 160 to 180 cent high, and spread from 60,000 to 100,000 square feet of canvas.

A hemlock tree recently cut down in Appleton, Mass., showed 360 grains, and it was taken as an indication that the tree was nearly four centuries old.