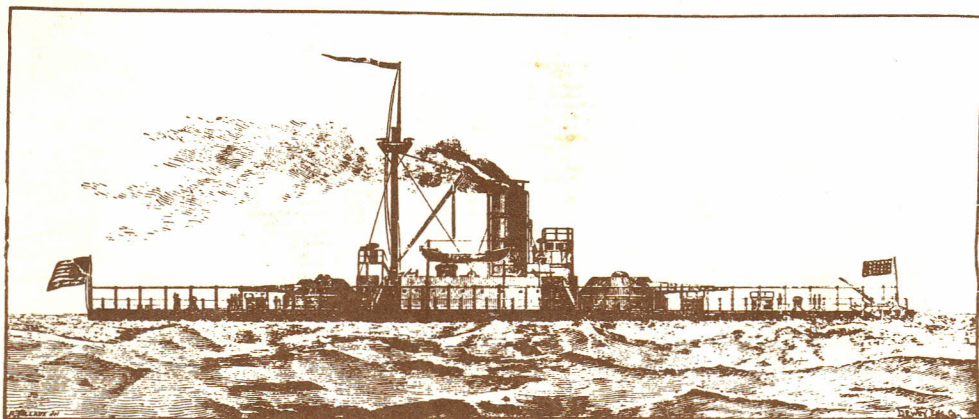


NOTICIAS del PUERTO de MONTEREY

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U. S. Monitor "Monterey" launched April 1891 at Union Iron Works, Oakland, California at the shipyards of James O'Brien Gunn of San Francisco. She was christened by his daughter, Kate Crocker Gunn (Mrs. Charles Wood) who died in Carmel in 1961.

United States Monitor, Monterey

"On August 4, 1898, Commodore Dewey was reinforced by the powerful monitor, MONTEREY."

August 4, 1898, two long anxious months of waiting were ended when the United States Monitor, "MONTEREY", joined the fleet of Commodore Dewey in Manila Bay. The Asiatic Squadron had destroyed the Spanish fleet on May 1, but was waiting for the additional fire-power of the Monterey before attacking the city of Manila, guarded by the powerful guns of Malate. The heroic run of the Monterey of close to 6000 miles across the Pacific occurred nearly 300 years after the founding of the town of Monterey when Vizcaino landed at the foot of the present Presidio in 1602 and took possession in the name of Spain. The town of Monterey has had a fame of its own on both shores of the Pacific Ocean. As a former capitol of a Spanish colo-

ny, Monterey still rates a thirteen gun salute from visiting warships. Her name has been borne in honor by two namesakes. It will come as a surprise that her first namesake was not an aircraft carrier but the monitor, "Monterey."

In 1898, for some months, excitement in the United States had been mounting over real and supposed atrocities in Cuba, fighting for her independence from Spain. It was fanned by the newspapers of William Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer, "the boys vociferant." Americans in Cuba had shown avowed sympathy with the Cubans and along with them had been thrown into "reconcentrado" camps. Spain had abrogated a pact to treat the Cubans more humanely, and to free the Americans.

To relieve the tension and protect her nationals, the battleship, "Maine", had been sent to Cuba. January 25, 1898 she steamed unmolested into Havana Harbor, past the guns of Cabanas Fortress and anchored at Buoy 4. On February 15, the harbor was lit up by a terrific explosion and fragments of the Maine were blown all over the quiet waters of the harbor. 260 men were lost. The Court of Inquiry, March 21, at Key West, Florida, reported "the state of discipline, excellent, all orders in regard to care and safety strictly carried out." To this day it has never been definitely determined whether the cause was internal malfunction or sabotage.

On April 9, the Tuolumne Independent printed an accusation by Senator Redfield Proctor upon his return from Cuba that Spain had not respected the modern rules of war:

Not less a violation of the rules of war is the concentration of non-combatants in towns without making provision for feeding them . . . but when a people are penned within districts and exposed to the slow death of starvation as a means of bringing the leaders of a rebellion to terms, the civilized world has a right to protest.

On April 23, the Tuolumne Independent carried the headline:

WAR PRACTICALLY EXISTS!

The resolution passed by Congress recognizing the independence of Cuba and demanding that Spain relinquish its authority and withdraw its forces from the island was signed by President McKinley Wednesday and an ultimatum was sent to Spain until Saturday to answer.

