

OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE.

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MARINES CAPTURED

Filipinos Appoint a Conference Committee.

LORD MINISTER TO PERSIA.

Filipinos Rely on the Climate—Lawton Recalled—Gov. Geer Gives His Views Concerning the Volunteers—Otis to Send Them Home.

SALEM, Or., April 17.—The following dispatch was received by Governor Geer today from the New York Herald:

"Many troops will be needed in the Philippines. The Herald will appreciate the favor if you will kindly wire at its expense your opinion as to how a call for more volunteers would be answered by your state. We are desirous of learning the sentiment of the nation for the benefit of all concerned."

In reply Governor Geer sent the following dispatch:

"You ask my opinion as to 'how a call for more volunteers for service in the Philippines would be answered.' I have no means of knowing, save by the general knowledge that when the first call was made last year, the only disappointment shown anywhere was by those who tried to enlist and were rejected, and that if the desire to enlist then was based on unselfish patriotism (and there can be no doubt of this), in the event of a call for more volunteers to hold the fruits of the Spanish war and to give Dewey's victory a permanent place in history, Oregon would furnish her quota as promptly as any state in the Union."

"It is to be hoped that this emergency may not arise, but it is believed that the effort just now being industriously made to render the American occupation of the Philippines unpopular has a political phase altogether, and is intended solely to affect the presidential election a year hence."

"This country has never engaged in a war, either foreign or domestic, where there was not a scheming minority busily sacrificing patriotism to partisanship, and attacking in the rear the administration on whose shoulders lay the burden of the conflict. The present outcry just before a presidential election, is an echo from the summer of '64."

"The Oregon troops have won national fame in the Philippines, fighting the Filipinos: they have never fought any Spaniards, because there have been none there to fight; they enlisted specially to go to the Philippines and have shown no discontent, save when deprived of active service. Since taking the field they have proved their efficiency and soldierly qualities, and I have no evidence whatever of their desire to abandon the contest they were so anxious to undertake."

"War is to be deprecated at all times, and it is hoped that no call for additional troops may be necessary; but in the national emergency involving the surrender of valuable possessions by a nation of 70,000,000 of people to a handful of semi-barbarians, Oregon can be depended upon to do her whole duty promptly and cheerfully, notwithstanding the impending election next year."

T. T. Geer, Governor."

MANILA, April 17.—A large commission of Filipinos is said to have been appointed to confer with General Otis to the end of securing peace, according to General Lagarda. The Americans, however, believe this commission, which will number a score or more of wealthy Filipinos, want to protect their property rather than end the war. The object of the rebel commissioners is said to be to secure as many rights of self-government as possible, demand that all the offices be reserved for Filipinos and Americans, and restore peace. One of Aginaldo's late chiefs in Manila declares the rebel chief would now be glad to receive overtures, and would sign a peace treaty.

Aginaldo is said to have moved his headquarters to Tarland, far to the northward. At Calumpit the forces of the Americans have been largely augmented.

RECALL OF LAWTON.

His Work in Southern Luzon Completed.

NEW YORK, April 17.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: When shown a dispatch announcing the recall of General Lawton, Brigadier-General Schwan, acting adjutant-general, said it was in accordance with the understanding at the war department as to the purpose of General Lawton's campaign.

"General Otis sent this expedition to Southern Luzon," he continued, "for the purpose of destroying any insurgent forces that might be found there, to make a careful reconnaissance of the territory and to spread broadcast the recent proclamation of the Philippine commission, setting forth the purposes of this government with respect to the islands. I expect he will clear all the

prisoners he has taken, and they will be sent to their homes. By this action it is hoped he will prove to the Filipinos that the Americans are not as barbarous as the insurgents pretend we are and that we propose to treat the Filipinos humanely."

"Why is General Lawton needed at Manila?"

"General Otis has not communicated his plans to the department, the matter being left entirely to his discretion. The insurgent leader has established his headquarters at San Fernando, to the northwest of Malolos, and I suppose General Otis contemplates a movement against that city. General Lawton had only 1500 men under his command, and it was of course impossible for him to divide his force by stationing detachments in every village captured. His command will be useful, however, in assisting in the advance on Malolos, or in reinforcing the line about the city of Manila. It is possible that when the lake rises, General Otis will resume the campaign in the southern part of the island."

THE PHILIPPINE CLIMATE.

Rebels Depend on It to Win Their Victories.

NEW YORK, April 17.—A Hong Kong letter to the World says: "We are weak and you are strong," said Dr. Galicano Arairble, the head of the Filipino junta here, "but we have an ally and you have none. We have 70,000 stands of arms and 30,000 troops in the field, and sufficient material to make cartridges to supply our troops for four years to come. "Our ally is the climate of the Philippines. Your bullets cannot kill one of our men where disease will kill 20 of yours once you begin your advance into the interior. We will harass your advance at the same time that we welcome it."

"We cannot fight pitched battles with you, and we do not need to. We shall be here today and there tomorrow, attacking, then flying. You can no more catch us or conquer us than you can the wind."

Youth seems to be the invariable first requirement of leadership among the Filipinos. Only the younger generation of half-breeds have had the advantage of education. Dr. Aparible and Dr. Santos (after Aparible the most prominent member of the Hong Kong junta) are under 25, and both have received the degree of doctor of laws in Spain.

