

DOINGS OF THE WEEK

What Has Happened in the Civilized World.

GIVEN IN THE PRESS DISPATCHES

A Complete Review of the News of the Past Seven Days in This and All Foreign Lands.

General Brooke has left Newport News for Rio Rico.

A powder mill at Elmira, N. Y., blew up, killing the owner.

Two men were killed as the result of an explosion in the Coney mine, near Skykomish, Wash.

The Illinois circuit court has ruled that the express companies must pay the tax on express packages.

A Madrid dispatch says General Correa is arranging for the reception of the Spanish troops which surrendered at Santiago de Cuba, and preparing sanitary stations to prevent the introduction of diseases into Spain.

The alleged charges of bad faith against the United States attributed to Premier Sagasta are discredited by Washington authorities as inventions designed to prejudice the successful progress of the present peace negotiations.

Strict neutrality is to be maintained by England, and Watson will find no "facilities" at Gibraltar. The British government there has no assured the Spanish consul. Spaniards are busy putting the bay of Gibraltar in a more complete state of defense.

The Hong Kong correspondent of the London Daily Mail says the viceroy of Canton has announced to the foreign office the complete suppression of the rebellion in those districts. He has announced also that four cities have been reconquered by the imperial troops.

With the understanding that no indemnity will be demanded and that the Spanish sovereignty in the Philippines will be respected, the Spanish newspapers consider the terms of peace acceptable. The papers, however, protest against hostilities being continued by the United States after Spain had sued for peace.

Admiral Dewey, at Manila, has dispatched the Raleigh and Concord to gather up 11 Spanish craft, which, according to information sent him by General Williams, are at various places in the Philippines.

Among these vessels are three gunboats at San Miguel, Luzon Island, and four at Port Royal, Palawan Island. Four merchantmen with cargoes of tobacco are reported at Cayanag, Luzon. The same dispatch reports that the English traders at the coal mines at Batan, Luzon Island, have been imprisoned and subjected to ill treatment otherwise by the Spaniards there.

Vessels of the third fleet of transports were delayed by an accident to the Indiana.

Engineer Reid, the slayer of "Sopsy" Smith, died at Skagway from the effects of his wounds.

In two distinct battles with deputy sheriffs, a gang of cattle thieves and outlaws who have disturbed the Cherokee nation for a long time have been destroyed.

The reports of Admiral Sampson and his captains of the great Santiago naval battle have been made public. They differ but little in detail from the press accounts.

No vessels are being turned away from Manila. Only three have arrived there since the surrender. Shafter reports, and these landed their cargoes after paying duty.

The government of France has notified all French embassies of the fact that Spain has made proposals through M. Cambon, French ambassador at Washington, for peace with the United States.

News of the ratification of the annexation resolutions caused general rejoicing at the Hawaiian capital, and Honolulu went wild with enthusiasm. Whistles blew, men cheered, hands played and pandemonium reigned. The captain of the Coptic was presented with a silver cup for having brought the good news.

The government has decided to make permanent troopships of the Arizona and Scandia. The Arizona is to be fitted out with bunks for 1,800 men, and 1,500 will be accommodated on the Scandia. The latter vessel is now in charge of the United States officers, the German crew having been paid and discharged.

General Merriam has issued an order designating the officers and troops to go to Manila on the transport St. Paul. Lieutenant-Colonel Lee Stover, of the First South Dakota, will be in command of the troops, which will include the First battalion of the First South Dakota Infantry, 18 officers and 320 men; recruits for the Thirtieth Minnesota, Major A. M. Diggins commanding, 6 officers and 310 men, and recruits for the First Colorado, Captain Frank Carroll commanding, 1 officer and 155 men.

Minor News Items.

A dude fights nearly as well as a cowboy, and a cowboy fights better than anything else on earth.

Over 500 men are at work on the cruiser Yorktown at Mare Island navy yard, San Francisco, rushing her to completion.

The United States government will establish an extensive weather bureau in the Caribbean sea for the use of all nations whose interests lie in that region.

