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DIARY OF THE REVOLUTION

AT RIO JANEIRO, BRAZIL,



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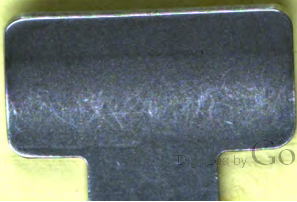
COMMANDER NEELD, H.M.S. "BEAGLE."

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DIARY
OF THE
REVOLUTION AT RIO JANEIRO,
BRAZIL,

KEPT BY
COMMANDER NEELD, H.M.S. "BEAGLE."

SEPTEMBER 6th, 1893, TO MARCH 14th, 1894.

UNIVERSITY of
MINNESOTA

President of the Republic—MARSHAL FLORIANO PEIXOTO.

Insurgent Leaders { REAR-ADMIRAL CUSTODIO DE MELLO.
REAR-ADMIRAL SALDANHA DE GAMA.

Insurgent Flagship—"AQUIDABAN."

PORTSMOUTH :

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N 29

H.M.S. "Beagle,"

Monte-Video,

January 1st, 1895.

P R E F A C E .

This is an account of the Revolution at Rio Janeiro, Brazil, written by me from mine own personal observation, which commenced on September 6th, 1893, and ended on March 13th, 1894.

I have not attempted to enter into the political part of this drama.

President of the Republic: Marshal Floriano Peixoto.

Insurgent Leaders { Rear-Admiral Custodio de Mello.
Rear-Admiral Saldanha de Gama.

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THE REVOLUTION IN BRAZIL.

(Reprinted from the "*Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette*.")

—:O:—

WHETHER Spanish blood predominates there, sooner or later, the people are to be seen flying at one another's throats, and in Brazil that most hateful of all forms of war, civil war, is, as our readers are doubtless aware, going on at the present time. The navy having revolted against the President of the Republic, while the military have remained firm, we have here, too, the singular spectacle of the maritime forces of a country fighting against the land forces. The ships of war are commanded by Admiral Mello, and since the commencement of hostilities he has concentrated operations on Rio de Janeiro and the forts defending the harbour. Fortunately for the owners of English vessels trading with Rio there have been from the first onset three of our own men of war stationed at this important port, who have been able to protect British interests, and of these ships one is the *Beagle*, commanded by Capt. Neeld. As intimated in our last week's issue, Commander Neeld has sent us, in the form of a diary, an interesting account of the fighting, which is probably the most authentic record of the action of the rebel Admiral which has yet been published. It has been brought down to the day of the despatch of the last mail, and is as follows:—

SEPT. 6th, 1893.—H.M. ships *Sirius*, *Racer*, and *Beagle* were lying in the harbour. All things on the previous day were quiet, and there were no signs of any revolution. At 7 a.m. a Brazilian officer went on board the *Sirius* and informed the Senior British Naval Officer that the Navy had revolted against the President. Events soon showed this to be true. All the ships had got steam up during the night, and had prepared for action. The *Republica* slipped from her buoy at 6.30 a.m., then the *Trojana*, the latter going over to a town called Nitheroy, which is opposite Rio de Janeiro. There she managed to get on shore, and had to be towed

off. The *Aquidaban*, the Admiral's ship, remained at her buoy all that day, and was busily employed in hoisting in machine guns and ammunition. There is no doubt that the plan must have been well worked out beforehand, as all tugs, both Government and private, the latter having been seized that morning, were in full swing. All ships in the dockyard were towed out and taken over to Nitheroy, and anchored there. Four steamers then came down, and were used as armed cruisers, each steamer having a quick firing gun and three or four machine guns. The squadron now consisted of the *Aquidaban*, (Admiral's ship), *Republica*, *Trojana*, four armed merchant ships, and four torpedo boats. We received information from the Admiral of the dockyard in the forenoon that Admiral Mello intended to bombard the town at 4 p.m. on that day, and he came to ask the French Admiral and the Senior British Naval Officer to intercede, but that was impossible. The only thing that could be done was to demand forty-eight hours before commencing hostilities. At the same time I felt confident that Admiral Mello had no intention of doing such an outrageous action, as Rio de Janeiro is a defenceless town, and such action on his part would be the means of causing immense destruction of life and property. The British men-of-war got steam up, and were ready to leave their anchorage in case of being in the line of fire, but no bombardment took place, although the Brazilian ships were cleared for action all that day, and the men were ready at the guns. The fort of Villegagnon, which is a naval dépôt, made a great number of preparations. All the field guns were brought down and placed along the landing place. No one knew which side those who held it intended to take. At 10 p.m. the torpedo boats and armed launches patrolled the harbour, and fired with rifles at all passing boats. At 10.30 there was heavy rifle firing from Rio. The Italian Consul had been dining on board the Italian man-of-war *Bausan*, and landed in her steam cutter at about 8.30 p.m. When approaching the landing place the boat was fired into by the troops, and as many as 20 bullet marks were subsequently found on her. One man was severely wounded, and he died next morning. The Brazilian Government agreed to give £5,000 compensation, and the money was paid next day. At this time we were lying at a buoy near the shore, and our hull was twice hit by bullets, several passing through the rigging. H.M.S. *Racer* was also hit.

7th.—There was no bombardment this day, but the ships constantly moved about the harbour. The *Beagle* and *Racer* moved further out so as to be clear of rifle bullets. All steam launches and ferry boats stopped running, and all trade was at a stand-still. Field guns on shore were placed in different parts of the town, all being loaded. At 7 p.m. there was heavy firing in the direction of Nitheroy.

8th.—The *Republica* and the *Aquidaban* steamed across to Nitheroy, and about 1 p.m. opened fire on the troops. The Villegagnon

fort, which is a naval depôt, still remained neutral. Nothing more occurred, except rifle firing at intervals.

9th.—Ships still anchored off Nitheroy. 9 a.m., heavy rifle firing in the vicinity of the dockyard; two shells fired from the *Republica*. 1.30, *Trojana* opened fire on Nitheroy, assisted by 2 torpedo boats. 1.45, heavy firing near the arsenal. Torpedo boats opened fire, killing eight soldiers. In the evening at about 8, *Republica* went in and made fast to a buoy inside the foreign ships, and received a heavy fire from the rifles of the troops on shore. The *Bausan*, Italian ship, was hit six times by rifle bullets; the French Admiral's ship four times. Several came near us.

10th.—At 5 a.m. more rifle firing near the arsenal. H.M.S. *Racer* proceeded up the harbour to protect English merchant ships. Two steamers arrived during the day under British colours with a large cargo of cattle. Admiral Mello had already commenced to take the cattle out when our Senior Officer sent a boat with an officer to protest against it. The Brazilians thereupon left the vessels. 5.30 p.m., *Republica* came in and made fast to a buoy inside the French flagship. The Admiral sent an officer and requested the Captain to move, as he said he had been hit by bullets the night before, also that he was endangering the lives of men on board foreign ships. He then very soon cleared. Up to this time 50 soldiers have been killed and 150 wounded. The ships have had three killed and two wounded.

11th.—Shots were fired from the *Trojana* at Nitheroy. Santa Cruz and Villegagnon forts extinguished all lights. The Royal mail steamer, *Magdalena* arrived. We had to send boats to escort the mails on shore. All merchant ships anchored outside fort Villegagnon had to weigh and proceed up harbour. 10 p.m., ships commenced to bombard Nitheroy for about one hour. Heavy firing with guns and rifles.

12th.—At 8 a.m. *Republica* and *Aquidaban* commenced to fire at Nitheroy. Two torpedo boats assisted, firing their three P.R. 11.30, two launches and the *Republica* again opened fire on Nitheroy. All foreign Ministers and Captains held a conference on board the French flagship *Arethuse*, Admiral Mello having sent a message to say that he intended to bombard Fort Santa Cruz. As the foreign ships stood a chance of being hit, it was a question whether they should move or remain. It was deemed prudent by the conference that they should move.

13th.—At 7.45 a.m. all foreign men-of-war weighed, the French Admiral leading. They proceeded up the harbour to an anchorage clear of all firing. H.M.S. *Racer* went out and took up her position outside the entrance, in order to warn all ships not to enter the harbour. At 10.30 *Republica* weighed and proceeded close under Fort Villegagnon. *Aquidaban* and *Trojana* also weighed, and proceeded towards Fort Santa Cruz. At 11 *Republica* opened fire on Santa Cruz, two shots hitting the fort. The fort returned the fire. Then the

Aquidaban and *Trojana* opened fire on the fort. A general engagement now commenced between the ships and forts. Besides the *Aquidaban*, *Republica*, and *Trojana*, the *Javary* and *Marago*, both of which had their engines disabled, were towed out and placed in position. The firing was very bad on both sides, nearly all shot falling short or striking the basis of the fort. Most of the shells burst immediately after being fired. Of course some shot and shell must have fallen into the fort. The engagement continued up to about 5 o'clock. About 3.30 the same day they opened fire from the shore with field guns, and the *Republica* and *Trojana* then fired four or five shots each into the town. No more firing occurred during the night.

14th.—All the ships remained at anchor, and were employed in coaling, and having a general clean up. At 5.30 *Trojana* opened fire with her quick firing guns on Nitheroy. *Aquidaban* also opened fire. The field guns returned the fire, and shortly after, one or two guns from Rio de Janeiro opened fire on the ships anchored at Nitheroy, but their shot fell half-way across the harbour. *Trojana* then weighed, and opened fire with her broadside guns at Rio de Janeiro. At about 6.30 the *Javary* which was anchored about half-way between Rio and Nitheroy, fired one gun on Rio de Janeiro. At 6.30 two guns were fired from Rio. It being dark no one could see the result. From information received after the bombardment on the 13th, it appears that, notwithstanding the bad firing, about 80 soldiers and one officer were killed in the fort. Of course that must have been done by shell, but I have my doubts about the number killed, as two days afterwards I had to steam out to the entrance of the harbour, and had a good look at the fort and could see four hits only. The ships lost no men. The *Aquidaban* was hit three times, but not much damage was done. The firing on the town on the 14th inflicted some loss of life, but not very great. The military hospital was struck, causing some part of the roof to fall in, and several houses received damage.

15th.—Ships remained at their anchorage, and were still employed coaling and, I presume, cleaning engines and guns. At 4.30 the guns at Rio de Janeiro opened fire on the ships. Shooting bad. At 5 o'clock *Aquidaban* opened fire on the troops at Nitheroy.

16th.—Ships remained at their anchorage, and were employed taking in coal and provisions. Not a single shot was fired during the day. During the night there were several steam launches cruising round the harbour. The *Magdalena*, one of the Royal mail steamers, had discharged her cargo for this port, and not being able to land it had anchored the lighters. During the night, a steam launch came and captured one of them. The *Sirius* on receiving information that one had been taken, sent an armed boat's crew, but they were too late. Our Senior Officer then sent to Admiral Mello, on board the *Aquidaban*, demanding a return of the lighter at once, and the demand was complied with.

17th.—At 2 a.m. Fort Santa Cruz opened fire and heavy rifle firing was also heard. This was owing to one of Admiral Mello's ships moving past the fort. It transpired that the *Republica* had got out during the night; whether she got hit or not, of course we could not tell. After this all was quiet until 5.30, but great activity was observable all day, launches being employed moving men from one ship to another. At 5.30 heavy rifle firing from the troops at Nitheroy, field guns also firing at intervals, but the ships did not reply. The *Trojana* weighed, and proceeded over to Fort Villegagnon. We heard it was to demand from the fort their intentions as to whether they were going to act with the Navy or the President. As before mentioned, this fort is entirely manned by naval officers and bluejackets. Up to this time they had remained neutral, so I presume Admiral Mello had now determined to find out what they intended to do.

18th, at 2.0 a.m.—Santa Cruz fort opened heavy fire, but it being a dark night no one could tell on whom the firing was concentrated. At 4.15 heavy firing from the fort again commenced, this time accompanied by rifle firing. We heard next day that one of the armed cruisers and a torpedo boat had managed to evade the fort, and get out. Admiral Mello sent a letter to the French Admiral and foreign Captains of war vessels that he intended to bombard Santa Cruz fort that afternoon, but for reasons unknown to us he altered his plans as no bombardment took place. The foreign men-of-war were strengthened by the arrival of two German men-of-war to-day, so the foreign element is now strong, consisting of three English, one French, three Italian, two German, and one Portuguese, vessels. Of course the great object of Admiral Mello is to silence the guns at the fort and take it, so that he can have complete command of the harbour for his ships to leave and enter.

19th.—Nothing occurred. A few rifle shots only. Ships employed coaling.

20th.—Troops at Nitheroy opened fire with rifles and field guns at some marines who had landed from the *Aquidaban* to get stores from the arsenal. The ships returned the fire with their quick firing guns.

21st.—Nothing occurred. Ships taking in stores.

22nd.—The *Aquidaban* weighed at 12.30 p.m., and steamed round the harbour, and then went in and made fast to a buoy near the arsenal. What her intentions were we could not tell. At 2.30 Fort Santa Cruz opened fire on the *Trojana*, which was anchored close in under Fort Villegagnon. The firing being too hot for her she weighed and then engaged the fort. A torpedo boat was then despatched to inform Admiral Mello what was taking place. He immediately steamed out. At about 3.45 a general engagement took place between the fleet and the forts, Fort Santa Cruz, Lago, and San Juan. The ships engaged were the *Aquidaban*, *Trojana*, *Guanabara*, and *Javary*. The two latter having their machinery

disabled had to be towed out into position. The firing on both sides was bad, but I think the forts had the best of it. They ceased firing at 5.

23rd.—Fort Santa Cruz opened fire on the *Guanabara* at 6 a.m. She had been towed out during the night and placed in position. At about 6.30 a.m. we were watching the firing when all of a sudden she was enveloped in white smoke. Whether it was a shell burst on board her, or an explosion of gunpowder caused by their own carelessness (most likely the latter) one could not tell, but shortly after she was towed back by tugs, having her colours half-mast. I learnt afterwards she had three killed and three wounded. Nothing more occurred during the day.

