

POWER TO DECLARE WAR

Creation of the So-Called Philippine Congress.

CONFIDENCE IN AGUINALDO

May Now Open Hostilities Against the United States at His Pleasure—Native Women Want to Fight.

Manila, via Hong Kong, Jan. 28.—The republic, the official organ of the Filipinos, announces that congress at Malolos has adopted a Philippine constitution, passed a vote of confidence in Aguinaldo and empowered him to declare war on the United States whenever he may deem it advisable. At a meeting of the women of Cavite yesterday, the paper adds, it was unanimously resolved to petition Aguinaldo for permission to take the Philippines in defense of independence and to bear arms if necessary.

An American sentry yesterday killed a captain of the Filipino artillery at Cavite outpost. As a result the native press is intensely excited and denounces the act as a "cowardly assassination."

On Saturday, January 21, five Filipinos determined to have revenge for the captain's death and attempted to enter the American lines. An American sentry killed one of them, who was armed with a revolver. After an exchange of shots, the others were arrested. The incident has intensified excitement here.

The cabinet yesterday insisted on the liberation of Spanish civil prisoners, commemoration of the proclamation of the Filipino republic and also donated money to the native clergy.

An elaborate programme has been arranged for formal ratification of the constitution today. Nothing was accomplished at the conference here yesterday, and it is rumored the Filipinos at their next meeting will give the Americans eight days in which to accede to their demands for recognition. The rumor is discredited.

CYCLONE SWEEPED THE SEAS.

Many Persons Drowned and Much Property Destroyed.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 28.—The steamer Aorangi, from Australasia, brings details of the terrible cyclone which swept the South seas about the middle of December, devastating villages, wrecking shipping and causing many deaths. At Samarai, in New Guinea, on December 11, the gale was terrific. Cocoa palms went down by hundreds and were carried to sea. Torrents of rain fell. Twelve vessels were wrecked.

The cutters Mayflower and Nabua were total wrecks at Basilaki. The vessels Bebem and Baidan were lost at Goodenough island, and Mr. Kennedy, manager of the New Guinea Development Company, was drowned, together with his crew, save one boy.

The schooner Ellen Gowan and the cutter Ivy were lost in the Kossman group and Captain Godet and crew were drowned.

In the Solomons the hurricane did the most damage, whole villages being destroyed. Hundreds of cocoa plantations were uprooted and yam patches leveled. Over 500 natives are reported to have been killed.

Urging Release of Prisoners.

New York, Jan. 28.—Through the French embassy here Spain has again urged the United States to procure the release of Spanish prisoners held by the Philippine insurgents. Information officially received by the Madrid government from the Philippines shows that the lives of Spanish women and children, as well as men are in danger and that the prisoners are not receiving proper treatment.

Secretary Hay replied that General Egan had been instructed to give immediate attention to the matter, but the government has made no promises to obtain the release of the prisoners. It is the growing belief that they will be able to obtain the release of the prisoners only by force.

The Search Abandoned.

New Orleans, Jan. 28.—Lawrence Jones, owner of the ill-fated launch *St. Jones*, which was lost near Breton about January 5, with all on board, and Mayor Taggart, of Indianapolis, whose daughter was among the missing, have returned to the city from the river after having made a fruitless search for some trace of the launch of the disaster. They only found some wreckage, among which is part of the stern of the launch.

Strike Riots in Russia.

London, Jan. 28.—There have been serious strike riots in the cotton mills of the St. Petersburg district. The police, while attempting to raid the strikers' barracks in order to arrest a leader, were attacked by the workmen, one policeman being killed.

ARMY REORGANIZATION BILL.

Discussion of the Principal Work of the National House.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The house today continued the consideration of the army reorganization bill until 2 o'clock, when the members paid their tributes to the memory of the late Representative Simpkins, of Massachusetts. Little progress was made with the army bill, the only amendment adopted being that to give veterinarians in cavalry regiments the rank, pay and allowance of second lieutenants. The time before the eulogies began was chiefly devoted to a continuation of the debate on the advisability of retaining the Philippines.

The diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, carrying \$1,500,000, was passed by the senate.

The salaries of secretaries of legation to the Argentine republic, Venezuela and Peru were increased to \$1,800, and of the consuls at La Guayra, Venezuela, from \$1,800 to \$2,000, and at Pernambuco, Brazil, from \$2,000 to \$2,200. The allowance for clerks of consulates was increased from \$1,600 to \$3,200. The salaries of three third secretaries of embassy at London, Paris and Berlin were fixed at \$1,600 each. The consulate at Naples was placed in the \$2,500 class; the consulate at Collingwood, Canada, in the \$2,000 class, and the consulate at Niagara Falls in the \$1,500 class.

Mason offered a resolution requesting the surgeon-general of the army to furnish information as to the percentage of our soldiers in the Philippines who are sick and have been sick, and the number of deaths in our army by reason of the sickness caused by the climate. Mason prefaced the resolution with the statement that reports had been received that 'of late years as high as 50 per cent of the soldiers unaccustomed to the climate (of the Philippines) have died by reason of the said climate.'

EAGAN GUILTY AS CHARGED.

The Necessary Penalty Is Dismissal From the Army.

Washington, Jan. 31.—General Egan, commissary-general of subsistence, has been found guilty of the charges of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and of conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline, and of the specifications thereto, and has been sentenced to dismissal from the United States army; but with a recommendation from the court for the exercise of executive clemency. Under the regulations, the court, having reached the conclusion that the accused was guilty, had no choice in selecting a penalty, the regulations prescribing absolutely that one punished—dismissal—for the offense. Therefore, the only hope for General Egan is in the direction of commutation, mitigation or disapproval by the president.

Payment of the Cuban Army.

Havana, Jan. 31.—Senor Francisco Mora, the civil governor of Havana, in an interview declared that the question of the payment of the Cuban army was of much greater importance than the Washington government seems to realize. He said of the Cubans were to collect the customs of the islands, which are their property, their first action would be to meet Cuba's sacred obligation to the army by payment in full to the soldiers. The customs administration being in the hands of the Americans, the Cubans make a simple business proposition to the United States government that it shall advance money to pay the troops, holding the customs as security.

The Cherokee Treaty.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The agreement concluded at Muskogee, I. T., January 14, between the Dawes commission and the Cherokee nation, providing for the allotment of lands and general betterment of the condition of the red men, has been sent to the senate. Four of the five tribes have already agreed to new arrangements and negotiations are now pending with the Creeks.

A Fatal Boiler Explosion.

Chicago, Jan. 31.—Four men were badly burned, one perhaps fatally, by the explosion of a boiler today in the basement of the Chicago Tribune. The men who had just completed putting in new grates in the furnace of the boiler, were standing directly in front of the furnace when the explosion occurred, and were covered first with live coals, then with scalding water.

A Restraining Order.

Washington, Jan. 31.—To prevent army officers of superior rank from seizing upon the quarters of officers of the transports upon which they may be traveling, the secretary of war has been obliged to make an order prohibiting them from taking the rooms of the masters and quartermasters of transports.

Two Consuls Nominated.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The president presented these nominations to the senate: State, James H. Worman, of New York, now commercial agent at Cognac, to be consul at Munich, Bavaria; William T. Fee, of Ohio, now consul at Cienfuegos, to be consul at Bombay, India.

February 6 has been agreed upon by the senate as the date to vote upon the peace treaty.

A STORY OF HORROR.

Eleven of a Ship's Crew Eaten by Cannibals on the Island of New Guinea.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 30.—After escaping death by drowning, 11 of the crew of the ship *Manbare* were captured and eaten by cannibals of New Guinea.