LATER NEWS.

The United States commissioners who are to prepare a code of laws for Hawaii will sail on the Mariposa, August 10.

Advices from Havana confirm the report that General Garcia has relinquished his command and gone home to Canagney.

Intuitions among the powers of Europe to shut us out of the Philippines is said to have been checked by President McKinley's course.

A Madrid correspondent says that a band of 300 Carlists recently appeared near Seo de Urga, in Catalonia, and the troops are pursuing them.

The London Times announces that the Royal Ulster Yacht Club has arranged to challenge for the America's cup. The New York Yacht Club will be notified of the decision immediately.

General Merritt has sent notice to Washington that he was about to combine with Dewey in a joint demand for the surrender of Manila, thus forestalling the insurgents, and this movement may cause a rupture.

President McKinley's proposal has reached Madrid, and the Spanish cabinet met Monday to consider and decide upon the reply to be made. The terms offered, it is quite likely, will be accepted immediately. Hostilities in the Antilles in that case will be suspended at once.

The governor-general of Manila, telegraphing to Madrid, says that aid is indispensable to resist the imminent attack of the American forces under General Merritt. The foreign warships in the bay, the dispatch says, answered the salute in honor of the queen's saint day, and the American vessels displayed the American flag.

Some of the members of the Spanish conservative party question the utility of preserving the Philippines because of the enormous expense that a suppression of the insurgents would entail. The latest dispatches from Captain-General Augustin are so despondent about the resources at his disposal that it is surmised that the fall of Manila is imminent.

General Greely announces that he is now in direct communication by cable with General Miles' headquarters at Ponce, having sent the cable instruments from St. Thomas. The British officials who control the cable are willing to transmit messages for the United States government over it, provided our forces are in possession of the cable terminals, but they will not allow their cables to be used if the instruments are out in at any intermediate point.

The embarkation of Toral's troops, it is expected, will have been accomplished by August 15.

The government of Hayti has decided to permit this government to erect a weather station on its domain.

Yavoc was caused by lightning at Red Oak, Neb. Three persons were killed and considerable property destroyed.

Orders have been received at the navy yard, Charleston, Miss., to expend \$10,000 in repairs upon the old frigate Minnesota.

Nearly all the people of South American countries are in sympathy with Spain and refuse to believe stories of American victories.

A Madrid telegram to the London office of the New York Herald says the government has received a telegram announcing the surrender of Manila to Admiral Dewey.

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Scott has ruled that in the case of mortgage notes on real estate, where payments are made on the installment plan, a separate revenue stamp for each payment will not be required.

The North sea whalers are again at work. Operations near Point Barrow were resumed April 15. Inland Eskimos are staying and coming to the coast for food. A deer station is to be established at Point Barrow.

The port of Ponce, Island of Porto Rico, has surrendered to Commander Davis, of the auxiliary cruiser Dixie. There was no resistance, and the Americans were welcomed with enthusiasm. The capitulation of the town of Ponce took place the next afternoon.

The cavalry is anxious to proceed to Porto Rico, but will be obliged to remain here until the Spanish prisoners of war have been transported to Spain, which it is believed will have been accomplished before the next month is well advanced.

The northeast coast of England has been swept by a great storm. Fishing fleets have had narrow escapes, being obliged to relinquish all their gear and nets and run to the harbor for shelter, where many other vessels were compelled to seek refuge. North-bound trains have been delayed by the force of the wind, which has caused considerable damage inland, crops having been flattened. There were some minor wrecks in the North sea.

An attempt by the crew of the steamer Wanderer to get men and arms for the Cuban army ashore at Bahia Honda was defeated by the Spaniards. The Americans were forced to retreat, with five wounded. The Spanish report of the affair says the American losses were considerable.

The dynamite cruiser Netheroy purchased from the Brazilian government will be turned into a collier.

Richard Votaw, of Washington county, Ky., who shot four persons at a tent meeting in Meador county, was shot and instantly killed by Sheriff George Conitor, of Danville.