24th.—To-day the bay at Rio Janeiro presented an extraordinary spectacle. At about 6 a.m. it suddenly came on to blow hard, and a nasty short choppy sea arose. Nearly all the ships of the rebel squadron commenced to drag their anchors, especially the ships whose engines were either disabled or under repair. In a few minutes they were all drifting with the wind and tide. The men on board seemed to have no idea what to do. If they had veered cable it might have brought them up, but I don't think any had a second anchor to let go, and as for veering cable I presume it never struck them that it was necessary. First the *Orion*, a small gunboat, became interlocked with an old paddler called the *Madeira*. After about five minutes they managed to get clear of each other, but not by human efforts. The former had her bows stove in and lost her bowsprit. Then the *Madeira* drifted on and fell across the bows of the *Trojana*, which was at anchor. The only thing to be done to get the *Madeira* clear was to cut one of her masts away in order to save an enormous amount of damage to the *Trojana*. After that she drifted on, and eventually brought up at some distance off. Besides the ships dragging, another extraordinary spectacle was to be seen. Steam launches, lighters, and boats drifted helplessly away, and some four or five boats were swamped. Fort Santa Cruz, seeing the disorganised condition of the rebel squadron, commenced opening fire on them, but, as usual, firing was bad. If good gunners had been in the forts the ships would have suffered a good deal. For about 15 minutes they were all heaped together, and some in such a position that they could not have trained their guns on the forts. The *Aquidaban* fired two or three guns. After that their was quietude for the remainder of the Sabbath. During the afternoon the *Trojana* weighed and steamed up the harbour and then came back again. She went close into the town, and then altered her course direct for the arsenal. We had received information a few days previous that Admiral Mello had determined to bombard the arsenal, as there were rumours that the government were constructing torpedoes. Anyhow she had a look in and then come out again. Of course, if the ships did bombard the arsenal it would involve an enormous amount of damage to property, and most likely to life as well.

25th.—The *Aquidaban* weighed and proceeded into the arsenal and anchored off there, or rather made fast to a buoy at about 12.30. Nothing occurred until 5. Then the *Aquidaban* opened fire, the fire being returned by the troops on shore with musketry and field guns placed in different positions. The *Aquidaban* fired her heavy quick firing and machine guns. In fact she was opening fire with every gun available on board. One shell from her turret gun burst close to some barracks on a hill nearly in the centre of the town, but what damage was done, it was impossible to say. The firing on both sides as long as it lasted was very heavy. The *Aquidaban* must have been hit several times. At about 6 p.m. the *Aquidaban*

amed out and anchored in the bay. During the time she was coming out a battery from the shore opened fire on the ships in the bay, hitting an old paddler called the *Amazonas*. I could get no reliable information as to the damage down in the town; but one could see from the ship a church had had its spire knocked to pieces.

26th.—Two armed cruisers went in at 12 o'clock and opened fire with their Q. F. guns and machine guns near the arsenal, the troops returning fire with field guns. The cruisers did not remain long as the firing on them was too hot. The foreign squadron was to-day reinforced by the arrival of the American cruiser *Charleston*, a powerful ship. Admiral Mello, commanding the rebel squadron, had a book sent off to him. Inside the leaves there was dynamite and caps. He, having some suspicion, had it placed in a tub of water at once, and after taking it out discovered what it contained. It is reported that when the men heard of it on board the *Aquidaban* the officers had some difficulty in preventing them from bombarding the town. Now that blood is warming up on both sides, no one can foresee what will be done. At about 6.30 p.m. a slight skirmish took place between the troops at Nitheroy and the *Javary*, but only lasted for about fifteen minutes. There is no doubt that if it had not been for such a strong contingent of foreign men-of-war present, Admiral Mello would have had a free hand to obtain coal and provisions from the merchant ships of different nationalities, but of course a strict guard is kept on all merchant ships by the men-of-war. The ships flying the Brazilian flag are the only ones which Admiral Mello has free access to. There are a great number of English steamers which come over here from the River Plate with cattle, and owing to this revolution it is almost impossible to land them here, and these poor beasts are in a dreadful condition, chiefly from want of water. One morning I counted no less than 120 head floating down the harbour which had been thrown overboard. Rio Janeiro is greatly dependent on the supply of beef from the River Plate.

27th.—The ships remained at anchor all day. At 5 p.m. a short skirmish took place between the ships and troops at Nitheroy. At 7.30 p.m. there was heavy musketry firing near the arsenal, most likely owing to a torpedo boat passing. One or two guns

were also fired from the town. I am anchored near the rebel squadron, and during the forenoon saw an officer go on board an English steamer which was laden with cattle. I sent a boat immediately to enquire from the Captain what the officer wanted. He said that he required cattle, and offered to pay for them, but I should like to know very much where that was to come from. Needless to say, the steamer very soon left her berth for a better place of security. We have a tug attached to the ship called the *Victoria*, which does all towing work; such as towing merchant ships out of the line of fire. The crew are Brazilians, but we have the white ensign flying on board, and also have a warrant officer and two men, merely to show the rebels that they are under British protection. Each ship has one. They belong to Wilson & Co., coal merchants, and are all registered as British tugs of Liverpool. A few nights ago a rebel steam launch ranged up alongside the *Victoria* and hailed her to get her anchor up at once. The Captain of her promptly hailed, "I am under the orders of the British Admiral," so they very soon left. The Captain has a blue light, and in case any force is used against him he shows his light, and then we send a boat. But I don't think there is any chance of Admiral Mello falling foul of the foreign powers. So far he has acted very justly.

28th.—Nothing occurred in the forenoon, but during the afternoon there was a good deal of intermittent firing between the ships and the troops on the Nitheroy side. As far as one can gather, this firing from the ships is directed on troops who are mounting guns. At about 8.30 p.m., it being dark, the *Aquidaban* opened fire with all her guns. The only thing that we could imagine was that a boat or boats had tried to attack her. One bullet struck our foremost gun-shield, and another cut one of our ropes in two. For about fifteen minutes bullets were passing over the ship. Then all was quiet again. I must now mention what took place on the 27th. Admiral Mello had sent word to our Senior Naval Officer that a suspicious looking launch had been seen in the harbour flying a red ensign, British of course, whereupon the Senior British Naval Officer communicated with Admiral Mello, and from information received, sent an armed boat's crew up to a certain place in the harbour. Suddenly they came across this launch with the British colours flying, and immediately seized her. In the boat were eight men armed with rifles, and in the stern was a conical machine which was to have been filled with a hundred pounds of dynamite. Although the dynamite was not actually in the machine, it was found in the boat ready for use. The crew consisted of an American (the leader), a Canadian, an Irishman, two Belgians, and three Brazilians, the eighth being a Swede. Their intention was to blow up the *Aquidaban*, and if they had been doing this under any other colours except British we could not have interfered. The three Brazilians were delivered over to the dockyard Admiral; the leader being an American is a close prisoner on board the *Charleston*, and

four are prisoners on board H.M.S. *Sirius*, of course awaiting orders from their Governments.

29th.—Nothing occurred all day ; ships lying at anchor. Two old paddlers named the *Madeira* and *Amazonas* have been taken up the harbour and scuttled, as their engines are useless. I presume Admiral Mello thought they might be captured by the President and utilised for some purpose. As the days pass it appears almost impossible to foresee how long this revolution may go on, for both parties up to the present have shown no signs of coming to a compromise. It is a sad and melancholy sight to see day after day a certain number of lives sacrificed, mostly of those who have had nothing to do with the revolution.

30th.—Admiral Mello sent an officer to say that he was going to bombard the forts at noon. At 12 o'clock the *Aquidaban* weighed, and at 12.30 the *Trojana*. The *Javary* and *Guanabara*, whose engines were disabled, were towed out and placed in position to bombard. At 2 p.m. the *Aquidaban* opened fire on Santa Cruz. The fort answered the fire and then a general engagement commenced between the ships and the forts. The firing, as usual, was bad. At 4.15 firing ceased, and the ships returned to their anchorages. The *Aquidaban* was hit four times, one officer being wounded, two men killed, and three severely wounded. Comparatively little damage was done on either side, although the firing was heavy and both sides seemed to have more energy than on former occasions. I have since heard that during the firing by the *Aquidaban* on the 25th at the arsenal one of the towers of a church called Lapa dos Mercadores was shot away and in falling, wrecked another building. The firing on the 26th in the same vicinity killed an Englishman named Watmough, a London and Brazilian clerk, who was struck by a shell whilst taking his luncheon. Two or three shells burst over the city causing people to fly in all directions. Many buildings were struck and damaged. Although the loss of life does not appear to be big, it is a miracle that not more damage was done, as for half an hour during the firing on the 25th there was a rain of shot and shell over the business part of the city.

OCTOBER 1st.—A nasty hot day with plenty of rain. Ships remained at their anchorage. At 3 p.m. the *Guanabara* opened fire on the troops at Nitheroy, and for two hours they kept up a desultory fire. At 10 p.m. the ships again fired on Nitheroy, the troops on shore answering with a heavy fire of musketry. There was also heavy musketry fire at Rio Janeiro.

2nd.—At 12.15 two armed cruisers, the *Trojana* and *Guanabara*, opened a heavy fire on Nitheroy for about half an hour. During the afternoon the ships opened fire on Nitheroy several times.

EXTRACTS.

On the day of the bombardment of Santa Cruz Fort a curious sight took place on shore at Rio Janeiro. Crowds of people were

staring at the vessels and wondering what was to happen. No efforts were made by the authorities to drive them away. An officer on board the *Trojana* hailed them, and told them to leave, but they failed to comprehend, and at 10 a.m. the firing commenced from the ships. Then the stampede commenced. Men, women, and children, carts and carriages, people with bundles, boxes, and parcels of all sizes and descriptions began flying through the streets in search of safety.

The plan of the Revolutionists seems to have been admirably concealed, the Government being caught wholly unprepared. The President had evidently expected some such outbreak ever since Admiral Custodio de Mello, who is in command of the rebels, resigned the portfolio of Marine at the end of April last, for unusual precautions were taken to watch his movements. On the night of September 5th, 1893, there was not a single commanding officer or executive officer connected with the naval vessels in port at his post, except the commander of the torpedo boat, *Marcilio-Dias*. It was a singular coincidence and one that will be most difficult to explain, but the fact remains that every responsible officer but one was on shore, and there was not an officer within reach to dispute the purpose of the handful of officers and civilians who took possession of them.

The ships Admiral Mello has now are as follows:—1, *Aquidaban* (Flag); 2, *Republica*; 3, *Trojana*; 4, *Orion*; 5, *Javary*; 6, *Marajo*; 7, *Marcello Dias*; 8, *Amazonas*; 9, *Madeira*; 10, *Sete de Setembro*; 11, *Iquatemy*; 12, *Araquary*. ARMED COASTING STEAMERS:—1, *Urania*; 2, *Venus*; 3, *Marte*; 4, *Jupiter*; 5, *Curitiba*; 6, *Alagras*; 7, *Victoria*; 8, *Mathilde*; 9, *Meteoro*; 10, *Maranhao*.

Out of the ships of war there are not more than four of any value. There are four torpedo boats, the remainder have guns, but engines are all under repair and disabled. The merchant vessels are mostly armed with two or three quick firing guns and a few machine guns.

The following are the ships engaged and their guns:—*Aquidaban*, 4,950 tons, belt 11 inches, 4 9-inch 20-ton B.L.R. Armstrong, 4 70-Pr. 5-ton ditto, 15 machine guns. *Republica*, 1,300 tons, 6 4.7 Q.F., 4 6-Pr., 6 machine guns. *Javary*, 3,700 tons (engines disabled), 4 10-inch Whitworth M.L.R., 6 5-inch B.L.R., 5 machine guns. *Guanabara*, 1,900 tons (engines disabled), 9 70-Pr. Whitworth, 6 machine guns. *Trojana*, 1,400 tons, 7 4.7 Armstrong B.L.R., 4 machine guns. 4 torpedo boats.

Five merchant ships are armed as cruisers, carrying two or three quick firing guns and a few machine guns. There are also some seven or eight launches (steam) armed with machine guns and men with rifles.

3rd.—The ships remained at their anchorage. During the afternoon several shots were fired from the *Guanabara* at the troops

on the Nitheroy side. The search light from the *Aquidaban* had been playing on Nitheroy during the evening. At 10 p.m. *Trojana*, *Guanabara*, and *Javary* opened fire on Nitheroy, the troops returning fire with rifles and field guns. This lasted for about 40 minutes.

4th.—At 3.30 a.m. heavy musketry firing was heard from Rio, most likely firing at torpedo boats patrolling. No movements of insurgent ships. Desultory firing kept up during the day by the *Guanabara* and *Javary* on the town at Nitheroy.

5th.—At 7.30 a.m. *Trojana* weighed, and accompanied by three armed cruisers and a torpedo boat and two armed launches, proceeded towards the arsenal, where some lighters were lying with provisions. At 8.10 a.m. they opened fire with quick-firing and machine guns. One torpedo boat was hit, and she had to be towed out of action. An insurgent launch was also struck, and had to be beached to prevent her sinking. It is impossible to say how many lives were lost as the papers are not allowed to give information. The troops on shore returned fire with rifles and field guns. This lasted for about 30 minutes; then the ships steamed out. Just as the firing commenced a great number of boats from the foreign men-of-war, also from the merchant ships, were leaving the shore after marketing, and some had a narrow escape. One merchant seaman got shot through both thighs (an Englishman). The damage done on shore, considering the firing, was not so much as one would have supposed. Of course a great number of shots fell in the town. One struck an hotel called "Frietas," another fell in a street called "Largo de Carioca," and one in the printing office of the *Rio News*. The walls and roofs of a house occupied by the Young Men's Christian Association were much damaged, and several other houses were hit with the machine guns. During the remainder of the day the *Guanabara* and *Javary* kept up a pretty constant fire on Nitheroy.