Between them and the numerous young men who are their associates and the mass of Filipinos, there is about as much resemblance as between a quadroon and a full-blood negro. They were led to organize the rebellion by a priest; priests educated them, and, by the irony of fate, they now hold hundreds of friars as prisoners.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The navy department has given out the following dispatch from Admiral Dewey:

"Manila, April 18.—Secretary of the Navy, Washington: Yorktown visited Baler, east coast of Luzon, P. I., April 12, for the purpose of rescuing and bringing away the Spanish force, consisting of 80 soldiers, three officers and two priests who were surrounded by 400 insurgents. Some of the insurgents were armed with Mauser rifles, *** by natives. Lieutenant J. C. Gilmore, while making *** ambushed were fired upon and captured. Their fate is unknown, as the insurgents refused to communicate afterward. The following are missing: Officer previously referred to, Chief Quartermaster W. Waiton, Coxswain J. Ellsworth, Gunner's Mate Edward J. Nygard, Sailmaker's Mate Vanboit, Seaman W. H. Rynder and O. W. Woodbury, Apprentices D. G. A. Venville, A. Peterson, Ordinary Seaman S. Brisolese, O. D. McDonald, Landsman L. P. Edwards, F. Anderson, J. Dillon and C. A. Morrissey. DEWEY."

The dispatch caused much excitement in naval circles as soon as its contents became known. It was received late in the day, and considerable delay was occasioned by the blindness of some of the cipher words. It was impossible to completely decipher it, and the asterisks indicate the unintelligible words.

The capture of the Yorktown's men was discussed with much feeling. The misfortune was felt with added keenness, as the navy has prided itself thus far on immunity from reverses. The admiral's dispatch was the first knowledge the department had that the Yorktown had gone on the special mission to relieve the Spanish garrison at Baler. That the capture should have been effected while the American forces were on a mission of mercy towards the Spaniards, rather than in the prosecution of a campaign, leads to the belief that Spain will have no further grounds for questioning the good faith with which the Americans are seeking to relieve the condition of the Spanish prisoners.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The following important diplomatic changes have been announced as the result of the cabinet meeting today:

W. W. Rockhill, now minister to

Greece, has resigned that post, Arthur Sherburne Hardy, now minister to Persia, has been promoted to succeed Rockhill.

William P. Lord, ex-governor of Oregon, has been appointed minister to Persia.

John N. Irwin, of Iowa, formerly governor of Idaho, has been appointed to Portugal, to succeed Lawrence Townsend, transferred to Belgium, vice Bellamy Storer, who goes to Madrid.

Mr. Rockhill's resignation was purely voluntary, and was caused by personal and domestic considerations. Mrs. Rockhill died while he was stationed at Athens, and he lost all desire to remain. He is now on his way home with his two children and the remains of his wife.

Ex-Governor William P. Lord, of Oregon, is a lawyer who was quite prominent in state politics. Five years ago he was elected governor, being the first republican governor of the state in eight years. He served four years but was not a candidate for re-election.

Mr. Irwin was born in Ohio. He was once appointed governor of Idaho territory, but after serving six months resigned, refusing to accept the salary for the time he was in office. He is a prosperous merchant of Keokuk, about 50 years old, a fine classical scholar, and has given a great deal of attention to the higher arts. He is a graduate of Miami university and of Dartmouth college.

Mr. Hardy has been stationed at Tcheran since January, 1897. He is a native of Massachusetts, and a resident of Andover, N. H. He graduated from West Point, but resigned from the army in 1869. He was professor of mathematics in Dartmouth college, and declined the presidency of Bowdoin college.

Volunteers May Return Home Soon.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—General Otis has cabled the war department as follows:

"Manila, April 19.—The embarkation of the volunteers on their return to the United States will begin about May 5. They will render willing service until return transports are available. The embarkation will continue through June and July. OTIS."

LETTER FROM ROUMANIA.

Mr. Stern Writes From Bucarest of the Customs of That Place.

BUCAREST, March 14.—At daybreak I was startled from my sleep at the booms of cannon firing at intervals of every few minutes and which kept on until 10 a. m., when the 101st was fired. On inquiring for the reason I was informed that it was in honor of the celebration of Roumania's day in which she was declared a kingdom and the royal pair crowned into royalty, and which took place on the 14-26th day of March, 1858, ten years after the battle with Turkey for its independence and in which they came out victorious and declared themselves independent soon after. The business places are all covered with Roumanian tricolor flags and if the day is nice a military parade will take place in the afternoon, but such is doubtful, because the weather is miserably wet from a small covering of snow, which fell during the night and this morning it looks more like snow or rain coming than a clear day.

The students of Roumania all struck last week and made great demonstrations, owing to the laws passed lately in the senate as regards the recruiting of students because the duties imposed on them were unbearable. Day before yesterday no less than 2,000 students went in a body to the senate to demand a modification in the laws passed. The chairman of the senate, Mr. Demetru Sturza fearing harm had two platoons of gendarmes stationed before the entrance and he himself met the students and told them that he would receive the delegation and see what he could do for them. This satisfied them and the result of the senate is awaited with much impatience and it is said, that the students are about to declare the strike off, they being sure the senate will do what is right by them.

Will communicate more in my next. EM. A. STERN.

Robbed the Grave.

A startling incident of which Mr. John Oliver of Philadelphia, was the subject, is narrated by him as follows: "I was in a most dreadful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyes sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in back and sides, no appetite—gradually growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Fortunately, a friend advised 'Electric Bitters,' and to my great joy and surprise, the first bottle made a decided improvement I continued their use for three, weeks and am now a well man. I know they saved my life, and robbed the grave of another victim." No one should fail to try them. Only 50 cents, guaranteed at Geo. A. Harding's Drug Store.

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