Albert Cullom, a nephew of United States Senator Shelby M. Cullom, of Illinois, suddenly expired in a Chattanooga, Ga., drug store, whether he had gone to purchase medicine for himself.

CONQUEST IS EASY

Porto Rican Expedition Meets With Little Resistance.

VOLUNTEERS SURRENDERING

Supplies in Abundance for the American Troops—Revenue From Customs House—People Are Overjoyed at the Arrival of the Army.

Washington, Aug. 2.—General Miles, in command of the Porto Rican expedition, sent the following dispatch to Secretary Alger, which was made public at the war department at 10 o'clock tonight:

"Ponce, Porto Rico, Aug. 2.—Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.: Four telegrams received, and answered by letter. Volunteers are surrendering themselves with arms and ammunition. Four-fifths of the people are overjoyed at the arrival of the army. Two thousand from one place have volunteered to serve with it. They are bringing in beef, cattle and other supplies. The custom-house has already yielded \$14,000. As soon as all the troops are disembarked, they will be in readiness to move. Please send any national colors that can be spared, to be given to the different municipalities.

"I request that the question of the tariff rate to be charged in the parts of Porto Rico occupied by our forces be submitted to the president for his action, the previously existing tariff remaining meanwhile in force. As to the government and military occupation, I have already given instructions issued by the president in the case of the Philippine Islands and similar to those issued at Santiago de Cuba.

"MILES,
"Major-General Commanding."

DESERTING TO AMERICAN CAMP

Spanish Volunteers Glad for the Chance to Lay Down Their Arms.

Ponce, Porto Rico, via St. Thomas, D. W. I., August 2.—No forward movement of the army is expected for several days. The transports with General Brooke's army corps and the remainder of the First corps are arriving slowly. Our troops will probably remain quiet until the bulk of the army has disembarked. Only three transports have arrived since yesterday. They have just appeared in the offing, and only one has been made out. It has on board the Fifth Ohio cavalry.

General Miles will retain his headquarters at the custom-house at the port of Ponce, while General Wilson will be in immediate command of the troops in the city.

General Wilson posted General Ernest's brigade, consisting of the Second and Third Wisconsin and the Sixteenth Pennsylvania regiments out a mile and a half on the military road, after dusk last night, retaining two companies of the Sixteenth to act as provost guard in the city.

Captain Allison has been appointed provost marshal, and with the aid of the local constabulary, has preserved excellent order, although most all the entire population of the city remained in the streets celebrating the arrival of their American liberators until long after midnight.

Many of them had been forced into the service of Spain to escape persecution. Business in the city has enjoyed a great boom since the arrival of the Americans.

TROUBLE WITH GARCIA.

He Was Invited to the Flag-Raising

Washington, Aug. 2.—The war department has received the following: "Santiago de Cuba, Aug. 2.—Secretary of War, Washington: I have the honor to inform you that on Saturday, July 31, in which comments are made as to my treatment of General Garcia. I desire to say that General Garcia was invited by me personally to enter into the city of Santiago at the time I entered it, but he declined on the ground that the Spanish civil officers were left in power. It was fully explained to him that those officers were continued in power until it was convenient to change them for others. General Garcia's assistance to me has been purely voluntary on his part and he was told at the beginning that I did not exercise any control over him, except such as he chose to give. The trouble with General Garcia was that he expected to be placed in command of this place; in other words, that we would turn the city over to him. I explained to him fully that we were at war with Spain, and that the question of Cuban independence could not be considered by me. Another grievance was that, finding several thousand men entered the city without opposition from General Garcia, I extended my own lines in front of him, and closed up that gap, as I saw that I had to depend on my own men for the investment of the place. SHAFER."

Alaska Steamer at San Francisco.

San Francisco, Aug. 2.—The steamer Charles Nelson and Sanon arrived today from St. Michaels. Both of them brought considerable wealth from the Klondike country, but discharged most of it at Seattle. The Nelson is one of the transports engaged to carry the First Regiment of New York volunteers to Honolulu.