6th.—*Guanabara* and *Javary* kept up a fire on Nitheroy during the afternoon, the troops returning fire with rifles at intervals.

7th.—*Guanabara* opened fire on Nitheroy during the afternoon. Some shot fell in the centre of the town. At about 4 p.m. a party of men landed from the *Aquidaban* at the arsenal on the Nitheroy side, I presume, to obtain stores. The troops on shore opened a terrific fire of musketry on them, and one could see the men running in all directions. Eventually they got them all in the launch and left. Then they opened fire on her again. I should think several men must have been wounded. We saw two fall as if shot. The bullets were falling all round them like peas. Then the ships opened a heavy fire on the town of Nitheroy, the *Javary* using her ten inch guns. The troops kept up a very good fire with their field guns. At the same time Fort Santa Cruz and Lago opened fire on the ships, but as they were directing all their energy on Nitheroy they never returned a shot at the forts. The ships were certainly anchored some distance from the forts but in range, as some shots

from the forts came within 300 yards of us. All firing ceased at 6.15 p.m., when it came on to rain heavily.

8th.—Ships remained at their anchorage, and up to the present they have kept the Sabbath. As the mail leaves early to-morrow morning I must stop.

9th.—Fort Villegagnon, which had remained neutral until this date, hoisted the white flag in the morning, showing that they had joined the insurgents. Considering that this fort is entirely manned by naval forces I was not surprised, in fact I had expected to have seen it done long before. Santa Cruz, Lago, and San Juan, were to have been bombarded this afternoon, but I think the weather put a stop to it, as it was dreadfully wet and misty, the forts at times being entirely obscured. No movements of ships took place, except the *Trojana* weighed and anchored off Fort Villegagnon, I presume to act as a guardship. During the afternoon a serious affray occurred amongst the troops in the town of Rio Janeiro. It appears that two regiments of the National Guard had a dispute on affairs in general. One regiment declared in favour of Admiral Mello, whereupon the other regiment opened fire and they then had a desperate hand-to-hand fight with bayonets. Over 100 were killed and wounded, also one or two officers. An eye-witness who lived near the barracks saw the whole thing and, as he said, they fought like devils.

10th.—At 3.30 p.m. the *Guanabara* and *Javary* were taken in tow by tugs and towed out towards the forts and placed in position for bombardment. On this occasion they were taken much nearer the forts than they have been on previous occasions. At 4 p.m. the *Aquilaban* weighed, then the *Trojana* at 4.45 p.m. The *Guanabara* opened fire on the forts and a general engagement ensued, firing from the ships and forts being most vigorous. When the last bombardment took place Fort Villegagnon was neutral, but to-day they joined in with the insurgent ships and assisted them to bombard. This fort has a great number of guns, but few are able to train their fire on the forts. The heaviest in the fort are two or three gin. 12-ton guns. From what one could gather the casualties on both sides were small. Considering the number of shot and shell fired from the ships and forts the firing was indeed bad. A gun in Fort Villegagnon burst and killed one man and wounded four. This bombardment, which had commenced at 4.45 p.m., ended at 7 p.m. It was dark by that time, and the only thing one could see and hear were the flashes, and the continued whizzing of shot and shell. It certainly was a fine spectacle to look at.

11th.—The ships remained at their anchorage. At 3.30 p.m. a party of men landed at the arsenal at Nitheroy to get stores for the ships. The troops opened fire on them with rifles, the insurgents returning fire, and for about thirty minutes the firing was incessant. The ships fired at intervals with quick-firing guns. One could see the force which had landed firing. They were on the slope of a

hill covered with brushwood; and fired in an erratic manner. I think the troops could not have suffered much.

12th.—At 12.30 a.m. Forts Santa Cruz and Lago opened fire. It turned out to be one of the armed cruisers running out under the forts, as after the firing ceased two rockets were sent up outside—most likely a signal from the cruiser to say that she was all right. It being a dark night a ship could easily pass the forts here as they have no search lights. At 2.30 p.m. a party of men again landed at the arsenal at Nitheroy. The troops on shore allowed them to get well scattered over the arsenal, then they opened a heavy fire with rifles from a hill at the back. We saw two men carried down and put into their launch, but should think several must have been wounded. Then the ships opened fire with quick-firing and machine guns. The *Guanabara* used her broadside guns. This lasted until 3.30 p.m. As showing the penetrating power of the magazine rifle, I may mention that in the case of one of the men shot to-day the bullet went right through him. It struck him on his left arm, then entered his left side and passed out the other side.

13th.—Nothing occurred all day, although there was great activity amongst the steam launches. A few shots from the *Guanabara* were fired at Nitheroy. To-day was the first opportunity that I have had of landing since September 4th, and I was indeed surprised to see the small amount of damage done in the town. Seeing that on two days the ships went into the arsenal and fired one would have thought they must have done an enormous amount of damage, but of course one can see a great number of marks. Things in the town appeared to be going on much as usual, but the people appeared to have a restless look, as if they did not know what might take place at any moment. All the troops were fully armed and were all ready for immediate action. The fair sex seemed to have disappeared, as not many were to be seen in the streets.

14th.—At 3.30 a.m. Fort Santa Cruz opened fire. We presumed it was another armed cruiser had passed the forts. At daylight, to our surprise, we observed one of them at the back of Fort Lago, apparently in distress. She had a large Brazilian ensign half-mast. No doubt she had been hit or her engines had become disabled.

The fort kept on firing at odd times at her, and if they had been even average gunners they would have sunk her. She gradually drifted away and was lost to view. We heard during the day from a steamer that came in here that she had passed a steamer with Brazilian colours steaming slow and much down in the water. At 5.45 Villegagnon fort opened fire on Santa Cruz; then the *Aquidaban* and *Trojana* weighed, and a general engagement commenced between the forts and ships. The *Guanabara* and *Javary* were, as usual, towed out. The bombardment of forts lasted until 9.45; then the troops at Nitheroy opened fire on the ships with guns, and the *Aquidaban*, *Trojana*, and *Guanabara* returned the fire. The firing

was well kept up on both sides. but the shooting was bad. Santa Cruz was hit several times, also Villegagnon. We think the *Trojana* had some men wounded, as a launch went to her and conveyed some men to the Isle de Cobras, where there is a hospital. At 10.30 firing ceased. From reliable information received, the only casualties were—*Trojana*, two men wounded, one man killed; Fort Villegagnon, two men severely wounded; the *Aquidaban* was struck once. It is evident that the gunners are not good.

15th.—Being Sunday nothing occurred.

16th.—At 9.15 a.m., the *Guanabara* and the *Venus* (an armed cruiser) opened fire on Nitheroy, the troops on shore returned the fire with their guns. The *Venus* was struck once, a shot hitting her coal, which was stored on deck. She then sheered off. The *Aquidaban* opened fire also, but only fired a few shots. The *Guanabara* kept up a vigorous fire until one p.m. I counted 42 shots fired from her in one hour and ten minutes, so during the time she was engaged she must have expended nearly 200 rounds. The *Javary* was then towed from Villegagnon and anchored off Nitheroy. At about two p.m., she opened fire with her turret guns, and kept the firing up at intervals. The *Guanabara* did not fire at all after 1 p.m. I expect her ammunition was getting low. The amount of damage done in Nitheroy must have been considerable, as we could see the shot and shell falling in the middle of the town. The roofs of one or two houses near the sea front we could distinctly see had disappeared. The walls were also knocked to pieces. At 5.15 p.m. Fort Santa Cruz, Lago, and San Juan opened fire on fort Villegagnon. It must have been well arranged beforehand, as they all opened fire together and the firing was fierce. Fort Villegagnon was hit some 10 or 12 times, two shells bursting in the fort. The most singular part was that Villegagnon never returned a shot, more especially considering all the forts were directing their fire on Villegagnon. Admiral Mello never went in with his ship to engage the forts, or even sent another ship to defend Fort Villegagnon. One cannot understand their tactics. The firing was kept up until 7 p.m. There is no doubt on this occasion it came as a surprise to Admiral Mello, who was quietly anchored and never dreamt of this sudden attack on the fort. The firing from the forts had indeed improved since last they opened.

17th.—At 12.15 p.m., Forts Santa Cruz, Lago, and San Juan, besides three more small guns which had been mounted on a hill near the famous "Sugar Loaf," opened fire on Fort Villegagnon. For about an hour the firing was heavy, Villegagnon being hit several times. For some reason, Villegagnon again did not return the fire. During the afternoon the troops at Nitheroy opened fire on the *Jupiter*, an armed cruiser. She returned the fire with machine and quick-firing guns, but had to sheer off owing to the firing from the shore being too hot. Then the *Aquidaban* weighed and fired several shots into Nitheroy. At 4.15 p.m., the *Trojana* came

across from Rio Janeiro side and fired two broadsides into the town of Nitheroy, she also used her machine and quick-firing guns. The *Aquidaban* also opened fire on the town at the same time, and for about half an hour a brisk fire was kept up. At 5.30 p.m., Fort Villegagnon opened fire on Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz and the other forts returned the fire. The *Aquidaban* then went and assisted Villegagnon. A general engagement ensued and continued until 7.15 p.m. Although dark the firing was continued. At about 6 p.m. the guns at Nitheroy opened fire on the *Javary* and *Guanabara*. The *Trojana* which had anchored up the harbour, weighed and came down off Nitheroy, and fired several broadsides into that place. The *Guanabara* also opened a heavy fire with her broadside guns. All firing ceased at 7.15 p.m.

18th.—During the firing yesterday, some of the shot came very near the ship. One shrapnell shell burst near and three of the balls came on board. They of course came from the guns on shore. This morning I shifted further out. Nothing occurred during the day. They are most likely having a rest after their hard day yesterday.

19th.—Mail leaving. Nothing occurred up to time she left. The guns from Nitheroy opened fire on the insurgent ships. Two struck the *Aquidaban*. The *Guanabara*, *Javary*, and *Aquidaban* then commenced to bombard Nitheroy. All the shot and shell fell well in the town, and of course the damage to houses must have been enormous. We could see from the ships the different shots, and saw several houses struck and enormous clouds of dust. The guns on shore kept up a continuous fire at the ships. This lasted until about 6 p.m. At 10 p.m. heavy rifle firing took place on the Rio Janeiro side, machine guns also being used. We heard next day that torpedo boats had been in near the town of Rio and had opened fire with their machine guns on the search light which is worked on shore.

20th.—At 5.30 p.m. Santa Cruz opened fire on Fort Villegagnon. Then Fort Lago and San Juan, also the guns under the "Sugar Loaf," commenced, a vigorous fire being kept up until 7 p.m. During the time the forts were engaged, the guns from Nitheroy opened fire on the ships. That lasted a short time. Villegagnon was hit several times. We heard a rumour this morning that Santa Cruz was running short of ammunition, but I have my doubts, as one hears all sorts of rumours every day. At the same time their ammunition cannot last for ever. Fort Villegagnon has suffered a good deal, especially the part occupied by the officers and men. The roofs, walls, and windows have been well riddled; in fact, from the appearance of the roofs one would not care to take a night's lodging under them if it rained hard.

21st.—Peace reigned all day.

22nd.—At 7.15 a.m. Fort Lago opened fire on Villegagnon. The *Jupiter*, an armed cruiser, was lying alongside the pier at fort

Villegagnon. and I expected the fire was directed on her. She unfortunately was aground, and could not move. Then Santa Cruz and San Juan, also the guns at the foot of the "Sugar Loaf" opened fire, and for about thirty minutes the cruiser was in a most precarious position, shot and shell falling all round her. Anyhow, she got off and left without a scratch. The firing was, as usual, bad. A steam launch which came to assist this armed cruiser when she was on shore was hit by a shot from one of the forts, which killed the engineer, who had his head shot off. One of the firemen was also severely wounded. The forts then continued firing on Villegagnon. In the meantime a skirmish was going on between the *Javary* and the guns on the Nitheroy side. Firing on both sides gradually eased down, but a desultory cannonade was kept up all day. The American flagship *Newark*, Rear-Admiral Stanton, arrived to-day.

23rd.—Fort Villegagnon kept up a desultory fire during the afternoon at the forts, but none replied. At 5.30 p.m. Santa Cruz opened fire on Villegagnon, and a general engagement then commenced between the forts, a heavy fire being kept up until 7.15 p.m. Although it was dark this seemed to have no effect on them, and judging by their firing I think they may possibly do better at night. The guns at Nitheroy also opened fire on the ships, the ships returning the fire. There does not appear to be much energy on either side. The number of shot and shell expended during the evening's performance could not be much short of 300. At 9 p.m. Nitheroy again opened fire on the ships. The *Aquidaban*, *Guanabara*, and *Javary*, also opened fire, and this firing was kept on until 4 a.m. at intervals.

24th.—Nothing occurred except Villegagnon fired about six shots at the batteries under the "Sugar Loaf," no shots being returned. I expect after yesterday they required a rest. In the evening the *Javary* fired a few shots at Nitheroy. These fellows also wanted rest as they did not return the fire. We heard to-day a rumour that a transport called the *Rio Janeiro*, which was conveying troops for the government, had been fired into by the insurgent ship *Republica*. As the steamer did not stop, the *Republica* rammed her and sunk her. They say she had 900 troops on board. We received this news from Admiral Mello's ship.