The *Manbare* was bound for Sydney, Australia, when it was caught in the terrible gale of December. Near Cape Nelson it began to sink. The crew, 18 all told, left the vessel in two boats, and soon became separated. One boat, containing 12 men, was finally thrown ashore 10 miles from the cape.

The sailors were seized by natives from the interior and hurried off to the village of the chief. One man, James Greene, escaped. The sailors were stripped and bound and killed, one each day. A wild orgy was participated in by at least 100 savages, who had gathered for the feast.

In several cases the sailors were tortured by the old women and children of the tribe. The eyes of one were gouged out. The doomed men stoically watched the elaborate preparations for their death. A huge pot filled with boiling water was used for the feast, which on the first day was prolonged away into the night. In most cases the men were beheaded, their heads being stuck on poles and paraded before the men who were to suffer the same fate.

Greene was rescued by a steamer after tramping without food a day and a night to reach the coast. The scenes of horror he had witnessed turned his hair snowy white.

More Speeches on Expansion.

Washington, Jan. 30.—At the opening of the senate Spooner and Rawlins gave notice of speeches on the resolution opposing annexation, Spooner Wednesday and Rawlins Thursday next. Mason asked unanimous consent for a vote on his resolution, declaring it to be the policy of the United States not to attempt to govern the people of any other nation, next Friday, at 1 o'clock, and Hoar for a vote on his resolution declaring the Filipinos ought to be free and independent, but Carter objected to both.

In the House.

Washington, Jan. 30.—When the house met this morning there remained but little more than an hour of time for general debate on the army reorganization bill. Henderson (Rep. Ia.) was the first speaker. He opposed a standing army of 100,000 men, but was willing to support a proposition for a force numbering from 50,000 to 60,000.

Court-Martial Over.

Washington, Jan. 30.—The case of Commissary-General Charles P. Egan, charged with conduct tending to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, is now in the hands of the court martial appointed to try him. Today the taking of testimony was closed, and arguments of counsel submitted. The trial lasted three days and consumed less than eight hours' of actual sitting. A session behind closed doors of an hour or so sufficed for the court to reach a conclusion and embody its report. What the verdict will be is altogether a matter of speculation, and officially at least will not be made public by the trial board, military regulations requiring that its findings shall go through prescribed channels, and be kept secret until action be had and promulgated by the proper reviewing authorities.

Union Pacific Will Profit.

New York, Jan. 30.—It was stated last night that the details of the plan for the exchange of Union Pacific common stock for Oregon Short Line stock would be made public in an advertisement. The directors of the Union Pacific have settled the terms and the official announcement is expected today.

It is generally believed that the arrangement arrived at will be share for share on the \$27,460,000 of Short Line stock, with a "string" to the deal, in the shape of a small assessment on the Short Line holders. This deal should net the Union Pacific about \$1,000,000.

Report of Verdict of Guilty.

Chicago, Jan. 30.—A special to the Times-Herald from Washington says: Dismissal from the military service of the United States without any recommendation for clemency, is the verdict passed by the court-martial upon Commissary-General Egan for his recent virulent attack upon Major General Miles. The verdict was reached within 45 minutes after the trial ended today.

Perished on a Glacier.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 30.—News of the freezing to death of three prospectors on the Valdes glacier, near the mouth of Copper river, Alaska, was brought to this city today by passengers of the steamer *Cottage City*, from Skagway and Juneau, Alaska. The names of those who perished are: Henry Kohn, New York city; — Smith, Chicago; — Emerson, Baldwin, Wis.

Fight in the Reichsrath.

Vienna, Jan. 30.—In the lower house of the Austrian reichsrath today a disturbance arising out of racial difference led to a hand-to-hand fight between deputies. The ushers finally succeeded in separating the combatants, but the sitting came to a close amid a scene of turbulence.

BUTLER'S AMENDMENT.

He Proposes to Provide for ex-Confederate Soldiers.