Some girls admit that engagements are failures, but they have their doubts as to marriage.

FLEET AT WORK.

Neuvitas Bombarded by the American Warships.

Key West, Aug. 2.—Reports have reached here that Neuvitas, on the northern coast of the province of Puerto Principe, Cuba, has been bombarded by the ships of the blockading squadron, evacuated by the Spanish and subsequently burned. No details are known, and the only information of the affair was that given to Captain Maynard, of the gunboat Nashville, by Lieutenant-Colonel Rojas, of the insurgent forces at Gibara, last Tuesday. Colonel Rojas himself has the news at second hand.

The only American ships known to have been in the vicinity of Neuvitas lately are the Prairie and Badger. The latter captured three Spanish ships coming out of the Neuvitas harbor, and took them to Dry Tortugas. All were flying Red Cross flags, but when boarded were found to contain a number of Spanish soldiers, only three of whom were sick. The Badger is expected here shortly.

The Nashville reported at Gibara on Tuesday, when she captured the schooner Gibara and Express. On entering the harbor, she was met by the exiles United States consular agent and president of the railroad line to Holguin. He told the Americans of the evacuation of Gibara two days before by General Legue and his 1,500 Spanish troops, who feared a concerted attack by Americans and Cubans. They fled to Holguin by rail, and afterward store up in the Gibara hospital 535 sick and wounded Spanish soldiers with a request to Admiral Sampson to see that they were properly cared for.

The next day the Cuban force, consisting of 300 cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Rojas, and 200 infantry, made a triumphant entry into the town. They were received with acclamations by the Cubans, and the town held festival that day and night. The insurgents took formal possession, establishing police system and sent out scouting parties, and when the Nashville arrived, the best of order was being maintained. The invaders had, however, neglected the schooters in the harbor, and the American ships took possession of them.

When Ensign Snow left with a prize crew to bring the Gibara here, it had been determined to raise the American flag over the town.

SORROW IN GERMANY

All Interest Centers in the Death of Prince Bismarck.

Berlin, Aug. 2.—The news of Prince Bismarck's death, which became generally known only through special editions of the papers, produced profound sorrow, as so sudden a realization of the fears of his demise was not expected. Several papers this morning published special articles with mourning borders, expressing, in feeling terms, the national sorrow, and dwelling on the brilliant and immortal services of the prince to the fatherland, his heroic greatness and his truly German character. Sorrowful sympathy over Prince Bismarck's death is manifested in many ways. The news is constantly discussed in public places, and a feeling of sadness prevails among all classes of people. Particulars of the last moments of the prince and other circumstances attending his death are eagerly sought. Many private houses show flags at half mast. Secretary of State Von Buelow will return from St. Petersburg, Austria, immediately.

The President's Condolences.

Washington, Aug. 2.—By direction of the president, the following dispatch was sent tonight to Hon. Andrew White, United States ambassador to Germany:

"Washington, Aug. 2.—White, Ambassador, Berlin: The president charges you to express, in the proper official quarter, to the bereaved German nation and to the family of the deceased statesman, the sorrow which the government and the people of the United States feel at the passing away of the great chancellor, whose memory is ever associated with the greatness of the German empire. ADEE,
"Acting Secretary."

Pay Train Wrecked.

Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 2.—From officials of the Southern Pacific railroad in this city details of the wreck of pay train of that railroad three miles west of Benson, Ariz., were obtained tonight. The accident occurred at 6:30 this morning. The engine jumped the track on a curve. Fireman A. J. Taylor was killed, Engineer Walker was badly scalded and Conductor Crowder was injured internally and will probably die. The other trainmen and officers of the road on the car were shaken up, but were not seriously hurt. The engine was a complete wreck and the pay car was consumed by fire, but the records and money were saved.

Ex-Chief of Police to Hang.

