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NEWS FROM MANILLA.

Interesting Letters Written by Two
High Privates.

The Oregon City Troops Were Not at
the Siege of Manila, but They are
Now Stationed There, and Dwell
in Marble Palaces.

J. D. Humphrey, who is a private in
Company A, Second Regiment, Oregon
Volunteers, stationed at Manila, writes
to Charles A. Fitch an interesting let-
ter under date of August 18th. Jack
has many friends in Oregon City, who
will be pleased to hear from him. The
substance of the letter is given as fol-
lows:

I now take pleasure in writing you a
few lines in haste, as the mail goes out
in the morning. We haven't had time
for anything since Manila fell by the
wayside. We had no trouble, what-
ever, in entering the city, but the troops
that went through the trenches outside
the city encountered quite a battle.
Dewey tore their forts and trenches in-
side out, but not a shot was fired at the
fleet. He turned the galling gun into
the trenches and fairly slaughtered the
Spaniards. A little of this went a long
way with the enemy, and they hasten-
ed to get inside of the walls.

Only 650 of the Oregon Volunteers
came to Manila. The remainder are at
Cavite, including the Oregon City Com-
pany. We landed from small boats in
front of the city under cover of Dewey's
guns, and had about 30 minutes march-
ing to the city walls, where they were wait-
ing to receive us at the gate. The gate
is a large arch in the wall and bears the
date of 1750, so you see it is quite an
old city wall.

We marched to the government build-
ings where there were 10,000 Spanish
soldiers armed to the teeth.
We raised the flag, and gave three
cheers for Old Glory, and then pro-
ceeded to disarm the Spanish soldiers.

Almost every gun that was captured
was loaded and cocked, while not a man
of our regiment carried a loaded gun.
When General Merritt appeared on the
scene he said that it was a great day for
Oregon, marching in, as they did, with-
out a loaded gun and capturing the city.

We had a load to carry during the
siege, as each man was provided with
250 rounds of ammunition and three
days' rations.

The Spanish newspapers here say
that if the Americans had the nerve to
fight, they could do them up on short
order.

The first night we had the honor and
pleasure of sleeping in the palace on the
soft side of a marble floor. Some of the
boys slept on the pile of guns. It is a
wonder that we were not accidentally
shot, as we had to carry all the loaded
arms inside. The next day we went to
the artillery station where we disarmed
15,000 men. Talk about Spain not hav-
ing arms and ammunition! They had
enough to last five years and engage in
battle every day. It is a sight to see
all the guns, cannon and ammunition
that is piled up here. The Spaniards
keep coming in every day, and, as a
rule, are rejoicing over the surrender.
They had some fine cannons of the lat-
est '97 patent, Krupp make, but they
are all safe now under our care.

I can't tell you much about the city,
as I haven't been around very much
yet. We are quartered in old Manila,
and it is an odd-looking place compared
with our American cities. New Man-
illa is a little better. It hasn't many
fine buildings, but some excellent stores.
Everything is quiet here, as the insur-
gent leader is a prisoner on the Olym-
pia, or we would have some fun with
them.

LETTER FROM ARTHUR HOLDEN.

Arthur Holden writes an interesting
letter from Manila to Fred J. Meyer,
under date of Aug. 29th. The follow-
ing extracts are taken from the letter:
Friend Fred: I suppose by the time
this reaches you the Spanish-American
war will be a thing of the past, but you
may like to get a letter just the same.

Company I and three others of Sec-
ond Oregon, did not have a hand in the
capture of Manila, and, of course, we
felt very much slighted. I stood on a
high wall where I could see the whole
performance at Manila.

Company I was moved into Manila
three days ago, and we have the finest
barracks in the whole island.

The boys are all so well pleased in the
new location, that they express a desire
to stay two years.

I took in the town today, and it reminds
me of Second street in Portland to
some extent. The people are a mix-
ture from all parts of the earth. The
Spanish women are the prettiest I ever
saw, but they are so proud, that when

a soldier goes into a store where they
are making purchases, they at once ap-
pear insulted and walk out.

