

THE DAILY EXAMINER

MAY 12, 1898.

A SLENDER REED.

The Government of this Province estimates that there will be a deficit on this years transactions of \$15,000. They do this on the strength of their expectations. They expect, they say, to receive a large amount as payment of the claims of the Province. We fear that this expectation is a very weak and slender reed to lean upon.

PRIVY COUNCIL.

OTTAWA, MARCH, 1898.

MY DEAR SIR,—The memorial on behalf of Prince Edward Island's claims, which you submitted to the Privy Council to-day, will be carefully considered by me and my colleagues. We are now so pressed with the daily business of the session that I cannot hold out any hopes of a conclusion being reached by the Government before prorogation.

Yours very sincerely,

WILFRID LAURIER.

The Hon. A. B. Warburton, Premier, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

LOWERING THE STANDARD.

The Leader of the Government has introduced a bill providing that section eighty-five of "The Public Schools Act, 1877," shall be amended by adding thereto the following proviso, namely,—

"Provided always that any such person may receive a License of the Third Class for the term of three years from the issuing thereof although such person has not attended the Provincial Training School, if such person shall have regularly attended any First Class or High School in the said Province for a term of at least six months, all other requirements of the said Act and amendments thereto being complied with, and the holder of such last mentioned License, if a male person shall be entitled to receive out of the Treasury of the said Province as a salary the sum of \$150, and if a female the sum of \$120.

The Liberals lowered the standard of the average attendance at our schools, and as the complement of that act have set about lowering the standard of training and fitness on the part of our teachers. We are on the down grade.

THE OUTLOOK.

The Premier has estimated a deficit of \$15,000 apart from the following works to which the Government and the Province has been pledged:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Includes: Repairs of Provincial Building, \$10,000; Annex to Asylum, 25,000; Prince of Wales College, 25,000; Add the estimated deficit, 15,000; Total, \$75,000.

Thus we see that over and above the revenues to be collected there will be an expenditure of \$75,000 to be added to the debt of the Province—that is unless the Government should deliberately break its pledges.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—This seems to be a good year in which to sow wheat.

—Wheat went up to \$1.75 in the Chicago market on the 9th inst. This is an advance fifty-five cents a bushel within a week.

—Many leaders of public opinion in the United States, declare that all that the States win by the sword they will keep by the sword.

—The death of D'Alton McCarthy removes from the public and legal life of Canada an exceedingly able man. Mr. McCarthy represented North Simcoe in the House of Commons.

—We publish to-day the first authentic detailed account of the battle of Manila. It is from the pen of the New York World's correspondent with the United States fleet.

Have we your millinery order yet?—Moore & McLeod.

The Yeo property, corner of Prince and Grafton Streets, will be sold by auction, on May 25th. See ad. 3i.

THE BATTLE.

(Continued from first page.)

Spanish vessels. The heat was intense. Men stripped of all clothing except their trousers. As the Olympia drew nearer all was silence on board, as if the ship had been empty, except for the whirr of blowers and the throb of the engines.

"REMEMBER THE MAINE"

Suddenly a shell burst directly over us, from the boatswain's mate at the after 8-inch gun came a hoarse cry: "Remember the Maine." It was re-echoed from the throats of five hundred men at the guns. This watchword was caught up in turrets and fire-rooms, where every seaman or fireman stood at his post. "Remember the Maine" had rung out for defiance and revenge. Its utterance seemed unpremeditated, but was evidently in every man's mind; and, now that the moment had come to make adequate reply to the murder of the Maine's crew, every man shouted what was in his heart.

The Olympia was now ready to begin the fight. Commodore Dewey, his chief of staff, Commander Lambertson, and aide and myself, with Executive Officer Lieutenant Rees and Navigator Lieutenant Calkins, who condescended the ship most admirably, were on the forward bridge. Captain Gridley was in the conning tower, as it was thought unsafe to risk losing all the senior officers by one shell. "You may fire when ready, Gridley," said the commodore, and at nineteen minutes to six o'clock, at a distance of 5,500 yards, the starboard eight-inch gun, in the forward turret, roared forth a complaint to the Spanish forts.

FIGHT GROWS WARM.

Presently, similar guns from the Baltimore and the Boston sent 250-pound shells hurling towards the Castilla, and the Reina Cristina. The Spaniards seemed encouraged to fire faster, knowing exactly our distance, while we had to guess theirs. The ship and shore guns were making things hot for us.

The piercing scream of shot was varied by the bursting of time fuse shells, fragments of which would lash the waters like shrapnel, or cut our hull and rigging. One large shell that was coming straight at the Olympia's forward bridge, fortunately fell within less than one hundred feet away. One fragment cut the rigging exactly over the heads of Lambertson, Rees and myself. A third passed just under Commodore Dewey and gouged a hole in the deck. Incidents like these were plentiful.