Chicago, Aug. 2.—George H. Jacks, ex-chief of police of Muskegon, Mich., was this afternoon found guilty of murder in this city, and his punishment fixed at death. Jacks killed Andrew McGee, a collector, 60 years of age, who was supposed to have had a large sum of money. By means of a letter, Jacks and a confederate deceived McGee into a house and slew him.

French Steamer a Prize.

Charleston, S. C., Aug. 2.—The French steamer Manonvia was brought in as a prize today. She was captured by the Dixie off the south coast of Porto Rico on the 24th ult. She is now at quarantine here.

Rep. Nov., August 2.—The town of Beckwith, Cal., having a population of about 500, on the Sierra Valley railroad, 35 miles north of here, was almost wiped off the map yesterday afternoon by fire. Loss, \$40,000.

ON TO SAN JUAN

The Progress of General Miles' Army in Porto Rico.

THE CITY OF PONCE IS OURS

Sharp Engagement With Spanish Troops Before Yanco—Enemy Was Repulsed With Loss—General Miles Issues a Proclamation to the People.

Port of Ponce, Porto Rico, via the Island of St. Thomas, Aug. 1.—The port of Ponce surrendered to Commander C. H. Davis, of the auxiliary gunboat Dixie. There was no resistance, and the Americans were welcomed with enthusiasm.

Major-General Miles arrived here this morning at daylight, with General Ernest's brigade and General Wilson's divisions on board transports. General Ernest's brigade immediately started for the town of Ponce, three miles inland, which capitulated this afternoon.

The American troops are pushing toward the mountains, and will join General Henry, with his brigade, at Yanco, which has been captured by our troops. A fight before the latter place last Tuesday was won by the American companies of the Sixth Massachusetts and Sixth Illinois, but the enemy was repulsed and driven back a mile to the ridge where the Spanish cavalry charged, and was routed by our infantry. General Garstman led the fight with the men from Illinois and Massachusetts, and the enemy retreated to Yanco, leaving four dead and several wounded. None of our men were killed, and only four were slightly wounded.

The Porto Ricans are glad the American troops have landed, and say they are all Americans and will join our army. The roads are good for military purposes. Our troops are in good health, and General Miles says the campaign will be short and vigorous.

General Miles has issued the following proclamation:

"In the prosecution of the war against the kingdom of Spain by the people of the United States in the name of liberty, justice and humanity, its military forces have come to occupy the island of Porto Rico. They come bearing the banners of freedom, inspired by a noble purpose, to seek the enemies of our government and of yours, and to destroy or capture all its armed resistance. They bring you the fostering arms of a free people, whose greatest power is justice and humanity to all living within their fold. Hence they release you from your former political relations, and it is hoped this will be followed by your cheerful acceptance.

"The chief object of the American military forces will be to overthrow the authority of Spain and give the people of your beautiful land the largest measure of liberty consistent with this military occupation. They have not come to make war on the people of the country, who for centuries have been oppressed, but, on the contrary, they come to protect not only yourselves, but your property, promote your prosperity and bestow the immunities and blessings of our enlightened and liberal institutions and government. It is not the purpose to interfere with the existing laws and customs which are wholesome and beneficial to the people, so long as they conform to the rules of the military administration, order and justice. This is not a war of devastation and desolation, but one to give all within the control of the military and naval forces the advantages and blessings of enlightened civilization."

AFFAIRS AT UNALASKA.

Rich Sulphur Mine Said to Have Been Discovered.

Seattle, Aug. 1.—Elmer Miller, who wintered at Unalaska, says that since the Russians first settled Alaska there were never so many white people on the Aleutian Islands as there were last year, and eight different companies were at work building 34 Yukon river boats, and from about a score of white Unalaska increased its population to nearly 700. Of the 34 boats built, many met with disaster when they were towed into Behring sea, the shores of which are strewn with wreckage of all kinds of river craft.

Judges Brulet and Reed, of Minneapolis, have been on the island all winter examining a sulphur mine adjoining the volcano of Makushin, about 30 miles west of Unalaska. It is said that this mine will prove more valuable than any gold mine in the Klondike, as sulphur is at present greatly in demand. Rumor has it that the mine will prove to be the richest in the world.