Washington, Jan. 28.—As the senate seemingly was about to conclude consideration of the pension appropriation bill, Butler (Pop. N. C.) offered his amendment announced some time ago, providing for the pensioning of ex-Confederate soldiers. Upon this he took the floor and delivered a speech which, as he proceeded, developed into a most unexpected utterance. While his colleagues on both sides of the chamber listened with interest, Butler defended the position taken by the South during the great civil conflict of a third of a century ago. He declared that the South was right, and that history would so record, and that every shot fired by a Southern soldier was fired in defense of the rights of his state constitution, in self-defense, and in defense of his home and fireside.

The amendment was finally withdrawn.

Mallory (Fla.) was then recognized. He said that in the very face of the declaration of our disinterestedness in Cuba we proposed to take Porto Rico and the Philippines. He thought we ought not to be inconsistent. We could not, therefore, afford to take the Philippines, although in the case of Porto Rico the case might fairly be regarded as different. The Philippines, he said, were 7,000 miles away from our shores, and inhabited by a people with which we could have nothing in common—a people who were semi-barbarous, if not absolutely savage. He complained that if the treaty of peace should be ratified, the inhabitants of the Philippines, from 7,000,000 to 10,000,000 in number, would have the right to come to this country and compete with our own laborers, and if they did not actually come here, they would have the right to send their products here to compete with those of our own laborers.

The senate committee on commerce has agreed to report favorably Hanna's steamship subsidy bill.

Without preliminary business, the house today resumed consideration of the army bill. The debate drifted into a discussion of the government's new island possessions, and lasted until 5 P. M. At the night session the feature was an hour's speech by White (Rep. N. C.) the only colored member of the house, against the election methods in the South. At 11:14 the house adjourned.

Irving Coming to America Again.

New York, Jan. 28.—The Herald says: "Sir Henry Irving is now in active negotiations by mail and cable with several American managers looking to the completion of his plans for the tour of America, which he will make next season. He has personally communicated to them the ideas he has in mind for the trip.

"Sir Henry Irving's present intention is to produce 'Robespierre,' his new Sardou play, at the Lyceum in London at Easter, and his engagement there will last until well into the summer. At its termination and after a short rest he will sail for America early in October. His stay in America will be limited to 30 weeks, and in that time it is his wish to visit all the principal cities. He is particularly anxious to play in San Francisco, where his previous engagement several years ago was remarkably successful in every way.

Cubans Welcome Lee.

Havana, Jan. 28.—General Lee returned to camp tonight from a trip to the southeastern part of the province, ending at Guines, which is the next largest town after Havana. The journey was made with a team of mules along the highway and the return by rail. A battalion of the Fourth Illinois preceded General Lee, and was encamped there upon his arrival.

The American troops were welcomed everywhere, and their presence was made the occasion of demonstrations. General Lee received an enthusiastic welcome at Guines. Insurgent troops escorted him, and the town was decorated with American and Cuban flags.

Chinese in Hawaii.

Honolulu, Jan. 28.—The supreme court this morning rendered an opinion in the eight Chinese habeas corpus cases submitted last week. It sustains jurisdiction, but gives the collector-general of customs authority to enforce United States laws. Chief Justice Judd concurs in the first proposition, but dissents from the second one. The Chinese will appeal from the decision to the secretary of the treasury.

Customs of Santiago.

Havana, Jan. 28.—As a result of a conference between Governor-General Leonard Wood, governor of the military department of Santiago, a mutual understanding has been reached regarding the customs receipts at Santiago. Santiago's \$280,000 will not be used in other provinces, but will be mortgaged to defray the cost of works now under way.

Another Earthquake.

Kingston, Jamaica, Jan. 28.—A severe earthquake shock was felt throughout the island on Saturday morning, and was followed by another on Tuesday night, the direction being from west to east. No damage has been reported. The Northern West Indies are telegraphically cut off. The reason is unknown, but in all probability it is due to an earthquake.