Our men naturally chafed at being exposed without returning fire from all our guns, but laughed at danger and chatted good humoredly. A few nervous fellows could not help dodging mechanically when shells would burst right over them or close aboard, or would strike the water and passed overhead, with the peculiar spluttering roar made by a tumbling rifled projectile.

Still the flagship steered for the centre of the Spanish line, and as our ships were astern, the Olympia received the most of the Spaniards' attention.

Owing to our deep draught Commodore Dewey felt constrained to change his course at a distance of four thousand yards and run parallel to the Spanish column.

"Open with all guns," he said, and the ship brought her port broadside bearing.

The roar of all the flagship's five-inch rapid fire was followed by the deep diapason of her after turret eight-inches.

Soon our other vessels were equally hard at work, and we could see that our shells were making Cavite harbor hotter for the Spaniards than they had made the approach for us. Protected by their shore batteries and made safe from close attack by shallow water, the Spaniards were in a strong position. They put up a gallant fight.

The Spanish ships were sailing back and forth behind the Castilla and their fire, too, was hot.

U. S. SHIPS HIT.

One shot struck the Baltimore and passed clean through her, fortunately hitting no one. Another ripped up her main deck, disabling a six-inch gun, and exploded a box of three-inch powder ammunition, wounding eight men.

The Olympia was struck abreast the gun in the ward room by a shell, which burst outside, doing little damage.

The signal halyards were cut from

Lieut. Brumby's hand on the after-bridge. A shell burst in the Boston's port quarter and burst in Ensign Dodridge's stateroom, starting a hot fire, and fire was also caused by a shell which burst in the port hammock netting. Both these fires were quickly put out. Another shell passed through the Boston's foremast just in front of Captain Wildes, on the bridge.

After having made four runs along the Spanish line, finding the chart incorrect Lieut. Calkins, the Olympia's navigator, told the Commodore he believed he could take the ships nearer the enemy with the lead going to watch the depth of water.

The flagship started over the course for the fifth time, running within two thousand yards of the Spanish vessels. At this range even six pounders were effective and the storm of the shells poured upon the unfortunate Spanish began to show marked results.

Three of the enemy's vessels were seen burning and their fire slackened. On finishing this run Commodore Dewey decided to give the men breakfast as they had been at the guns two hours with only one cup of coffee to sustain them.

The action ceased temporarily at twenty-five minutes of eight o'clock, the other ships passing the flagship and the men cheering lustily. Our ships remained beyond range of the enemy's guns until ten minutes of eleven o'clock, when the signal for the close action again went up. The Baltimore had the place of honor in the lead with the flagship following, and the other ships as before.

The Baltimore began firing at the Spanish ships and batteries at sixteen minutes past eleven o'clock, making a series of hits as if at target practice.

The Spaniards replied very slowly, and the Commodore signalled the Raleigh, the Boston, the Concord, and the Petrel to go into the inner harbor and destroy all the enemy's ships. By her light draught the little Petrel was enabled to move within one thousand yard. Here, firing swiftly but accurately, she commanded everything still flying the Spanish flag. Other ships were also doing their whole duty, and soon not one red and yellow ensign remained aloft, except on a battery up the coast.

The Spanish flagship and the Castilla had long been burning fiercely, and the last vessel to be abandoned was the Don Antonio de Ulloa, which lurched over and sank.

FLAG HAULED DOWN.

Then the Spanish flag on the arsenal was hauled down and at half-past twelve o'clock a white flag was hoisted there. Signal was made to the Petrel to destroy the vessels in the inner harbour and Lieutenant Hughes, with an armed boat's crew, set fire to the Don Juan de Austria, the Marquise del Duero, the Isle de Cuba and the Correo. The large transport Manila and many tugboats and small craft fell into our hands.

"Capture or destroy the Spanish squadron" were Dewey's orders.

Never were instructions more effectually carried out. Within seven hours after arriving on the scene of action nothing remained to be done.

The commodore closed the day by anchoring off the city of Manila, and sending word to the governor general that if a shot was fired from the city at the fleet he would lay Manila in ashes.

A Rare Chance To Purchase a Bicycle AT THE MARKET SQUARE.

I am instructed by Mr. John P. Joy to sell by auction, at the market square, on Friday, the 20th day of May inst, at 12 o'clock noon.

20 Bicycles, last year's wheels, for Ladies and Gentlemen, in good repair; the only reason for selling, wants to furnish his livery with one make, to enable him to keep a full stock of repairs.

Terms cash. R. BEARISTO, Auctioneer.

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