Killed by a Train.

Clay Center, Kan., Aug. 1.—Levi Catlin, of Rockford, Ill., was killed by a Union Pacific passenger train. Mr. Catlin was rated as worth three-quarters of a million dollars, and had large interests in Clay county.

Seattle, New York.

Seattle, New York, July 30.—The Klondike, by way of the Ashcroft trail, has returned here, with the story that 500 prospectors are stranded at a point about 700 miles from Ashcroft. Beyond one or two parties, who took in large outfits, the men are living on the most straited rations. Mr. Atkinson says that the attention of the Canadian government will be called to the desperate situation in which the gold-seekers are in.

PANIC IN SANTIAGO.

Business Demoralized by the Uncertainty of the Future.

Santiago de Cuba, Aug. 1.—A panicky feeling prevails in business circles here, owing to a fear that the Americans will turn the city over to the Cubans for self-government. No confidence exists, owing to the uncertainty of the future. Orders that were given during the first days of the American occupation have been countermanded by cable. European merchandise on through bills of lading via New York has been ordered unshipped and sold in New York, even at a sacrifice.

The same feeling extends to the Cuban merchants themselves, who seem to have lost faith in the ability of their own people to control affairs. The rebels demand independence, but the latter classes, the merchants and landowners, dread such a possibility, and fervently hope that the United States will retain the reins of government in the island, as the only guarantee of stability or prosperity.

Senator Julian Candoja, agent of the Ward line of steamers, says that a hundred Spanish merchants have applied for cabin and baggage room on the return trip of the steamer Philadelphia, which is expected today, and they will leave the city unless there is some assurance from the American government that it intends to control the administration of public affairs in Cuba.

This is the question uppermost in everybody's mind. Spanish, foreigners and natives are all alike anxious for a definite expression from Washington of the policy of the United States with regard to Cuba, and until the expression is made, no resumption of trade or commerce can be expected in Santiago, where today both are in a demoralized and chaotic state.

APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT.

Fillipinos in Europe Ask Us Not to Abandon Them.

London, Aug. 1.—Natives of the Philippine Islands and British subjects who have interests there are alarmed by the reports that the peace terms include the return of the islands to Spain. As a result they have held a meeting here, and after consultation with the Filipinos in France and Belgium, have cabled to President McKinley and to Senator Davis, chairman of the senate foreign relations committee. The message to President McKinley is as follows:

"The Filipinos resident in Europe pray you not to abandon the Philippine Islands for the sake of peace with Spain. Our loyalty and trust in the honor of America entitle us to your consideration and support. To hand over our country again to Spain is contrary to the humanitarian proceedings of your noble nation, and the wish of all classes. Civilization, trade and all will be lost if Spanish authority is re-established in any form."

The message to Senator Davis says: "A castron agreement, binding Spain to form a government satisfactory to the inhabitants, is preposterous. To retain her sovereignty means deception, oppression and bigotry. We place our rights in your hands, and pray you to induce the president and senate not to abandon in the hour of peace a people who, trusting in American honor, fought for their common interests."

FATAL SAN FRANCISCO FIRE.

Five Persons Were Killed and Many Injured.

San Francisco, Aug. 1.—A fire, which broke out shortly after midnight in a three-story frame building at 118 Oregon street, caused the loss of five lives and badly burned five persons, one of whom is not expected to survive. The dead are:

Kate Connelly, William White, Frank Kelly, George Hansen, C. A. Holmes.

The injured are: Mrs. Manuel Silva, badly burned and probably fatally injured internally; John King, burned on side and right arm; Chris Christianson, burned on arms, face and head; Pat Donohue, burned on arms, face, chest and back; Edward M. Kenny, burned on arms, back, neck and thigh.

The building was a cheap lodging-house, and most of the inmates were longshoremen and people who work along the water front. Being of wood, the structure burned like tinder, and the victims were nearly all suffocated. The property loss is not over \$2,000.