War was declared April 25. According to Carl Russell Fish, there has never been a war which the people of the United States entered so whole-heartedly, taking no cognizance of the fact that the army was on a depleted peace-time basis, in somewhat less than fighting trim. The Navy, though limited in numbers, was well equipped, trained and disciplined. All of the ships, with the exception of the Asiatic Squadron were on the North Atlantic Station, under Admiral William Sampson. The Asiatic Squadron under Commodore George Dewey was based at Hong Kong. It consisted of his flagship, the cruiser "Olympia", the cruisers "Boston", "Raleigh", "Concord", and the gunboat "Petrel". He was joined by the cruiser, "Baltimore" speeding with munitions from Honolulu where they had been rushed by fast vessel from the United States. The Baltimore had only one day in drydock before going out with the fleet.

With war declared a combatant could no longer avail himself of facilities for water and coaling in the neutral port of Hong Kong. The commodore was notified that he would have to clear the port at once or be interned. His only source of supplies from now on would have to be captured territory. The Spanish had a supposed-

ly formidable squadron in command of Admiral Montojo which lay in Manila Bay before the naval station of Cavite. The United States Naval Department cabled the fleet, "You must capture or destroy."

It was now known that Admiral Cervera's fleet had left Spain for Cuba, but its location on the Atlantic could not be pin-pointed. The discovery of its own vulnerability awoke the whole Atlantic coast to reality with a shock. Each tender spot was in a panic, demanding immediate protection from the Navy. Not immune to nerves was the Pacific coast, war enthusiasm penetrating into the mountain counties.

On April 23, the Tuolumne Independent had announced:

Uncle Sam's Fighting Men Hurrying to the Front.

On April 30, it had a plaintive editorial reprinted from the S. F. News.

PROTECT THE PACIFIC COAST

The Atlantic Coast is not the whole of Uncle Sam's possessions . . . He has a far longer stretch of sea coast on this mild Pacific of ours that is specially in need of protection. This is the golden side of the continent. Our mint and sub-treasury have more of the precious metals stored up in them than is in New York. In a few weeks we shall have a little gold coming down in old rotten tubs from the Yukon region. Nothing could be easier than for a fast cruiser to capture the amount . . . But a stronger sense of what is due to the Pacific Coast is upon us.

The United State's Asiatic Squadron of six ships arrived at la Boca Grande (the entrance to Manila Bay) April 30. The same newspaper of May 7, (some allowance must be made for delay in communications), reprinting from the San Francisco Call:

GLORIOUS VICTORY

. . . Our fleet entered Manila Bay, Sunday morning, at 5 o'clock and anchoring off Cavite, the ships took up their positions in line of battle.

The fleet had steamed in, led by the Olympia, ignoring the possibility of mines. It was at this point that Commodore Dewey issued his famous order, "You may fire when ready, Gridley." Charles Vernon Gridley was the commanding officer of the Olympia, a school-mate of Dewey's, and a close friend. Just previous to the battle of Manila Bay, Captain Gridley was to be retired for ill-health, but had persisted in remaining on duty. This cost him his life. After the victory, he started for the United States where his wife was waiting but died in Japan on June 4. He is buried in Arlington, and flanking his grave are two guns from Cavite.

The account proceeds:

The forts on shore opened fire on our ships at long range and the Spanish fleet, anchored off Cavite, immediately followed with its heavy guns.

Commodore Dewey's flagship, the Olympia, then signalled the rest of the American fleet to draw closer in and soon afterward our ships opened a terrific cannonade.

After half an hour's hot fighting, Dewey's ships moved out of range of the lighter Spanish guns and continued . . . with big guns with terrific effect. Twenty minutes later the Olympia again signalled the other American ships to draw in at close quarters . . .

The battle lasted an hour and a half and it was a great terrible spectacle . . . The existence of a Spanish fleet with a good base of supplies constituted a menace to our shipping in the Pacific Ocean.

This exploit of Commodore Dewey was described later by a classmate at the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Commodore Henry L. Howison:

Like a thorough American sailor, he went right into the harbor, with his bridges cut behind him, so to speak . . . He had absolutely nothing but the deep blue sea to fall back on, but everything to look forward to.

This victory, the first of the war, was heralded in the United States on May 7, with great rejoicing. Congress made George Dewey a rear-admiral. The *Tuolumne Independent* stated with true realism:

The full force of the honors thrust upon Admiral Dewey will never come home to him until he learns that a cigar and a bicycle have been named after him. (Post.)