25th.—A beautiful cool morning, and everything looked quiet and peaceable, but it was not to be so long. At 11 a.m. the guns at Nitheroy opened fire on the ships; then the *Guanabara*, *Aquidaban*, and *Javary* opened fire, and between the two a heavy fire was kept up until 5 p.m. Then it ceased except an occasional shot. On an island not far from where we are anchored, there is a powder magazine, from which Admiral Mello gets some of his powder. Some energetic soldier at Nitheroy thought it might be a good thing to blow it up, so a day or two ago they placed a gun in position to fire at it, and to-day, at about 1 p.m., they commenced. Much

excitement prevailed as to the length of time it would take before a shot took effect. At 5.20 p.m. a lucky shot caused a terrific explosion. I have seldom seen such a sight. The fire and the volumes of smoke ascending made a grand spectacle. I just happened to be on deck when it occurred. At 5.30 p.m. the *Aquidaban* weighed and proceeded towards the forts. She opened fire on Santa Cruz, then a general engagement ensued between the forts and the ship. The Admiral was supported by Villegagnon, and the firing continued until 7 p.m. It was a very pretty sight after dark. Nitheroy and the *Guanabara* kept up a skirmish until 8 p.m. The houses in Nitheroy must have received an enormous amount of damage, as all the guns fired into the town were heavy guns. Most of the inhabitants of Nitheroy are living amongst the hills under the trees. The only casualty that occurred from the explosion of the magazine was the death of a poor German seaman belonging to a barque that was anchored near. It appears that he was standing on the hatches over the hold and the concussion lifting the hatches precipitated him into the hold—another victim who had nothing to do with the revolution.

26th.—Nothing occurred except that the batteries under the Sugar Loaf opened fire on Villegagnon at 7.30 p.m. and kept up a desultory fire for half-an-hour. An Italian Admiral arrived here to-day, so the following foreign men-of-war are in harbour:—

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>
3 British	Senior Officer.
4 Italian	Rear Admiral.
2 American	Rear Admiral.
2 German	Senior Officer.
1 French	Rear Admiral.
1 Portuguese.	

An Austrian ship is on her way.

27th.—Fort Villegagnon and the batteries under the Sugar Loaf kept up a desultory fire against each other during the forenoon. At 2.30 p.m. the Nitheroy opened fire on the insurgent vessels, also on the Arsenal at Nitheroy, the *Aquidaban*, *Guanabara*, and *Javary* returning the fire. This arsenal has a great deal of ammunition, and the insurgents are continually landing parties to obtain it. The Government might have destroyed it, but I presume they had a reason for not doing so. Anyhow, at 7.33 p.m. we saw a fire in the arsenal and it gradually increased, and at 8.15 p.m. it had a good hold. The part which was set on fire must have been the stores for fireworks, rockets, and blue-lights which are used on board ship, as at intervals one saw a grand display of fireworks. There were also several explosions during the night. The part containing shell and rifle ammunition was not fired. I expect the people had too much regard for their lives to fire that dangerous part.

28th.—Nothing occurred except that an armed cruiser opened fire on some troops who were placing a gun in position.

29th (Sabbath). - At 2 p.m. the Nitheroy guns opened fire on the insurgent ships, the *Guanabara* and *Javary* returning fire. At 5.30 p.m. Santa Cruz opened fire on Villegagnon; then a general engagement ensued, all the forts firing on Villegagnon. The firing has certainly improved, three or four shells exploding right in the middle of Villegagnon, which for a short time silenced their guns. This continued until 7.15 p.m. The ships did not engage, but remained at their anchorage.

31st.—On the 30th October, Admiral Mello landed a party of men at the arsenal, and took out two guns. These were consigned to an island called Mucangue, close to Nitheroy. I presume they were mounted on that Island so as to be able to fire at the troops at the back of Nitheroy. On the forenoon of the 31st they had got them into position. At 10.30 a.m. the armed cruiser *Jupiter* went in and fired at the troops at Nitheroy. At 12.30 the guns on Mucangue island also opened fire. Between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. heavy rifle firing took place. At 2.45 the guns of Mucangue again opened fire, the troops at Nitheroy returning with heavy rifle fire. At 3 p.m. the batteries opened fire on Villegagnon. This continued for about one hour, Villegagnon replying. At 5.45 p.m. San Juan and batteries again fired at Villegagnon. A general engagement then ensued between the Government forts and the insurgent fort, which lasted until 6.30 p.m. Villegagnon suffered a good deal, especially from a gun at San Juan, which made capital shooting. The government forts might have been hit a few times. The *Guanabara* was towed up during the afternoon and placed in a position to bombard the gas-works at Nitheroy. At 6 p.m. the *Guanabara* opened fire and the guns from Nitheroy also. The *Javary* then opened fire on Nitheroy, using her turret guns. During the afternoon a fire broke out in the arsenal at Nitheroy, and another at 7 p.m., causing several explosions amongst the explosives kept there. It sounded like artillery firing. Of course this was done wilfully.

NOVEMBER 2nd.—This was a Saint's day and nothing occurred.

3rd.—At 3.45 p.m. I was in my cabin, when a most terrific explosion occurred, followed by several more. The things in the cabin were thrown down. We soon saw that Admiral Mello's powder magazine, on an island called Governadour, had exploded. It was a grand sight to see all the timber of the buildings and the trees all round being hurled for a long distance. The explosions occurred at intervals up till nearly midnight, as there was also a large quantity of shell kept close by. Although five miles from where I was anchored, it shook the ship fore and aft. How the magazine was blown up is a mystery. It was either an accident or done by some spy. At 4.15 p.m. the *Guanabara* opened fire on Nitheroy, and there was heavy rifle firing. At 5.46 the batteries under the Sugar Loaf, Fort Lago, and San Juan opened fire on Villegagnon. This lasted until 7.15 p.m. There was a most painful and lamentable occurrence in connection with the blowing up of this

magazine. Little did we think that while we were watching the explosion that we should ourselves have a death-roll. A party of officers and men from H.M.S. *Sirius*, *Racer*, and *Beagle* left their ships at about 1.30 p.m., and went down to a sandy beach in the vicinity of this magazine, in order to get some sand for cleaning purposes. When this fearful explosion took place their boats were hauled up on the beach. Some men were bathing, and I suppose they were all scattered over the place. Anyhow, a great number were stunned and some thrown from the beach into the bushwood, 15 to 20 yards. Of course, as soon as possible, they made for their boats, and on mustering three officers were found to be missing. A search was made, but of no avail. Admiral Mello, who also had several men killed, sent boats and dragged abreast of the magazine. They brought up seven or eight bodies, and amongst them was the boatswain of the *Sirius*. Poor fellow, he was blown almost to pieces, one arm only being left, and he was only recognised by the tattoo marks on this arm. A search party again landed, but without avail. A party was also sent dragging. The 1st Lieutenant of *Sirius* and the 3rd Lieutenant of the *Racer* were also killed, also an A.B. seaman of *Sirius*, who received a fearful cut on his head. This poor fellow lingered until 9 p.m. and died. Five more men were wounded. One of our men had his trousers blown off. How the remainder escaped is a miracle. Our 1st Lieutenant, who was with the Captain of the *Racer*, was close to the magazine. They were thrown down, but escaped unhurt. Several men had miraculous escapes. I had made up my mind to go with the party, but the mail came in, so I declined to go. Our cutter had to be left behind, as she was severely shaken and leaked badly. I sent carpenters next morning to patch her up. The galley of the *Racer* was blown almost to pieces. The magazine contained about 105 tons of powder. The sad occurrence has cast a deep gloom over all the British and also the foreign ships.

4th.—Guns at Nitheroy opened fire on an armed cruiser, and the guns on Mucangue opened on Nitheroy. Then the *Javary* opened fire on Nitheroy. At 12.0 a general engagement commenced between the Government forts and Villegagnon, which lasted until 2.30 p.m. A good deal of heavy rifle firing took place at Nitheroy in the evening.

5th (Sunday).—Desultory firing has been going on all day at Nitheroy. It is now two months since this revolution broke out, how much longer it will last cannot be foreseen, both sides being resolute and obstinate.

6th.—At 10 a.m. the Government forts opened fire on Villegagnon. Heavy rifle firing then took place between the troops at Rio Janeiro and the men in Fort Villegagnon. At 2.30 the *Aquidaban* opened a terrific fire with her machine guns on Rio Janeiro. This lasted about 15 minutes. I expect the reason was to stop the troops from firing at Villegagnon. At 3 p.m. the guns at Nitheroy

opened fire on the insurgent ships. The *Javary* returned the fire with her quick-firing guns and her turret guns. Shortly afterwards the guns on Mucangue island also fired at Nitheroy. Firing from the forts ceased about 3 p.m. At 5.30 p.m. the troops at Rio Janeiro again opened fire with rifles on Fort Villegagnon. Then the *Aquidaban* again poured out a tremendous fire with her machine guns on the troops at Rio, and the forts again opened fire on Villegagnon. A heavy fire was kept up until 6.30 p.m. At 5.30 p.m. the *Guana-bara* and *Javary* opened a heavy fire on Nitheroy, the batteries on shore returning the fire. The firing was heavy all day. The Pacific mail steamer *Posoti* left at 6 p.m. with the mails for England, but when she got near the forts she had to return owing to the heavy firing. Firing continued in a desultory manner until 9 p.m. It is exactly two months to-day since the revolution broke out.

7th.—At 9.30 a.m. Fort Villegagnon opened heavy rifle fire on the batteries under the Sugar Loaf. The government forts opened fire on Villegagnon at intervals. During the afternoon the forts kept up a heavy fire, but the weather was so thick that one could see nothing. The Dutch man-of-war, also another Italian, arrived to-day. This makes 16 foreign ships of war here.

8th.—At 4.45 a.m. heavy rifle firing took place between the troops at Rio Janeiro and Fort Villegagnon. Two or three launches also opened fire with their machine guns. The Government forts then opened a heavy fire on Villegagnon. This continued until about 6.15 a.m. At 8 a.m. the forts again opened fire on Villegagnon, which continued nearly all day. At about 1 p.m. Santa Cruz opened fire on the *Aquidaban*. One shot struck her as she was coal-ing. She had two or three torpedo boats alongside her, and a shot from Santa Cruz struck one of them. We saw her sinking—bows first. Two small tugs towed her clear of the *Aquidaban*, and shortly afterwards she went straight down, almost perpendicular. It was a curious sight to see her gradually disappear from view. Another French man-of-war arrived here to-day, making a force of 17 foreign ships.

9th.—At 12.30 all the Government forts opened fire on Villegagnon. This continued until 6.30 p.m. At 3.45 p.m. the guns from Nitheroy opened fire on the *Aquidaban* and *Javary*. One shell struck the *Aquidaban*. The *Javary* returned the fire with her turret guns. Rifle firing took place from Villegagnon all day. The Royal mail steamer *Nile* arrived off the fort the previous evening, but she was not allowed to enter the port. Next morning she weighed to come in, but the Government fort, Santa Cruz, hoisted the signal "Heave to." H.M.S. *Beagle* was ordered to weigh, and proceeded to Santa Cruz to ask for an explanation. Directly we arrived close off the fort they hauled down the signal and hoisted a signal to the mail "Proceed into harbour." I think they were trying to see how far they could go. Anyhow, I lowered a boat and went to Santa Cruz and asked them the reason they kept the mail outside. A fellow who spoke English said it was a mistake.

A search party went down to the spot where the magazine exploded, and they found a dog whistle, two dog chains, one sovereign, and match box belonging to the late Lieut. Mowbray, R.N., of H.M.S. *Sirius* (also his watch). At 7.15 heavy rifle firing took place between Fort Villegagnon and the troops at Rio Janeiro. At 8.45 p.m. there was terrific rifle firing from Rio Janeiro, but being a dark and misty night one could see nothing of what was taking place. It is an impossibility to give an account of the number of lives lost during all this firing, as the Press is not allowed to mention it, but of course the number must be large.

10th.—At 5 a.m. the batteries under the Sugar Loaf opened fire on Villegagnon. At about 10 a.m. a general engagement commenced between the Government forts and Villegagnon, the firing for about two hours being fierce. At 12 o'clock the guns at Nitheroy opened fire on the *Javary*. She returned a heavy fire with her turret and machine guns. I had to go out this morning to escort the Royal mail steamer *Nile* out of the harbour in case they stopped her. We had a capital view of Fort Villegagnon and the whole place is a wreck, but could only see one gun dismounted. One gun at Fort San Juan was not in working order. I expect it had been hit, as close to it were two enormous holes in the fort. We saw the soldiers working at it, as if they were getting it into place again. The other forts do not appear to have suffered very much, although Santa Cruz has several large holes. Just as I got inside Santa Cruz, on my return journey, the forts again opened fire, so I had a good view. The firing continued until 7.15 p.m. Santa Cruz kept up a heavy fire all the afternoon. Several skirmishes took place at Nitheroy between launches with machine guns and the troops with their rifles. The whole day there has been an incessant cannonade.

11th.—At 10 a.m. Villegagnon opened fire on Santa Cruz. On the latter returning fire the batteries under the Sugar Loaf opened. This continued up till about 2 p.m. At 2.30 p.m. the troops at Rio Janeiro opened a heavy fire with their rifles on the *Trojana*. The *Trojana* replied with her machine guns. She also fired two or three shots from her broadside guns. The insurgents landed a party of men on an island called Rat Island, on which is a comparatively new building, which was built as a Custom-house. These men, immediately on landing, ascended the tower of this building and fired down on the troops at Rio Janeiro. They also had a steam launch with them, which opened fire with her machine guns. At 5.30 p.m. the troops at Rio Janeiro again opened fire on the *Trojana* with rifles. She returned fire with her machine guns. We heard this morning that the Government troops were mounting guns in a fort called Gariatu on the Nitheroy side, and owing to this information I had to weigh and proceed up the harbour, as I should have been in the line of fire. This turned out to be true, as at 4 p.m. the *Javary* opened fire on this fort with machine guns and rifles. She also fired her turret guns. The troops in the fort returned a heavy

fire with rifles, and for a short time the *Javary* had a hot time. At 9 p.m. Santa Cruz was still firing. At 9.30 terrific firing took place at Nitheroy, machine guns and rifles being used, but it was too dark to see what was going on.