The Philippine women are the dirtiest
on earth, I believe. They chew and
smoke tobacco, and go about very scan-
tily dressed. The Spaniards treat them
with the utmost contempt and scorn.

The water is fine for swimming and
bathing purposes, the only drawback
being the prevalence of sharks and
water snakes. We have killed several
water snakes over six feet in length,
but the salt water is so delightful that
we can't resist the temptation of going
in bathing.

I do not think any of the boys are
homesick. Those that were inclined
that way have gotten over it since we
moved to Manila.

I fairly dread that trip back across
the Pacific; you can't imagine how
tiresome it is to see only water for a
whole month, besides a person never
get over that dyspeptic feeling. When
we landed here there wasn't a dozen
that could walk a mile, and the major-
ity of us would play out after walking
two blocks. That is an indication of
the effects of a long ocean voyage. I
weighed 142 pounds on board the Syl-
vey, and after being in Cavite five
weeks, tipped the scales at 167.

Our drilling exercises are very light,
just about enough to keep up an ap-
petite. I go on guard about once a week.
I have not had more than two danger-
ous posts, and then was disappointed
because I didn't see anything.

If one had plenty of money here he
could make a good percentage chang-
ing coin. For a United States ten one
gets \$22.50 in Mexican silver coin; then
by changing it back into small amounts
at the rate of two for one. I have
changed on as much as \$20 in one day,
without making it a business as some
do.

The tropical fruits one reads so much
about, are hardly fit to eat here, and
cost almost as much as they do in Ore-
gon. I searched all over the town of
Manilla, and could not find a place to
eat dinner. People do not eat regular
meals here, but buy a banana, a piece
of bread and something to drink, and
consider that they have fared sumptu-
ously.

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Ladies' late-cut full sweep black cloth capes, 75c	Men's Scotch Random Underwear, good 19c
fancy collars trimmed with different widths 75c	weight, well made, per garment. 19c
braids, each. 95c	Odds and ends in Men's light weight under 25c
Ladies' stylish cut black cloth capes, storm 95c	wear, per garment. 25c
collar, fur trimmed and fancy braid trim- 95c	Men's Derby Ribbed Underwear, blue, gray 50c
ing all round. 15c	and natural, per pair. 15, 20c
See our lines of Fish and Fur Capes, Fur 15c	Boys' Heavy Blue Denim Riveted 15, 20c
Collarettes, Boys' Children's and Misses' Jackets, 15c	Overall, per yd. 25c
46-in. Table Oil Cloth, in white and colors, 15c	Boys' Strong Knee Pants, in dark colors. 25c
best quality, per yard. 15c	Boys' Durable School Suits, in gray mixed 1.25
Underwear and Hosiery, Cheaper Than Ever Before	goods, suit. 1.50
Ladies' long sleeves high neck Ribbed Fur 12c	Boys' Blue Cheviot Suits, double breasted 1.50
Vests, well finished, each. 19c	Styles, per suit. 2.00
Ladies' Fine Ezer Ribbed Pants, ankle 19c	All Wool Tweed Fall Suits, for boys, per 2.00
length, per pair. 15c	garment. 2.00
Children's Gray Scotch Random Vests, Pants 15c	Blankets and Comforters, Every- one a Big Bargain, but First Buyers Get the Best
and Drawers, all sizes, per garment 19c	10-4 Gray Blankets, per pair. 38c
Children's White Merino Underwear, per 19c	10-4 White Blankets, per pair. 50c
garment. 6c	10-4 White Blankets, extra heavy, per 75c
Children's Fine Ribbed Fast Black Hose, 6c	pair. 1.00
in finish, per pair. 10c	11-4 Gray Blankets, big values, per p. 1.00
Children's Tan, Ox Blood or Chocolate Hose 10c	Extra Large Gray or Tan Wool
fast colors, per pair. 8c	blankets, fancy borders, taped, 1.50, 2
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all sizes, per pair. 25c	Full Size Comforters for Double beds, good 75c
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