Although the Spanish fleet was destroyed and the land batteries at the entrance to the bay were in the possession of the United States, Admiral Dewey had yet to overcome the undefeated land forces of the enemy outside the city of Manila, guarded by the heavy 9" guns of Fort San Antonio de Abad at Malate. No longer able to re-coal and reprovision at a neutral port, Admiral Dewey must capture land bases. On June 16, the fleet of Admiral Cervera had been bottled up at Santiago, Cuba. This battle was the consummation of the secret maiden run of the *Oregon* from San Francisco. As to fleets, this left two down and one to go. Another factor was the Cadiz fleet of Admiral Camara that was sailing eastward, through the Mediterranean supposedly to the defense of the Philippines. Hence the following telegram to the Hon. Jon Long, Secretary of the Navy, from Hong Kong.

Received June 27, 1898.

No change in the situation since my telegram of June 17. Five German, three British, one French, one Japanese men-of-war in port. Insurgents closing in on city. The United States transports and the *Charleston* have not arrived. The *Baltimore* is at Cape Engano awaiting them. Have received information the Cadiz Squadron passed Gibraltar Friday morning June 17. Shall the *Monadnock* and the *Monterey* arrive in time? In my judgment if the coast of Spain was threatened, the squadron of the enemy would have to return. 129 officers, U.S. Navy, 6 pay-master clerks, and 1709 men engaged in the battle of Manila Bay.

Dewey

A fuller report stated no Americans killed, 9 wounded.

In the May 21 *Independent*, the editor quotes from the *Mining Scientific Press*: The Pacific Coast has a proud part in Dewey's victory in the Philippines. The best of the ships that smashed the Spanish were built in San Francisco, and 75 per cent of the men aboard were from California, Oregon and Nevada.

With his fleet of six vessels and 1700 men, Admiral Dewey faced the imponderable factor of the foreign warships. Would they remain neutral or participate in the coming conflict? With the exception of Great Britain, the European powers were openly hostile to the growing power of the United States. Germany was hungry for colonies. She sent men-of-war to the Philippines, hoping the islands would be hers some day. A fifth battleship, in command of Admiral Diedrichs who ranked Admiral Dewey in protocol steamed into the bay, neglected the courtesy of a salute to the United States fleet and fraternized with the Spaniards on shore, contrary to International law. However, Captain Chichester of the British man-of-war, "*Immortalite*", maneuvered his ships into place between the Americans and the Germans, leaving no doubt as to whom he would support.

The delay for reinforcements demanded constant vigilance on the part of the outwardly imperturbable Admiral Dewey. An estimate of him by a fellow officer at the Brooklyn Navy Yard:

A dangerous man in a fight . . . Sailor, navigator, fighter, commander, he combines cool accurate judgment with the audacious bravery that has placed his recent achievement in the glorious annals of the American Navy.

The importance of the Monterey to the little fleet of six cruisers surrounded by so many larger men-of-war was almost incalculable. In the Independent appeared sketches of the 6 United States monitors (rotogravures were not yet used)

Uncle Sam is now possessor of 6 first class monitors of the double turret pattern. By naval rating these are classed as coast defense vessels . . . In all the requisites of open sea fighting the new monitors are battleships of the highest grade . . . The monitors are not built for speed . . .

On June 30, the first troops of the army of occupation, 2491 men under Brigadier General T. M. Anderson arrived in the bay. On July 1 the second contingent, 3586 men under Brigadier General F. V. Greene arrived and on July 31, the third, 4847 men under the commander of the whole expedition, Major General Wesley Merritt joined the squadron. The troopship found sanctuary in the midst of the navy. in no way lessening the tension.

At the end of each week the progress of the war was reported by the news services. An innovation, a floating hospital ship was described, the Red Cross Ambulance Ship.

June 5, Captain Charles Gridley, one of the heroes of Manila Bay died of injuries

June 11 Marines land at Guantanamo.

June 16 Admiral Sampson's fleet bombarded Santiago (Cuba)

June 17 Aguinaldo, the insurgent general, declares the independence of the Philippines. This action may cause troublesome complications for the United States.