12th.—Sunday has not been observed. Firing commenced at 10 a.m. between the Government forts and Villegagnon. It continued more or less until 3 p.m. At 5.30 the forts again opened fire on Villegagnon, and a heavy fire was kept up until 7 p.m. At 8.30 p.m. heavy rifle firing took place from the troops at Rio. Either Fort Villegagnon or the *Trojana* returned the fire with machine guns, but it was too dark to see. Where all the ammunition comes from is a mystery. At 2 a.m. on the 13th there was heavy rifle firing at Rio.

13th.—At 8 a.m. Villegagnon opened fire on the Government forts. Then a general engagement continued until 6.30 p.m., the firing at times being heavy.

14th.—At 4.30 a.m. there was heavy rifle firing at Nitheroy, which lasted for 20 minutes. The *Trojana* used her machine guns. At 11 a.m. the Government forts opened fire on Villegagnon. This continued until 6 p.m. At 5.30 p.m. there was heavy rifle firing at Rio Janeiro. The *Aquidaban* opened fire with her machine guns on Rio, and *Javary* fired on Nitheroy. The *Trojana* also opened fire with machine guns.

15th.—We all thought that great events would occur this day which might have had great influence over the revolution, all sorts of rumours having been spread, this being the day upon which the Republic of the United States of Brazil was founded in 1889. Anyhow nothing occurred. No firing took place. The insurgent ships dressed with flags, but fired no salutes. The Government fort, Santa Cruz, fired three salutes of 21 guns, one at 5.30 a.m., also one at noon, and the third at sunset. Information had been sent to the foreign Admirals on the 14th that the insurgents had placed torpedoes in the harbour, which were attached to buoys, and made in such a manner as to float about the harbour. Of course the idea that at any moment one might be blown up created rather an unpleasant feeling. The Italian Admiral, who is the senior officer present, sent an officer to Admiral Mello to ask him if he knew anything of this diabolical action. He said nothing was known to him about these torpedoes, but if the news we had received was true, the Government must be responsible for them, as naturally to his own interest he would not place torpedoes where they might blow up his own ships. My own idea is that it was a bogus affair on the part of the Government. Anyhow all the steamboats of the foreign ships were sent all round the harbour out as far as the forts. An Italian gunboat went out with them as an escort to have a search, but nothing was seen. It was rather an imposing spectacle to see 18 steam boats and a gunboat scouring the harbour of Rio Janeiro.

16th.—At 11 a.m. the insurgent fort opened fire on the Government forts. Then a general engagement continued until 7 p.m., firing being most desultory until 6 p.m. At this hour a heavy fire commenced. Villegagnon only fired her heavy guns four times, as I expect the men could not stand to them. At 1 p.m. Fort Gariata on the Nitheroy side opened fire on the arsenal. This is the first time that this fort has opened fire. They have just succeeded in mounting two guns, and they had rather a hard task, as during the time they were working the *Javary* was continually opening fire on them with rifles and machine guns, the troops in the forts returning with rifles. The *Aquidaban* also opened with her guns at this fort, and the guns at Nitheroy fired on the ships.

17th.—At 2.30 a.m. I was awoke by a tremendous discharge of musketry over at Nitheroy, which lasted about 20 minutes. The *Jupiter*, armed cruiser, opened fire with her machine guns. It being dark one could not see what was taking place. At 9 a.m. Villegagnon opened fire on Santa Cruz, and there was a general engagement between the forts. This continued until 6.30 p.m., but the firing was not heavy. At 1.30 p.m. Gariata opened fire on the arsenal, and the *Javary* opened fire on the fort. The guns at Nitheroy fired on the *Javary*, and the *Jupiter* fired on the troops at Nitheroy with quick-firing and machine guns.

18th.—At 7 a.m. the batteries under the Sugar Loaf opened fire on Villegagnon. At 9.30 a.m. there was heavy rifle firing from the troops at Rio Janeiro. I presume they were firing at the men in Villegagnon. During the night the *Javary* was towed out and anchored off Villegagnon, and the *Guanabara* was also towed down and anchored near the arsenal at Nitheroy. At 6 p.m. the Government forts opened fire on Villegagnon., and kept up a continuous fire until 7.15 p.m. At 9.30 p.m. Fort Lago opened a tremendous fire with rifles and two or three guns. We could not make out what was taking place. It was either boats attacking the fort or the fort opening fire on the *Javary*. It lasted for about 30 minutes.

19th (Sunday)—At 12.20 a.m. there was heavy rifle firing between the troops at Rio Janeiro and the steam launches of the insurgents, the latter using machine guns and rifles. At 5 a.m. another skirmish took place. At 11.30 a.m. the *Javary* opened fire with her turret guns on Fort Gariata, and the *Aquidaban* joined in with machine guns and rifles. The fort did not answer. Our foreign ships have increased since last I wrote. There are now 3 British, 2 French, 4 Italian, 3 American, 2 German, 1 Dutch, 1 Portuguese, and 1 Austrian. The senior officer is the Italian Admiral. A French Admiral also is present. At 6 p.m. the Sugar Loaf batteries opened fire on Villegagnon. Then an engagement commenced between the Government and the insurgent forts. This continued until 7.30 p.m. At 7 p.m. the *Jupiter*, armed cruiser, opened fire on Nitheroy.

The continuation of the diary from the 20th to the 27th of Nov. is but a repetition of the events before recorded. Firing from both vessels and forts had been almost continuous from day to day, and the expenditure of war material must have been enormous and the loss of life considerable. Amongst the interesting events recorded by Commander Neeld are the following :—

At 3 p.m. on the 20th, an insurgent ship called the *Almirante Tamandare*, which was laid down at Rio Janeiro and launched in 1890, got steam up and went for a preliminary trial. It was known that men had been working at her night and day. She hoisted the senior officer's pendant. Her armament consists of ten 6-inch quick-firing guns, two 4·7 quick-firing guns, 10 three-pounder quick-firing guns, and 8 machine guns, so she is rather a formidable ship.

It is reported that five men were killed in Fort Villegagnon on the 16th by a shell exploding amongst their cartridges, which is supposed they had piled up in a heap in the vicinity of the guns whilst firing. The soldiers are not over particular as to the manner in which they handle powder.

On the 21st an unfortunate occurrence happened. An Englishman who has resided here for 25 years was killed by a rifle bullet whilst waiting for a tram-car to take him home.

On the 22nd, at 3.15 p.m., a signal was made to me from H.M.S. *Racer* that the *Javary* was sinking. I could not see her then as some merchant ships were in a line with her. Luckily these ships swung round, and sure enough when I saw her the water was just level with the bottom of the turrets and she had a heel to starboard. Three tugs went to her assistance and took the crew out. They then tried to tow her into shallow water, but had to cast her off as she was settling down rapidly by the bows. At 3.40 p.m. she turned nearly bottom up, and sunk in about six or seven fathoms of water. The forts had certainly been firing at her and I daresay she was hit, but I have since learnt that she had been in a leaky condition for some time past, and had continually to use the pumps. Unfortunately one of her pumps gave out, and they could not keep the water under, hence the disaster. As I have mentioned before she was a turret ship. She had 2 turrets, 4 guns, 10-inch, 25-tons, M.L.R. Whitworth's, also several machine guns and quick-firing guns. Just before she sank they fired two shots from her turret guns as she was going down. The troops at Rio Janeiro opened a heavy fire with rifles on the launches that went to take the men out of the *Javary*. The *Aquidaban* then opened a terrific fire with all her machine guns on the troops at Rio.

On the 23rd, at 11.30 a.m., the insurgents landed a party of men at the arsenal at Nitheroy. A slight skirmish took place between them and the troops. The troops at Nitheroy got on the ridge of a hill at the back of the arsenal and fired heavily with rifles down on

the *Trojana*. The *Trojana* and *Jupiter* opened a heavy fire with machine and quick-firing guns. It was rather a fine sight to see the troops firing behind the brushwood.

A short engagement took place on the morning of the 24th. A new idea struck the insurgents. They placed a gun in a lighter and had a steam launch lashed alongside so as to tow it and place it in position for firing. They fired four or five shots at Gariata, but, unfortunately for them, their career was cut short, as a shell from one of the guns at Nitheroy burst alongside the lighter, killing one man and severely wounding another, so they retired.

On the 25th November, at 7 a.m., the armed cruiser *Jupiter* weighed and proceeded towards Fort Gariata, and opened fire with a gun which she mounted on her forecastle on the previous day. The gun appeared to me to be about an 18 pounder. Whether it was a breech-loader or muzzle-loader I had no chance of seeing. The guns at Nitheroy and also from Fort Gariata returned the fire and made it very unpleasant for her, so she returned to her anchorage again. About 12.30 p.m. she opened fire with this gun again on Gariata, but we saw the whole of her forecastle enveloped in smoke, and when it had cleared away I saw the gun was dismounted and lying on the forecastle. No doubt an explosion had taken place. During the afternoon the insurgent fort and the Government forts exchanged a few shots. At 4.30 there was very heavy rifle firing on the Nitheroy side. From what one could see, the troops opened fire on some insurgent steam launches taking coal in at an island called "Coal Island." At the same time the men in launches returned the fire with their rifles. Near this island there are one or two ships of war, which the insurgents had placed there when the revolution broke out. Amongst them was an old paddle wheel ship called the *Purus*, of about 1000 tons. All her engines were in, and I believe she had stores on board. Anyhow at about 5 p.m. we saw flames issuing from her, and in about another hour she was well on fire. No doubt some enterprising soldier from Nitheroy must have got on board and set fire to her.

On the 26th a steam launch, with a good number of men, steamed in towards the arsenal. Some of the Government troops had taken up a position in the arsenal, as we could see them dodging about. They then opened a tremendous fire with rifles on this launch. The men in the launch behaved in a plucky manner, as they never steamed away, although bullets were falling all round them like hail. They returned fire with their rifles and a Nordenfelt gun. I expect one or two men must have been killed and some wounded. Of course she had to retire, but held on as long as she could. At 5 p.m. I presume the same men got inside one of the buildings at the arsenal and opened a tremendously heavy rifle fire on the *Trojana*, making it very unpleasant for her. She opened fire with her broadside and machine guns. The *Jupiter* also opened fire with her machine guns. Fort Gariata and the guns from Nitheroy opened

fire on the *Trojana*, and for about an hour heavy firing was kept up all round. This being the Sabbath one rather expected a quiet day. At 9 p.m. tremendously heavy rifle firing took place from the arsenal at Nitheroy. One could see the flashes of the rifles at the arsenal. The *Aquidaban* opened fire with machine guns, but being dark one could not follow their tactics.

At 5.15 p.m. on the 27th I observed four steam launches, two of which were towing a small launch each full of men armed with rifles. They steamed in towards the arsenal at Nitheroy, and opened fire with rifles and machine guns. The troops returned a murderous fire with rifles, and the *Aquidaban* and *Trojana* opened fire on the arsenal with machine and heavy guns. One insurgent launch made a gallant stand, and was under a terrible fire for about thirty minutes but had to retire. This engagement continued until 6.30 p.m. Considering the number of heavy guns and machine guns the troops had to contend against I consider they made a gallant stand. One or two shells from the *Trojana* seemed to burst right amongst the troops, but they still kept their fire up. I expect the idea of the insurgents was to effect a landing in the arsenal, as of late the troops have had possession of it. Anyhow the insurgents were not successful. The armed cruiser *Jupiter* weighed during the engagement and went close into the arsenal, firing her machine and quick-firing guns. She soon retired, the rifle firing being too heavy. I have never seen such incessant and heavy rifle firing before. It lasted from 5.15 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. One could see the troops walking about in a very cool manner loading their rifles.

28th (8.30 a.m.)—I had to proceed out of harbour to communicate with several merchant ships anchored at the entrance to the harbour, and to find out the reason for their detention. Having got a satisfactory answer I proceeded back into port to report the result to my senior officer. I had a capital view of the forts. Villegagnon is almost in ruins. How the guns had escaped is a miracle. I could only see one dismounted. Fort Lago had several large holes in the masonry. Santa Cruz has also several hits, but none very serious. When I was outside communicating with an American ship, Villegagnon opened fire. One shell burst close to San Juan. I was near this fort, and saw the shell burst close to it. We could see the pieces flying in all directions, and the soldiers running for shelter. When I was coming in again Villegagnon fired a shot at Santa Cruz, and it fell about half-way. The troops in Santa Cruz commenced to cheer. I was close to the place at the time, and, personally, I was rather glad to see it fall short, as it might have hit the wrong mark.

A curious affair took place in Fort Villegagnon two or three days ago. One man shot another, and so they put this man on the top of the fort and lashed him there. He was to have been kept there a certain time, I heard 12 hours, and if he was not killed in that time, he would be let off, but the first shell from Santa Cruz killed

him. One of the training brigs for boys was sunk off Cobras Island. One could see her with her lower yard above water. Supposed to have been done by a shell from Santa Cruz.

29th.—Firing was carried on as usual, but nothing of importance occurred.

30th.—We have heard for some days past that Admiral Mello had intended to leave here in the *Aquidaban*, most likely for a place called St. Catharina, where he is supposed to be forming a Government. Well, at 12 o'clock that night we saw him steaming out in the *Aquidaban*, accompanied by an armed transport called the *Esperanza*. It was rather a clear night. The search light was played on the *Aquidaban* from the shore as she approached Santa Cruz. Then all forts opened fire, Santa Cruz firing a tremendous fusillade of rifles. The *Aquidaban* returned the fire. All firing ceased about 12.40. I left the harbour next morning for a place called Isle do Grande, and to my astonishment I found my two friends. I managed to find out from them how they had fared coming out the previous night. The *Aquidaban* was struck by a shot on her port side about 18 inches above the water line, which entered the coal bunker. The upper deck turrets, funnel and bulwarks were well riddled with bullet marks, and especially the torpedo boat on the port side. No men were killed or wounded. The *Esperanza* had one shot right through the forecastle. A shell burst in her engine-room, striking the cylinder cover and disabling her for a short time. The chief engineer was badly wounded by a piece of the shell. Several bullet marks on her hull. I came here just on the off chance of seeing whether these two ships had come. I return back to Rio on the 5th, but hope to get all that has taken place there since leaving, so as to continue my diary. The *Aquidaban* and the *Esperanza* left this anchorage at 11.30 p.m. on the 2nd for St. Catharina.