NEWS OF NORTHWEST

Items of General Interest Gleaned From the Thriving Pacific States.

To Freeze Out Americans.

The government measure recently enacted into law, and aimed at the Americans in the Atlin district, provides for the amendment of the placer mining act, providing that no one who is not a British subject shall take out a free miner's license, and that no company shall have the same license unless incorporated or registered under the laws of the province. The act is not retrospective. Licenses take out previously may be renewed, but under a renewed license no one is entitled to take up new claims. Section 5, which is the most far-reaching, provides that no free miner after the passage of this act shall hold any claim under the British Columbia placer mining act or an interest therein as trustee or otherwise for any person who is not a British subject, or for any corporation not authorized to take out a free miner's certificate. A miner's license taken out by any person not authorized to do so by this section shall be null and void. This section shall not affect free miners' licenses issued before the coming into force of this section, and such licenses may be renewed from time to time. The only necessities for a person to become naturalized are that the applicant is a person of good character and has resided in the Dominion for three years.

For Upper Yukon.

Within the next two weeks three river steamers constructed on the plan of Missouri river craft will be taken in sections to Lake Bennett, where they will be put together ready for service when navigation on the Upper Yukon opens. The machinery and material for the vessels weighs 340 tons. The steamers will draw 12 inches light and 3½ feet when loaded. The capacity of each will be 400 passengers and 200 tons of freight.

Sale of Big Steamships.

Anthony T. Pritchard and Charles Stewart, of Tacoma, have sold to the North American Mail Steamship Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Washington; Steamships Olympia, consideration, \$150,000; Tacoma, \$127,500; Victoria, \$240,000. These vessels were formerly operated by the Northern Pacific Steamship Company between Tacoma and the Orient, and recently received American registers.

To Close Up Cannery Combine.

It is reported that A. B. Hammond has left New York for Astoria. Upon his arrival he will close up the cannery combine deal if it is possible. In the event of the combine being consummated, it is said, by one who is familiar with the plans of the combine, some new and important features will be introduced, one of which will be the development of the deep-sea fishing industry.

To Buy a Sunken Ship.

A joint stock company is being formed at Tacoma to buy and raise the sunken ship *Andelana* in case the insurance company decides not to attempt the almost impossible task of raising her themselves. The ship sank in the Tacoma harbor during a storm recently.

First of a New Line.

The steamer *Belgian King*, the first of the fleet of fine vessels of the California & Orinetal Steamship Company plying between Hong Kong, Yokohama and San Diego, Cal., has arrived. Over 200 carloads of freight are awaiting shipment on the return trip to the Orient.

Embezzler Sentenced.

W. H. Donaca, the 22-year-old postmaster at Sweet Home, Or., who embezzled \$1,257 postal funds, was sentenced by United States Judge Bellinger, at Portland. He was fined \$1,257 and sentenced to six months imprisonment in the county jail.

Puget Sound Exports.

The exports of Puget Sound customs district for the month of December, 1898, exceed imports by \$1,584,464. Imports for the month were valued at \$133,793, while exports amount to \$1,738,257. The duty collected was \$19,872.83.

A Large Mortgage.

The largest mortgage ever recorded in Wasco county, Or., was that executed recently by the Columbia Southern railroad at The Dalles, in favor of the New York Security & Trust Company. The consideration is \$2,100,000.

Mustering Out Volunteers.

Captain Taylor, mustering officer, was given official notice to the officers and members of the Eighth California volunteers, that they will be mustered out of the service of the United States on Tuesday next.

The Badger Gold-Mining Company, of Susanville, Or., has within the last six weeks shipped 75 tons of ore to the Selby smelting works at San Francisco, the values ranging between \$160 and \$300 per ton.

During his incumbency of the executive of Oregon, Governor Lord granted 55 pardons, and 63 pardons to restore citizenship, and commuted 22 sentences.