Since the land batteries at the entrance to Manila Bay had been silenced, General Greene had landed and taken up a position behind the trenches of the insurgents behind the city itself. The insurgent leader, Aguinaldo, had signified his intention to cooperate with the Americans, but a directive from the United States State Department to the army and navy ordered that no close alliance be established with the unpredictable general.

As yet no monitors. Manila was now surrounded on all sides, on three by land forces and on the fourth by the navy.

With Admiral Camara as yet an unknown factor, Admiral Dewey planned to take his charges, the troopships, to a point N.E. of Luzon and then set out full speed ahead to effect a meeting with the Monterey. General Anderson was determined to take thirty days rations, march into the hills behind Cavite and sit out the return of the fleet. Progress of the War.

June 26 Camara's Squadron arrives at Port Said entrance to the Suez Canal.

Destination may be San Francisco.

The newspapers were not likely to overlook dramatic possibilities. Throughout the whole war, the correspondents had had free access to plans, had accompanied military units and had reported war news with untrammelled abandon. The Navy, by putting to sea, had achieved more secrecy for its maneuvers.

The MONTEREY had actually set out from San Diego June 11, convoyed by the collier "Brutus", since the monitor was not equipped with coal bunkers adequate for long sea voyages. She no longer had any Asiatic port of call for refueling. Five days out, her coal was gone. The Brutus put a cable aboard but the heavy swells and the pitching of the Monterey caused the cable to part. After many efforts and considerable delay, the two indomitable vessels were on their way again. So much time had been lost that the troopships which had set out after the Monterey caught up and passed her at Honolulu. The voyage of the monitor of 6000 miles across the Pacific entailed great hardship for the crew. The water tanks on deck impeded her progress. To prevent foundering in the heavy seas which kept her deck awash, the hatches had to be closed. The tropical heat, the rolling and pitching of the ship and the stale air between decks made the condition of the crew almost unbearable.

"August 4, Admiral Dewey was reinforced by the powerful monitor, MONTEREY."

A thrill went through the whole little fleet when the Monterey recoaled, and her smoke stacks pouring forth black streamers of smoke, hove in sight in Manila Bay. Her prestige was unquestioned. Her two great guns, two to each turret made her almost the equal of one of the Spanish cruisers. She was heavily armored, with 7 1/2 - 8" inch steel plate on her revolving turrets. In her forward turret were two 12 inch guns, and in her after turret, two 10 inch guns. She was 256 feet in length, 59 feet beam, with a draft of 14 feet, 10 inches. With her shallow draft and her steam engines, she could stand in closer to shore than a wind-driven vessel.

Admiral Dewey was now ready to attack the Spanish fort. He ordered the neutral men-of-war out of range. As the Olympia steamed past the British fleet, Captain Chichester ordered the whole ship's complement on deck at parade, with the band playing Admiral Dewey's favorite march.

On shore, Aguinaldo had withdrawn his troops from the trenches behind Manila, to allow General Greene a clear field to attack the city.

Now, with such tremendous fire-power in his grasp, Admiral Dewey knew any bombardment would overshoot the fort and land in the densely populated city of Manila, causing great loss of life. To forestall unnecessary slaughter, Admiral Dewey and General Merritt sent a demand for surrender to the Spanish Governor-General, Fermin Jaudenes, which was refused. On August 13, another demand for surrender was sent and this time, through the mediation of the Belgian consul, M. Edouard Andre, General Jaudenes was persuaded to agree to a token resistance, and honor would be saved.

Relying upon this agreement, Admiral Dewey ordered the powerful guns of the Monterey to hold their fire unless the four heavy guns of the Spanish outworks at Malate in Fort San Antonio de Abad went into action.

August 13, began overcast and squally. The vessels of the attacking squadron opened restrained fire but no formidable reply came from the Spaniards. While the guns of the navy were keeping up the bombardment, a gap in the intermittent rain squalls opened, and to the astonishment of the fleet, the Stars and Stripes were

plainly visible floating over the Spanish works. With Fort San Antonio invested by U.S. land forces, the battle was over. American losses were none, by sea, and six killed and thirty-nine wounded by land.

A heartfelt tribute to the Monterey in a boy's spontaneous letter, to his mother, (we take old to be a term of endearment) The Tuolumne Independent:

A Tuolumne Boy's Experience in the Philippines

The old Monterey steamed right in front of the Manila forts and defied the fire of the enemy . . .