DEC.—From the 1st to the 8th desultory firing went on daily. It was of the character so frequently described—a mere waste of ammunition.

8th (1.20 a.m.)—Several guns were fired on the Nitheroy side. It was too dark (rain falling in torrents) to see what was going on. 2 a.m. until 2.40 a.m.: Very heavy rifle firing at Nitheroy—independent firing—then volley after volley was discharged. Most likely the insurgents were making an attempt to land. The armed cruisers opened fire with their machine guns and during the forenoon the forts exchanged shots; but as it rained heavily during the day they remained pretty quiet. I have observed a fire burning for two nights, and was informed to-day that the troops from Nitheroy managed to get a boat, and with four or five men landed on an island named Isle de Vianna, where there is about 3000 tons of patent fuel. This fuel the insurgents have been in the habit of taking for their ships and steam launches. A man who lives close by told me the way in which they managed to set fire to it. They

dug down all round the store where this fuel was stored, and then laid down cotton-wool well saturated with kerosine. They also sprinkled this oil over the fuel and then applied an ordinary match. All merchant ships were towed out to-day from a place called the Gamtoa, where they go in to discharge their cargo. This was by order of the Government, as there was talk of an attack by the Government forces on an island named Isle de Cobras, which is in that vicinity. All the sick and wounded were transferred from Isle de Cobras to Shore Island to-day, as Isle de Cobras has a large hospital, and an attack was expected on that island. All precautions were taken for their safety.

9th. (10.20 a.m.)—Armed cruisers *Jupiter* and *Pereira da Cunha* opened fire on the arsenal, Fort Nitheroy and the guns in the arsenal returning the fire. These guns have just been mounted, and opened fire for the first time. The *Pereira da Cunha* was struck once on her port side. The distance being rather great, the shot only dented her side. Fort Gariata then opened fire on her. 2.30 p.m.—Either a gun from San Juan or Nitheroy fired a shell which struck the *Almirante Tamandare*, and burst on her poop causing an explosion, which set fire to a number of bales of cotton which had been placed to protect men from rifle and machine guns. I think there must have been some powder or cartridges in the vicinity, as the flames ascended very high. Several bales were thrown up in the air and also some wood. The men threw some of the bales overboard. When I first saw it I certainly thought her magazine had blown up. Another shot struck her later on close to her mizen-mast. Just as all this was going on a steamer called the *Parnahyba* was seen steaming out from the Gamtoa with Argentine colours flying. As she got near the *Almirante Tamandare*, the latter fired a few shots with machine guns; the *Trojana* also fired. This steamer immediately stopped and an insurgent boat boarded her, and shortly afterwards the Argentine colours were hauled down, and the insurgent white flag hoisted at the fore. The three armed cruisers then steamed up, their crews all cheering. We heard that this steamer was going south and had ammunition and stores for the Government troops, so I presume they thought by having Argentine colours she was safe and could evade the insurgents. 10.30 p.m.—Rifle firing again took place at Rio Janeiro near the arsenal. 11.40 p.m.—The firing increased and was taken up by the troops all along by the arsenal and Gamtoa. There must have been at least a thousand men engaged; the firing was incessant from that time until 11.55 p.m. It was so heavy that I really cannot describe it; I have never heard anything to equal it. In the meanwhile several insurgent steam launches opened a heavy fire with machine guns, also one or two armed cruisers steamed in and fired with machine and quick-firing guns on the town. *Trojana* then opened fire. 11.50 p.m.—*Almirante Tamandare* steamed in and only fired one gun on the town. 12 p.m.—All firing ceased. For one hour and a half a furious and fierce engagement had taken

place. Of course it was the Government troops making an attack on Isle de Cobras. How many were killed or wounded it is impossible to find out, as no information could be obtained.

10th.—This is the first day to the best of my recollection that Nitheroy has fired no guns, and none have been fired into Nitheroy, except the one which I have mentioned. In fact one could see the troops in the arsenal having a regular promenade with no shots to disturb them. At the same time they were combining pleasure with duty, as we could see them building up their sand bag batteries and repairing a few damages they had received.

11th (7.40 a.m.)—The troops at the arsenal, Rio Janeiro, opened fire with rifles at the insurgent launches which were towing out an old paddler named *Amazonas*. They did not return the fire. 3.30 p.m.—The guns from the arsenal at Nitheroy opened fire on the armed cruisers, and one shot struck the funnel of one of them called the *Marte*. These armed cruisers had to weigh and get further off. Several movements took place amongst the insurgent ships during the afternoon. The *Trojana* shifted her berth. The *Guanabara* was towed down and anchored near the arsenal at Rio. They also brought down an old ferry boat, on which was erected a large platform, and on this were 12 or 14 railway luggage vans. I suppose the object was to put men inside with rifles, and then tow her about from one position to another. One or two shots were fired during the afternoon from the Nitheroy battery at the Isle de Cobras. 4.45 p.m.—Gariata opened fire on Villegagnon. Admiral Saldanha da Gama has now taken command in the place of Admiral Custodio de Mello, who, as I have mentioned before, left in the *Aquidaban* some 10 days ago. 5.30 p.m.—The Government forts opened fire on Villegagnon, the latter returning fire vigorously. A general engagement then ensued, lasting until 7 p.m., firing being heavy. All the foreign ships are gradually getting further up the harbour. 'We are the outside ships up to the present, but always standing by —to move. I have come to the conclusion it makes little difference where you go in the harbour, as shot and shell still seem to pursue you.

13th (7.45 a.m.)—Villegagnon opened fire on Government forts, the latter replying. The forts were engaged more or less for the remainder of the day. 8.0 a.m.—Battery at Nitheroy opened fire on Isle de Cobras. This continued all day at intervals. 8.30 a.m.—Rifle firing again commenced between the troops at Rio and the insurgents on Isle de Cobras, and continued nearly all day. At times firing was very heavy. We are not allowed to have any communication whatsoever with the shore, so now we can get no fresh provisions from there. The reason assigned for this is that it is not safe for any boats to go near the landing place, as shot and shell and rifle bullets are flying in all directions.

14th (6.55 a.m.)—Heavy rifle firing took place between the troops at Rio and the insurgents on Isle de Cobras; machine guns also

being used by both sides. This continued the whole day, more or less. How many are killed one cannot find out. I am told that when the troops are marched up to take their positions for one of these batteries, they also bring a certain number of carts with them, so that directly any men are killed they put them in a cart and convey them straight to the cemetery. 1.30 p.m.—*Almirante Tamandare* opened fire on Nitheroy. 12.30 p.m.—Santa Cruz opened fire on Isle de Cobras. The firing was very good, considering the long range. We heard to-day that the Government have landed troops on Governador Island, where the magazine blew up; certainly there was great activity amongst the insurgent launches and armed cruisers. Later on we saw them steaming up in that direction, and then heard a good deal of firing. Their object in landing was to mount guns, which they succeeded in doing, as next day we could see the guns mounted. They also opened fire on some launches. I believe some fighting took place on the island, both parties losing some men. General Pelles, who was in command of the Government Troops, had his leg shot off.

15th (12.40 a.m.)—Rifle firing took place at Nitheroy. 2.0 a.m.—Rifle firing and machine-gun firing at Rio and Isle de Cobras. I had to go out in the ship at 5 a.m. to communicate with the Pacific mail steamer *Iberia*, as rumours were afloat that the Government officials might take our mails out of her. But as these officials are not very early in their habits, I steamed out two or three miles and stopped her, and got our mails on board and went back. I had a good look at the forts, and since last time I went out the forts have suffered a good deal, especially Villegagnon, which is in a most dilapidated state, only two guns being mounted. Fort Lago, which stands out in the harbour, is very much knocked about. I passed close to it, and the men seemed happy enough. A shell some few days ago entered this fort from Villegagnon, 1 officer and 14 men being killed. A shell also burst in Villegagnon, killing 5 men and badly wounding 9. It was a curious thing that this shell found its way down where the men had just sat down to partake of their meal. It must have entered one of the casements. 1.15 p.m.—A tremendous engagement took place between the troops at Rio and insurgents on the Isle de Cobras. The firing was terrific with machine guns and rifles, and this lasted about forty minutes.

16th.—(11 a.m.)—Heavy rifle firing between Rio and Isle de Cobras, machine guns were also used. At 11.30 a.m. we observed a central battery ship called the *Sete de Setembro* on fire. Evidently it had just been set on fire by the Government troops from Nitheroy. This ship was anchored over there on the first day of the revolution. Why the insurgents left her there I cannot imagine. We heard to-day that the old *Guanabara* was making water rapidly. She had six feet of water in her hold, and the crew were unable to keep it under. This evening she was towed out from under Isle de Cobras and anchored in shallow water.

17th (Sunday).—During the afternoon we saw another large fire break out near Wilson's coal depôt. It turned out to be a steamer called the *Itaoca*, a fine steamer of 17 knots, belonging to a Brazilian firm, with an English captain and English engineers. Twelve soldiers from Nitheroy managed to get a boat and went aboard, and then set fire to her. She was in dock. It appears that the insurgents intended to have taken her out of dock next day and add her to the fleet, but the Government heard of this, and therefore destroyed her.

18th.—Much cross-fire: no serious results.

19th.—More firing, but little results.

20th.—Same as two preceding days.

21st.—During the forenoon the forts exchanged a few shots. One of our boats doing guard duty was at the landing stage when the firing took place. I am glad to say that an intelligent man was in charge of the boat, and ordered the whole boat's crew out, and placed them under a shed for shelter. But unluckily a shell burst from the *Jupiter* in this shed, killing four soldiers and an apprentice, and wounded another belonging to an English ship. Poor fellows! It is indeed a melancholy thing to hear of one's own countrymen being killed by these brutes. Thank goodness our men escaped without a scratch, although one soldier had his head taken off right alongside one of our men. At 4 p.m. I observed an insurgent launch lying alongside Mucangue Island, Nitheroy side, when quite suddenly some 60 or 70 Government troops came over the hill on this island in skirmishing order and opened a heavy fire on this launch. The consequence was that the launch had to leave, and left about 10 men on shore. One could see these insurgents running about looking for shelter. The troops then commenced to fire down upon them. Some must have been killed. The *Jupiter* and four launches then steamed in towards the island and opened a heavy fire with rifles, machine guns, and quick-firing guns, the troops returning the fire with rifles. The insurgents managed to get a launch alongside the island and get their men off. During this action I saw one Government soldier shot dead as he was coming down the hill. He fell flat and never moved. Another soldier came and looked at him, but seeing that he was dead left. I saw another soldier fall. He was apparently badly wounded, as he could be seen distinctly through a glass trying to rise, and moving his arms. Two men went to him and were in the act of moving him, when a tremendous fusillade of machine guns and rifles took place, so that they had to retreat. When the firing was over they did the Good Samaritan and returned, but he had died in the meanwhile, so they left.

22nd.—Guns from Isle de Cobras opened fire on the arsenal at Nitheroy. Heavy firing took place all the afternoon between the insurgent launches and the troops on Mucangue Island. The

Government troops set fire to a gunboat called the *Marazo* during the day. She was built here in 1885. They have burnt all the ships they can up to the present.

23rd.—The *Almirante Tamandare* opened fire on the arsenal at Nitheroy. The guns from the arsenal fired on Isle de Cobras, Nitheroy battery returning the fire of the *Almirante Tamandare*. The guns from Isle de Cobras opened a heavy fire on Nitheroy and Gariata. Firing ceased at 7.15 p.m. It is hard to give an actual description of the firing to-day, as they opened fire so quickly that the harbour was enveloped in smoke and, being still evening, one could see scarcely anything. So far as one can see at present the insurgents are not doing much here, and are completely hemmed in all round the harbour by the Government guns. But from what one can hear the Southern provinces are all in favour of the insurgents, and the Northern provinces are waiting to see which way the wind will blow. So I think no one can see or foretell how it will end or when. Both sides, as far as Rio Janeiro is concerned, are determined to fight it out to the bitter end—as the hatred between the army and navy seems to be very bitter.

24th (Christmas Eve).—1.0 a.m.—Rifle and machine-gun firing in the direction of Vianna Island. 3.0 a.m. until 3.30 a.m.—Heavy gun firing from the same place. I shall now finish this as we are sending mails by the *Coptic*, No. 2 steamer. The weather here has now commenced to be very hot. Firing was incessant all day from Mucangue Island, a good deal of rifle and machine-gun firing took place in that vicinity. All was quiet until 5.45 p.m. 1.45 p.m.—I suppose they had enough of Christmas Eve. So operations commenced. 5.45 p.m.—Guns from Nitheroy battery and arsenal opened fire on Isle da Cobras, and the *Almirante Tamandare* then returned a heavy fire at these batteries. Isle de Cobras guns opened fire on Nitheroy. Villegagnon opened fire on the Government forts, Fort Lago and Santa Cruz returning. Firing ceased at 7.15 p.m. to 3 p.m., a good deal of rifle firing took place on the Rio side.

26th and 27th—Constant desultory firing of the character so often described.

28th.—4.20 p.m.—An Englishman went on board the *Sirius* and reported that the insurgents had seized a lighter full of bullocks. Our senior officer sent an officer to demand them back. The lighter was returned at once. They had already killed two or three of them, but they had to give up the dead as well as the live ones.

29th, 30th and 31st.—Desultory firing; waste of ammunition.

Jan. 1st, 1894.—New year opens as bad as old one.

2nd to 6th.—Constant daily interchange of firing throughout the 24 hours between Government forces and insurgents.