Bound for Manila.

San Francisco, Aug. 1.—The third battalion, First South Dakota volunteers, and the Minnesota and Colorado recruits sailed today to join their comrades in the Philippines. The St. Paul will carry the troops to their destination. A fleet of tug, steamer and launches gathered about the St. Paul and acted as an escort and on shore the wharves were lined with people who waved farewell to the departing troops. The rigging of the transport was filled with the soldiers, and two men, anxious to secure a lofty perch, climbed up to the mastshead, from which points they waved flags. The soldiers were saluted by steam whistles and bells and the cheers of the soldiers filled the air as they passed down the bay.

Papers Forced to Advance Prices.

Chicago, Aug. 1.—All the morning papers of this city print an announcement that on and after August 1, the price will be 2 cents a copy. The increased cost of white paper and the advanced general expense due to the war are the reasons for the advance.

Washington, Aug. 1.—Great Britain has notified the state department that she has selected her majority's ships Albatross and Loran for patrol service in Behring sea during the present season.

REPLY TO SPAIN

Terms Final and No Further Negotiations Required.

NO MONEY INDEMNITY ASKED

Cession of Porto Rico, One of the Ladrone, and a Coaling Station in the Philippines, and Relinquishment of Cuba Demanded.

Washington, July 30.—The cabinet discussed the president's answer to Spain's peace proposal, and reached a decision to demand the following general conditions:

Absolute surrender of Porto Rico to the United States. Recognition of the independence of Cuba, cession of one of the Ladrone Islands as a coaling station, and cession to the United States of at least a coaling station in the Philippines.

The question undecided is what disposition will be made of the Philippines. It can be stated that there is practically no difference of opinion in the cabinet on the retention of the Philippines as a whole, all the members being opposed to our acquisition of these islands. There has been no decision on the extent to which the government will go in its decision respecting the future of these islands, but it is expected the answer of the president will express the willingness of this government to leave the matter of the future government of the Philippines entirely in the hands of a joint commission, to be appointed by this government and the government of Spain. The probability is that the United States will insist on certain reforms in the government of the Philippines.

Our answer will make no mention of a money indemnity. Neither will there be any armistice at all. The answer will be in the nature of an ultimatum, and if Spain does not accept it she will fare worse in the future.

CONDITIONS IN HAVANA.

Favorable Report Brought by a German Tourist.

St. Louis, July 30.—August Gruppe, one of the foremost merchants of Cuba, who has lived in Havana for 24 years, stopped here today en route to Germany on a visit. In an interview, Mr. Gruppe said:

"When I left Havana two weeks ago, the inhabitants were not in the slightest fear that the city would be bombarded. In fact, everything was going on the same as usual. The theaters, dancing halls and business of every character were flourishing, and but for the presence of troops in the city you would never know a war was in progress.

"The blockade at Havana has thus far not proved very effective. The farms around the city furnish all the supplies necessary. The soil is so fertile that crops can be produced in 30 days. There is no scarcity of provisions in Havana, nor has there been any perceptible advance in the price of food. There are 40,000 regular soldiers and 25,000 volunteers in the city.

"About 3,000 men are working night and day strengthening Havana's fortifications. Under the personal direction of General Blanco, a few days before I quitted the city, the captain-general told me Havana would be well-nigh impregnable, and that talk of its fall after six months' bombardment was sheer nonsense."

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France Protested.

Claims the Olinda Rodriguez Was Not a Blockade Runner.

Washington, July 30.—The French embassy has called the attention of the state department to the circumstances connected with the seizure of the French merchant steamer Olinda Rodriguez, and has requested the immediate release of that steamer. The action was taken simultaneously with a protest from the French Trans-Atlantic Steamship Company against the seizure. The state department has submitted all the papers in the case to the department of justice, with a view to getting an opinion on the legal questions involved.

The grounds of the representations of the embassy are that the Rodriguez was engaged in ordinary mercantile pursuits