Raphael (Duchow)

Hospital Corps, 3rd. Artillery, U.S.A., U.S.S. Ohio, Manila.

For the heroic run of the Monterey, her skipper, Commander E. H. C. Leutze, received a complimentary letter from the Navy Department. As for the Monterey, she remained with the Asiatic Squadron, no more long runs at sea, cruising in Philippine and China waters until 1908, when she was put on the inactive list. From 1919 to 1921 she was a station ship at Pearl Harbor. She was then decommissioned and stricken from the navy list. Her hour had come and on February 25, she was sold for scrap.

Monterey, the city, did not forget. She celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the battle of Manila with a public celebration. But the monitor "Monadnock" had to stand in for the "Monterey". To many she was not their vessel, the "Monterey." Whether the "Monterey" ever actually anchored in Monterey Bay or not, she belongs to Monterey's honor roll of famous ships, the "San Diego" of Vizcaino — the Manila Galleon — the "San Antonio" of Juan Perez — the "Juno" of Rezanof — the vessel of Sir George Simpson, of the Hudson's Bay Company — the "Congress" of Commodore Sloat — the three famous sister frigates built in 1797, the "Constitution", the "Constellation", and the fastest, the "United States" of Commodore Ap Catesby Jones. Coming down the years, the Pacific Mail Steamer, "California", — the "Great White Fleet" of 1908 on its round-the-world voyage of good-will and prestige — the many valiant air-craft carriers. Monterey belongs to the sea.

Margaret Hanna Lang



COSAS DE INTERES PARA LOS SOCIOS

Book of Remembrance

The Association's Book of Remembrance was instituted several years ago, and it has become more and more frequent for monetary gifts to be given by members or friends in memory of deceased members or others interested in California history. The names of the deceased are inscribed in the book by a master calligrapher, and the handsomely bound volume is always on display in Casa Serrano. In the memorial list for this Noticias are Mrs. Millie Birks, Dr. Clarence Higgins, Cmdr. Richard R. Lukens and Professor Frank E. La Cauza.

Gifts to the Casa Serrano

A very handsome Turkish rug given by Col. and Mrs. Wm. McC. Chapman. The rug was purchased from the exhibit of Marshall Field's at the 1891 World's Fair in Chicago by an ancestor of Mrs. Chapman. It has been laid in the small room to the left of front entrance where the collection of etchings of the late Armin Hansen are hung.

**THE EDITORS
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A book entitled: "Dances of Early California Days" by Lucille K. Czarnowsyi, the author. Mrs. Roy Chanslor of Carmel has given a copy of "Pepe" written by her late husband, James Hooper, in 1937 for the Book Club of California. An antique clock, which keeps time, and a quaint hair wreath in an oval gilt frame from the AWVS thrift shop.

The board of directors voted at the August meeting to place a new floor in the "Sala Grande" at Casa Serrano. The replacement is demanded because of termites, dry rot, etc. Casa Serrano will be closed for about three weeks beginning Aug. 10. The Board of Directors will meet at the Stevenson House on Sept. 3rd, because of the work being done at Casa Serrano. An invitation has been extended by the Monterey Savings and Loan to meet in Casa Estrada on the first Monday in October.

Mrs. Margaret Hanna Lang, a former resident of Monterey, a member of the History and Art Assn., and at present a resident of Columbia, California is the contributor of the featured story in the Noticias this month.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Craig have returned from a year in Europe and Mr. Craig will soon be taking charge of the Quarterly again. Welcome home!

Mrs. Frank E. La Cauza and the Monterey History and Art Association thank the contributors to the memorial fund for Professor La Cauza. The names have been forwarded to her, and she has been asked to advise as to the memorial to be chosen.

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. George Dutton, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Palms, Jr., Lt. Col. Henry H. Banke, Mr. and Mrs. Everette Banfield, Mr. Lester E. Rumrill, Jr., R. Adm. & Mrs. Charles K. Bergin, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Knox, Jr., Mrs. George Peters, Mrs. Paul S. Nelson, Mrs. Nadine H. Shelton, Mr. and Mrs. Carl G. Claussen, Dorothy A. Kingsbury, Miss Mattie Frost.

NEW JUNIOR MEMBERS

Todd W. Bliss and Terance Ann Bliss.

LIFE MEMBER

Roland W. Schiffler.