6th.—11 a.m.—*Santa Cruz* opened fire on Villegagnon, the latter returning the fire. 11.40 a.m.—The battery at Nitheroy arsenal opened fire on Isle da Cobras. The latter then opened fire on Nitheroy and Fort Gariata. 2 p.m.—*Almirante Tamandare* opened fire on Nitheroy, and here I must relate one of the most sad and barbarous things that I have witnessed since this revolution broke out. I feel confident that all people who read it will agree with me in the opinion I have expressed. What I am about to describe I saw with my own eyes. As I was anchored about a quarter of a mile from the island, or perhaps even less distance than that, with a glass one could see all that took place. The island here referred to is a small island called Orchadas, and on this island the insurgents have built their hospital, and they had the red cross flag flying over it. I happened to be on deck at the time. It was 3.15. I saw a gun fired from the Nitheroy Battery (arsenal) and to my horror it struck on Orchadas Island. I must mention that the insurgents have about 230 men on this island, most of them being wounded. Indeed it was a dreadful sight to see all the sick and wounded seeking for a place of shelter. I saw men being brought out of their beds and being carried by others, some of them with legs, arms, and heads all bandaged up. Several poor chaps who had lost one of their legs, and were on crutches, did their utmost to reach a place of shelter. This island is very small, and no less than five shots were fired into it. They lowered the red cross flag at half-mast on the island, and no more firing took place after that.

7th to 11th.—Daily firing kept up as since the outbreak of the war. Mail leaving on the 11th.

January 11th to 28th. Nearly every day there was a considerable expenditure of ammunition from the guns on the insurgent ships and the forts on the shore and islands, which must have cost a good many lives and the further destruction of much valuable property. Beyond the dry details the only events of interest to the general reader took place on the 12th and 16th. The morning of the former day brought a great surprise. At 5 a.m. the *Aquidaban* was observed steaming into the harbour at full speed. It was an imposing spectacle. The sun was just rising, there was a perfect calm, and the atmosphere was clear, the whole harbour and the mountains all round being visible. I have an idea that she picked that time out to come in, most likely knowing that very few men would be up in the forts, and she did it well, as I am certain she had passed the critical point before she was seen. The *Aquidaban* opened fire first, when the forts realized it was her, then *Santa Cruz*, *Lago*, and *San Juan* opened a heavy fire. I watched every shot, and not one struck her, but on passing the Nitheroy battery she was struck twice, and those shots I saw distinctly, as she was abreast of the *Beagle* when they fired. I have since heard she had no men wounded or killed, so it appears to me she can go out and come in when she likes. Admiral Mello, who started this

revolution, did not return in the *Aquidaban*, and there are all sorts of rumours about him. One is, that when South, he showed no activity, and that the officers grew discontented and put him on shore. At 5.45 a.m. terrific rifle firing took place from the troops at Rio on insurgent launches passing to Isle da Cobras. At 6 a.m. the *Almirante Tamandare* opened fire on Nitheroy. The *Trojana* opened fire with machine guns in the direction of the Gamboa. At 6.15 a.m. the battery from Nitheroy opened fire on Orchadas Island, where the wounded are, and at 6.30 a.m. on Isle da Cobras. At 7 a.m. the guns from Isle da Cobras opened fire on Gariata, and for a wonder two shells fell in the fort. The *Almirante Tamandare* and *Aquidaban* kept up a steady fire during the afternoon at the valley at the back of Nitheroy, where the Government have guns. Heavy rifle and machine gun firing took place in the vicinity of Coal Isle. Heavy rain came down and damped their ardour for the usual pantomime, which is generally open to all comers at 6 p.m. On January 16th, at 4 a.m., the *Aquidaban*, accompanied by several steam launches, came down the harbour, the boats being full of small-arm men. They proceeded towards Mucangue Isle, where they succeeded in landing under cover of the *Aquidaban's* guns, and captured the island, after a fairly good engagement. The insurgents captured 100 Government troops, 3 officers, two field guns, and some ammunition. Several Government soldiers were killed, but the loss of the insurgents was not many killed, but several wounded. One launch passed close to the *Sirius*, and those on board could see several dead and wounded being taken to Orchadas Island. They also saw two other launches with wounded being taken up the harbour to a transport used as a hospital ship. I expect the Government will try and get this island back. From what I can hear the troops on this island never expected this attack, and like those in the forts were again caught napping.

On January 28th and 29th there was again a large expenditure of ammunition. On the latter day about 6.30 a.m. a heavy engagement took place between the troops at Rio Janeiro and the insurgent launches, the firing being heavy on both sides. The troops used field guns and rifles. The insurgents were apparently trying to capture lighters. This lasted about 30 minutes. Admiral Saldanha de Gama had his nephew shot (a cadet). He was in one of the launches in this engagement. The American squadron, consisting of the *San Francisco* (flag), Rear-Admiral Benham, *New York*, *Charleston*, *Newark*, and *Detroit*, got underweigh, all ships being prepared for action in every way. It looked very warlike. It appears that the insurgents had fired on their flag on four different occasions. Naturally this was more than they could put up with. They have also had trouble about their ships discharging, so the American Admiral sent to Admiral Saldanha de Gama (insurgent) to inform him that if he interfered with any American commerce he would stop it by force of arms. Receiving no answer next morning, all the squadron weighed at 7 a.m. The *Detroit* being

the smallest ship went in and anchored close to the *Trojana*. Whilst in there the insurgent ship *Trojana* fired a rifle at an American ship; I presume to stop her. Upon this the *Detroit* fired one gun at the *Trojana*, striking her stern. Shortly after the whole American squadron anchored, so I suppose the Admiral had received some answer from the insurgent Admiral. The Americans have a powerful squadron here. On the 30th and 31st January there was again heavy firing, but on the 1st and 2nd of February there was a lull. On the 3rd there was again great activity, and on the 4th (Sunday) at 2.0 a.m., Fort Gariata opened a brisk fire. It was too dark to see, but presumably it was on Villegagnon or Cobras I. At 7 a.m. the Governador opened fire on *Aquidaban* and *Tamandare*. At 7.15 a.m. *Aquidaban* weighed and proceeded in towards the town of Rio. The guns from Nitheroy arsenal and Governador I. opened fire on her, but with no result. She made fast to a buoy off the Gamboa Rio, and one of the armed transports came down. All sorts of rumours were afloat. One was that the insurgents intended landing 600 men, who would be then joined by a certain number of the military officers and soldiers. Soon after the *Aquidaban* had made fast we heard tremendous cheering, and saw a large number of insurgents fully equipped for landing going on board the *Aquidaban*. No doubt they meant business, but unfortunately for them the plot was discovered. Twenty-two Government officers were arrested as having been implicated and put in prison. If the plot had succeeded I think there would have been an end to the revolution. The Minister of War resigned some few weeks back, but since that he has been put in prison. It looks bad for the President when his own officers and men are turning against him. I expect money is short. As long as the President can get money to pay the troops, they may stick to him. On February 5th a shell burst in Gariata, and I should think must have caused some deaths. The heat here now is terrific. On February 7th heavy rifle and machine gun firing took place all night, but it was impossible to see anything as it was quite dark and raining in torrents, such rain as one only sees in the tropics. On February 8th the Government troops opened a heavy fire with rifles and field guns on the insurgent launches from the top of a hill at the back of Vianna I. We heard rumours that the insurgents intended to try and capture Nitheroy, also Nitheroy arsenal. An attempt was actually made but failed. On February 9th, from mid-night until about three a.m., the insurgent launches showed great activity, and were steaming about all over the harbour. We all had suspicion that they were going to have another crack at Nitheroy. At 4 a.m. I saw 6 or 7 launches steaming in toward Nitheroy. Then they opened a terrific fire with machine guns and rifles. The Government troops returned a heavy fire with rifles. Although the arsenal at Nitheroy has four guns, owing to the terrific rapidity with which these machine guns were fired, the troops could not touch their guns, and not one was fired during the action. After a most desperate engagement of 1 hour

and 45 minutes, in fact, one might call it a hand-to-hand fight, we saw the white insurgent flag hoisted on the arsenal amid great cheering. Both sides fought in a most determined manner. The insurgents immediately set to work and put all the Government guns out of action by destroying them. They blew the powder up and then left, as I don't think they had enough men to hold it. Several launches containing wounded men passed us on their way to Orchadas. I should say that the number of killed and wounded was heavy. It was the heaviest firing I have seen during this revolution. I quite forgot to mention that the *Aquidaban* weighed at 4.30 a.m. and proceeded off to the arsenal. At 8 a.m. the *Aquidaban* opened fire on Nitheroy, assisted by the *Almirante Tamandare*, then a general engagement commenced between the *Aquidaban*, Fort Villegagnon and all the Government forts, heavy firing continuing all the forenoon. In the meanwhile the *Libertade*, Admiral Saldanha da Gama's despatch boat, with a small flotilla, was engaging the troops at Nitheroy. Firing was continuous and heavy the whole forenoon. Just as the mail is going things are once more quiet.

FEB. 9th.—The engagement of this morning referred to in my last letter, lasted upwards of six hours. The insurgents managed to take the arsenal and partially destroyed the guns. One gun, a breech loader, was disabled altogether and rendered useless, but in the meantime the troops had been reinforced, and drove the insurgents back to their boats. The insurgents had 60 wounded and 40 killed. Nearly all the officers were killed or wounded. Admiral Saldanha da Gama led them. He was wounded in three places, but they were flesh wounds only. His Flag-Lieutenant had his arm broken. In fact, it was a most sanguinary engagement, and at one time it was a hand-to-hand fight. One could see at odd times troops and sailors mixed up, firing as hard as they could. Both sides fought in a most plucky manner. To show how great was the mortality amongst the insurgent officers it may be mentioned that some 15 or 16 were killed and wounded. Admiral Saldanha went in his despatch boat the *Libertada*, and the *Times* correspondent had permission from the Admiral to accompany him on board his craft. All the officers and men were either killed or wounded, and I believe the *Times* correspondent brought her back to her anchorage, having one marine left to steer, and a cadet, who was firing the stern gun. The *Times* correspondent was slightly wounded. The *Libertada* was on our beam during the fighting, and we could see the troops pounding a murderous fire into her with rifles. She was returning fire with machine guns. The captains of the launches were all killed or wounded. I saw the *Lucy*, their best tug, (commonly called the *Fighting Lucy*) after the action, and she was riddled all over the masts, funnel and hull, with bullet marks. The number of troops killed must have been about 200, and I expect a great number were wounded. The firing I can't describe, as it was incessant from 4 a.m. until 10.15 a.m., and never ceased for a

second. The launches were about seven in number. They did a good deal of execution, as one could see them loading and firing their machine guns as fast as it lay in their power. I saw the launches coming back with the dead and wounded all mixed up. The insurgents managed to bring off nearly all their dead and wounded, only leaving six behind. The remainder of the day passed quietly until 11.0 p.m. We then observed the insurgent launches rather active again. There was again very heavy rifle and machine gun firing at the Ponte D'Areia, which lasted for about 35 minutes. The *Aquidaban* came up and anchored abreast of the arsenal at Nitheroy, and spent the night worrying the troops by firing machine guns into the arsenal—rather a nuisance for us, as she was anchored near us.

10th.—At 3 a.m. until 5 a.m. there was a good deal of rifle and machine gun firing at the back of Coal Isle. The insurgent launches patrolled at 6 a.m., and the *Aquidaban* proceeded up the harbour just as she started the guns from Nitheroy battery opened fire on her. Continued rifle firing took place the whole day in the vicinity of Ponte D'Areia. At 5 p.m. Cobras Isle opened fire on Nitheroy, and Villegagnon opened a brisk fire on Nitheroy, the *Gariata* returning the fire. Yesterday morning the *Aquidaban* steamed in near this fort and fired heavily. The fort was silenced till this evening. At 6 p.m. the *Almirante Tamandare* came and anchored near us and opened fire on the arsenal, I presume to stop the troops from putting the guns in order after the damage done to them by the insurgents. Some of her shells burst well in the arsenal, and one could see the troops running in all directions. It must have killed some men. The weight of these shells is 100-lbs. each. At 9 p.m. she again opened fire on the arsenal for about thirty minutes. It was rather a fine sight to see these shells bursting in the dark.

11th.—At 1.30 a.m. the *Almirante Tamandare* again fired into the arsenal, and at 2 a.m. a very heavy engagement took place at Villegagnon, rifles, machine guns, and heavy guns being used. It looked as if the insurgents had lined the fort all round, as one could see the flashes of the rifles. The insurgent launches were steaming about in all directions, and there were signals made with red and white lights in different parts of the harbour. At 3.20 a.m. the *Aquidaban* steamed past us. It was too dark to see her movements, but she was back at her former anchorage at daylight. I heard from an insurgent officer who came on board to see me about the seizure of some coal, that they had laid some mines down near the fort, and that two Government launches had come in from outside to find out about them. The firing lasted for about forty minutes. At 3.40 a.m. the *Almirante Tamandare* again fired into the arsenal. Continual firing took place the whole day between the insurgents and the troops between Mucangue and Ponte D'Areia. One of the guns which the insurgents had damaged came into use this evening, and opened a brisk fire on Cobras. The troops have

been working under great difficulties owing to the *Tamandare* firing into this arsenal. A 100-lbs. projectile falling close to you is not pleasant.

12th.—During the forenoon the guns from Nitheroy battery opened fire on the *Almirante Tamandare*, and considering that she is anchored about 2,000 yards off the firing was good, two or three shells bursting on board her. She never returned the fire. In the afternoon the guns from Governador Island opened fire on the *Almirante Tamandare*, three shots hitting her. The *Aquidaban* answered the fire. I have an idea that the ammunition on board the *Tamandare* is rather scarce. The troops in the arsenal have been very busy in mounting a second gun to replace the one partially destroyed on the morning of the 8th. At 6.15 p.m. two guns from the arsenal opened a heavy fire on Cobras Island, and at the same time the *Almirante Tamandare* opened a heavy fire on the arsenal, her firing being very good. Her shot and shell struck the buildings in a most effective manner, and sent up volumes of dust. But it seemed to have little effect on the troops, as they fired more vigorously than ever. I can't see how a shell weighing 100-lbs. can possibly burst among these buildings without causing some loss of life, as there are a great number of troops scattered about this arsenal. Between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. the *Almirante Tamandare* fired about six or seven shells into the arsenal, and being perfectly calm one could hear these shells bursting among the buildings, making a tremendous report.

Beyond some desultory firing nothing of importance occurred on the 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th.

18th.—In the forenoon we saw a large steamer outside the harbour with a pennant flying and the Brazilian ensign flying. It was thought to be one of the steamers that the Government brought from New York, called the *Nitheroy*. She is supposed to have brought down troops from the North. At sunset we saw her steaming away.

19th.—Continued firing of rifles took place the whole night. As the *Almirante Tamandare* was abreast of Ponte D'Areia, a gun from there was fired, and the shell burst on her forecastle. At 12.20 p.m. guns from the arsenal at Nitheroy opened a brisk fire on Cobras Isle.

20th.—More or less firing all day.

21st.—An exciting morning. I forgot to mention that on the forenoon of the 20th the *Republica* appeared off the harbour, having Admiral Custodio de Mello on board. She steamed in towards the harbour and fired three shots at the forts. She then went out to sea and lay off. At 3.10 a.m. this morning the *Aquidaban* got underweigh and steamed out towards the harbour mouth. When abreast

of Fort Villegagnon, Forts San Juan, Lago, and Santa Cruz opened fire on her, also the guns from Gariata and Nitheroy. The *Aquidaban* returned the fire. Villegagnon supported the *Aquidaban*. The firing was very heavy and it lasted 45 minutes. The *Aquidaban* once more got out and joined the *Republica*, and both ships steered to the southward. This makes the third time the *Aquidaban* has run the guantlet, twice out and once in. She must have been hit several times. During the remainder of the day there was firing between the forts.

22nd.—More firing at intervals.

23rd.—At 12-15 a.m. an insurgent launch steamed down the harbour and went in near the town of Rio and opened fire with her machine guns. The troops returned fire with rifles. At 5-50 a.m. some guns on the main land, I believe a battery just erected, opened fire on the armed cruisers. At the second shot a terrible explosion took place on board one of them called the "Pereira de Cunha." She sank in three minutes, and after she had settled down, one mast and her funnel were visible above water. Twenty three men and the captain and three officers were killed. They must have been blown to pieces. From what I can gather a shell went into her magazine. These cruisers are mere shells, but well armed. At 6.10 Governador Isle opened fire on the other two cruisers which were anchored near the "Pereira de Cunha," and a Battery from the back of Vienna Isle opened fire on two insurgent launches which went to the sunken cruiser. The cruisers weighed and went further up the harbour.

24th.—There was firing of guns, rifles and machine guns during the day.

25th.—Sunday. Incessant rifle firing from 12 p.m. until 5 p.m. At times heavy firing between the Arsenal at Nitheroy and Mucangue Isle. At 6 p.m. Cobras Island opened fire on the Arsenal at Nitheroy. The return firing was good and four or five shells burst on Cobras Island close to the battery.

26th.—From 12 p.m. until 4 a.m. incessant rifle firing from Ponte d'Areia, Mucangue at the Arsenal at Nitheroy. At 8-45 p.m. very heavy firing took place at Cobras Isle, rifles and machine guns being used for about 10 minutes. Then at 9-30 p.m., more heavy firing took place. We heard that the Government intended to try and take this Island. I think last night was a feint.

Since I last wrote to say that my diary was at an end owing to the dreadful epidemic of yellow fever causing our ships to leave here, I proceeded to Cape Erio, but on the Government issuing a proclamation "that they intended to open fire from the town on the insurgent ships but would give 48 hours for the merchant ships to clear out of line of fire," our ships came back into harbour on the 12th, to see the merchant ships moved. The Government Squadron arrived off Rio Janeiro on the 10th, consisting of "Nitheroy,"

Rear Admiral's flag ; " America " Commodore's flag ; " St. Salvador " transport, with 800 troops on board ; " Itaipu " armed torpedo ; " Aurora " torpedo catcher ; five first class torpedo boats, one second-class ditto, one tug-boat, and one corvette.

March 13th brought the Revolution to an end, after continuing for six months and seven days. It appears for about two days before this eventful day the insurgents, both officers and men, had shown signs of insubordination, and Admiral da Gama had great difficulty with the men. I think the officers and men saw that things were coming to a climax, and the fact that Admiral Mello, who really started the Revolution, never came back after he left, disheartened them, and some two or three days before the 13th they had shewn signs of discontent and insubordination. In the morning we heard that the insurgents had deserted Fort Villegagnon the previous night, and this morning officers and men evacuated Cobras. Before leaving, all the guns were spiked. During the forenoon they deserted their ships. We saw them landing at Orchadas Island in their steam launches. Some went up to the head of the harbour to an Island called Pagueta and from this island I expect they intend to make their escape. Admiral Saldanha de Gama took refuge on board a Portuguese man-of-war, with a great number of officers and men. He looked very crest-fallen. At 12 o'clock all the Government forts opened a heavy fire on Villegagnon and Cobras. One shell which burst on Cobras caused a large fire to break out. Singularly they tried to concentrate their fire on these two deserted places, although of course this was at the time unknown to the Government. It was entire waste of time and ammunition. At 3.0 p.m. the guns from the town opened a heavy fire on the insurgent ships and Cobras. After about an hour, no shots being returned, they ceased firing. As in the case of the forts, there was no one on board the ships to return the fire. At 5.0 p.m. the Government Fleet steamed up the harbour, and all the forts and the guns from the town fired salutes for about one hour. It was a most imposing spectacle as the salutes were fired from the following places : guns from Rio Janeiro town, about 30 ; batteries from the Arsenal at Nitheroy, batteries from Governador Island, batteries from Ponte D'Areia, batteries from St. John the Baptist, batteries at the back of Vianna Island, and from forts Santa Cruz, Lago, St. Juan, Gariata, also six guns from under the Sugar Loaf. During the evening there was a grand exhibition of fireworks, and the troops fired several *feu de joies*. In fact there was universal rejoicing. On March 14th all the above batteries again opened fire, saluting as on the previous day. So ends my experiences with this Revolution, having been present on the first day of the outbreak and also on the last.

Having seen the whole of the Revolution at Rio Janeiro it has fallen to my lot to see the last of it at Rio Grande do Sul, the most southern province in Brazil. We had just arrived at

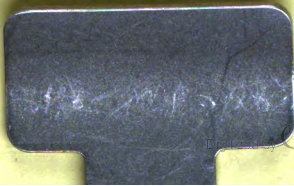
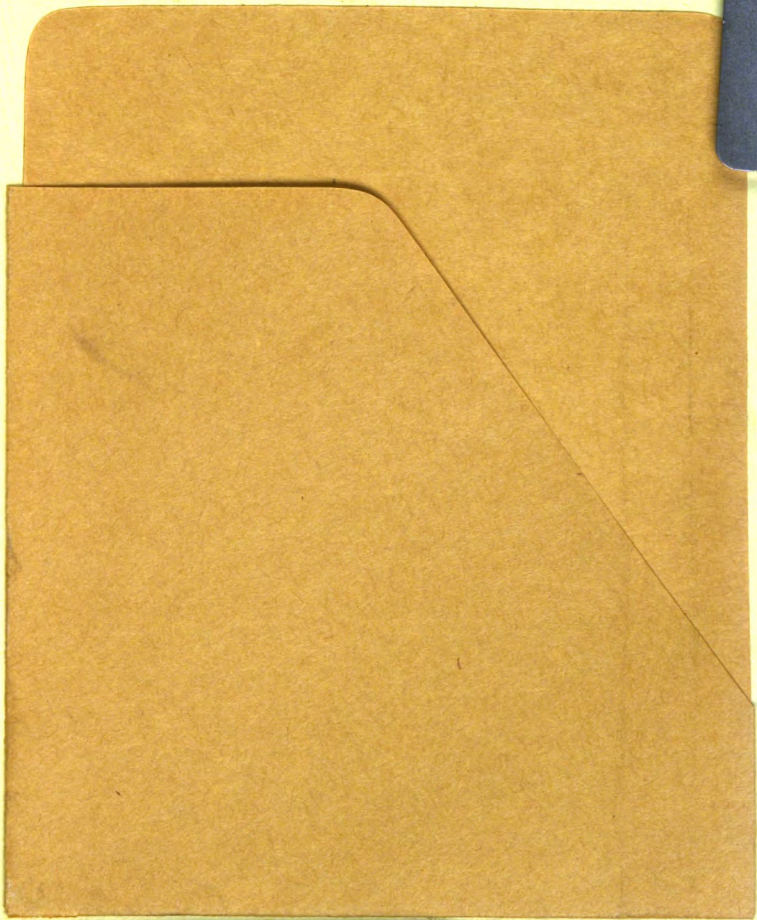
Monte Video and finished ten days quarantine, and were congratulating ourselves that it was all over, when a telegram arrived requesting that a British man-of-war might be sent to Rio Grande. I must explain that to get into Rio Grande one has to cross a bar where the depth of water is uncertain, and as the *Beagle* draws less water than any other ship on this station I was sent. Admiral Mello left Rio Janeiro some day in February in the *Aquidaban*, and was met outside by the *Republica*. They proceeded south and went to Santa Catharina, and Paranagua, which two places have been the strongholds of the insurgents up to the present time. I presume the chief held a council of war, and determined to make an attack on Rio Grande do Sul. On April the 6th the insurgent squadron comprising the *Republica*, (Rear Admiral Mello), armed transports *Urano*, *Iris*, *Meteori*, and *Esperanza*, arrived off the Bar of Rio Grande at 10 a.m., on the 6th April, quite unexpectedly. The squadron crossed the bar and opened a heavy fire on the Battery just inside which the Government troops held, and after about three hours they managed to silence it. The insurgents landed their troops, numbering about 3000 men, at once, and took possession of the place under an insurgent General called Salgado. On the 7th April, the ships came up to a small town called St. Jise de Norte, keeping up a brisk fire for about twenty minutes on the town of San Pedro do Sul, which is opposite the former, and distant about 2½ miles. The Government batteries opened fire on the ships, but with little success, as they only had small Krupp guns. The Government also had two small river Gunboats named the *Canema* and *Camocin*. The *Republica* fired five shots at the former, and she began to sink, but her Engineers managed to steam her up the harbour, where she went down in shallow water. Fourteen men on her were wounded, and two killed. The *Camocin* escaped up the harbour. Admiral Mello demanded the surrender of the town within twenty-four hours, but the General commanding the Government troops (Bellecar) did not accede to this request. On the 9th inst., at 7 a.m., the *Republica* and *Meteori* opened fire on the town of San Pedro do Sul, also on the trenches at the back of the town, and continued firing until 2 p.m. They fired 199 shots, and later on they fired six more, making a total of 205. Considering the quantity of ammunition expended little damage was done to the town. I conclude the fire must have been directed principally on the trenches. When the insurgent vessels arrived, the town was only defended by 600 regulars, and about 1000 other men called "Patriotics," and if the Admiral had taken his ships up at once on his arrival, he could have taken it easily, but whether he could have held it is another affair, as Colonel Pelles arrived from a place called Bagi with reinforcements including 500 cavalry armed with rifles and lances. The insurgents being caught between two fires had to retreat and embark on board their ships. They made a stand, but the cavalry as they retreated rode them down with their lances. The insurgents lost

about 300 killed and wounded, and the Government troops about 100. The Government took 35 insurgent prisoners. I went over the plain, which is all sand and quite flat, two days after the fighting to have a look at the scene of operations. Although the Government troops had buried most of the dead in the sand, I saw some nine or ten bodies, and all had been badly wounded and barbarously mutilated. Besides lance thrusts and bullet wounds each man had had his throat cut in a terrible manner! The plain was strewn with boots, hats, pieces of clothing, cooking utensils, and quantities of ammunition. In fact, there were all the traces of a hasty retreat. The fighting took place close to the railway, as some of the bodies were lying close to the wire fencing on each side of the line. It looked as if in retreating they got hung up, as pieces of clothing were hanging on the fence. The town was defended by a line of trenches and batteries about a mile across an isthmus. It was a melancholy thing to see the number of wounded horses that could not move, and simply had to starve to death. I asked one fellow to lend me his revolver to shoot one. He laughed and said the horse was too good to shoot, saying he would get well in time. Admiral Mello seeing that his attack was a complete failure, took all his ships and steamed away on the evening of the 11th. No doubt he saw that the game was up, and knowing that the Floriano Peixoto Squadron had left Rio Janeiro he deemed it prudent to go south, where he put into a place called Castilio, which is in Uruguay, disarmed, and landed the troops. He then proceeded on to Buenos Ayres with the *Republica* and the transports. Since, we have heard that the *Aquidaban* has been sunk by a torpedo. Over 900 insurgents landed in the town of Monte Video on the 23rd April, and the people subscribed to support them. The first day I landed at Rio Grande the excitement was great. Some four or five shots came over the town, and people were to be seen running in all directions. The streets were all barricaded up with bags of rice, sand, and bales of cotton wool, and the troops bivouacked in the streets. It was amusing to see the effects of the cannonade. Directly a shot was fired from the ship a fellow on horseback sounded a bugle and away the troops went with a gun up one street and down another, and generally brought it back again to the same spot without having fired it. With this last ineffectual attempt of the insurgents ends a revolution of seven months and five days. The insurgents made a plucky stand, but from what one has seen and heard there was a certain amount of friction amongst the leaders and want of harmony, which contributed to their defeat. I only hope that in future the Government will stick to their motto on the National flag (*ordem e progresso*). Of late it has been *dis ordem e no progresso*.

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