VOL. XLIX.

ASTORIA, OREGON, THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 26, 1899

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AFFAIRS IN PORTO RICO General Henry Makes Known

His Plan for Island's

Government.

NATIVES FOR THE OFFICES

Americans' Clamor for Official Patronage Will Receive No Attention.

Rules Covering Franchises Taxes on the Island.

SAN JUAN DE PORTO RICO, Jan. 35. -The following letter was sent by General Henry to the nearpaper men here

Rico, Dec. 20, 1698.—It will mave a great all. It is my intention that all obting into office as lawyers or otherwise under proper laws will also be properly the poorer classes."

American methods of progress will be reported to me. I will not continue in office any such unprogressive or preju-

"Complaint in regard to the customs pariff regulations will have to be made 380. Captain Buchunan, who is in charge made to the secretary of war. "I also want it distinctly understood

that Porto Ricans will be preferred for Those Porto Ricans who have gone to the United States and received an education and are capable of filling places on this island will be selected first; Americans next in order. "It is not my intention to put in office

Spaniards or Spanish sympathizers. This is an island of Porto Ricans and will be so considered. Americans must understand that this island is not one of conquest, but was surrendered to the United States by the Porte Ricans, who had been loyal to the government of the United States, and I propose to consider hem for office as such in the future. "After the country is organized and poin form under proper laws, if the Porto Ricans desire to elect Americans to office that will be their business and the

Americans' good fortune. "This clamoring for office on the sland by Americans to the prejudice of educated Porto Ricans must stop. Their claims will not be considered when Porto Ricans who are equally capable of filling the offices are available. I am sure that all good, true Americans will agree with me that all Porto Ricans who were loyal to the American government and the flag when they were under Spanish rule and who are capable will be reward. ed for their loyalty through preference to appointment to responsibility as far as

(Stemed) Major General Volunteers, Commanding. There are several American lawyers here and they regarded the letter upon its first reading as a blow to them. Upon visiting the general, however, he ex-

plained that they had misunderstood the caning of the letter and that it was his intention to remove the impediments that now prevented them from practicing their profession here or holding office. It is a question whether the American lawyers should be admitted to practice in the Ports Rican courts, since none of

But this letter was insignificant in importance compared to the order of the war department recently made here concerning the granting of franchises for hibits the granting of any franchise or concession for public works by any major commanding who shall, before approving any such grant or concession be authorized by the secretary of war.

This order will affect all enterprises

for the building of tramways, railroads, telegraph and telephone lines, water works, gas works and electric light

Of course, the effect was to put a stop to all work on such enterprises, and it seemed to many that the holders of old Spanish concessions would have a monopoly to the great detriment of American investors. General Henry evidently took the same view, for when this order came from Washington he immediately added to it before publication an extraordinary provision revoking all Spanish grants and signing of this latter order and its printtions ruleed that the general deemed it special observances on February 15. best to abandon his position and the first

As matters now stand the hands of General Henry are tied. General Henry is doing away with all the burdens that hindered trade and taxed the suffering people. The so-called "territorial taxes" been greatly reduced. In the old days a holiday in the city.

the war department.

paid the taxes upon their lands, but gave a part of its income to an extravagant d corrupt government. The tax upo land was a most uncertain thing. There was no law or rule of conformity-only caprice or prejudice of the authorities determined the amount of it. Com plaint has been frequently made to Gen. eral Henry by planters that their po litical enemies threatened to raise their taxes and satisfy old grudges for new lemands. To rectify this condition of affairs he has arranged a scheme of regular and uniform taxation. It is estimated that there are approximately fifty million acres of taxable land in Porto Rico. It is the intention of the

Cane lands pay one pero per acre per annum; coffee land, 75 centavos; fruit and, 50 centavos; pasture, from 50 to 75 centavos; and all other lands S centavos It is probable that General Henry will and it necessary to continue the "territorial tax" to the extent of five per cent upon the products of the country, onerous though it be, in order to raise sufncient revenues for the government. This would produce \$500,000 per annum, and with the land tax and the merchants' tax should answer all demands. Under the law no one can import with.

general to divide and tax the land in the

following way:

ut the payment of taxes averaging GRANTS TO CORPORATIONS 2000 person. The result is to restrict the importations of the island to a wealthy and favored few who are able to con. troi the commerce. Every clitzen and every small shopkeeper who desires to Administration Has Laid Down Strict import something from abroad must pay fee for bringing the shipmnt through the custom house and that carries with it to the registered importing merchant a a commission in most cases for the advance of duties and other expenses of services in distributing the goods in the islands.

According to the budget for the coming year just approved by the general, it appears that the estimated revenue will exceed the expenses of government by with the request that it should be given \$2,532,900 peace even after allowing for the loss of 500,000 pesos of income occasioned "Headquarters Department of Porto by reducing the duty on wheat flour, It seems therefore that if the custom house deal of my time and accomplish the pur- revenues must be appropriated entirely pose botter if you will state in your to the expenses of government a great paper that persons, Americans or others reduction might be made in taxes that who wish to make complaints should put now embarrass commerce and oppress them in writing for my reference to the the people. Besides, this revenue would proper officials for correction. Verbal permit of many improvements throughout statements, upon which definite action the island, such as better police, sani. cannot be taken, are a loss of time to tation and roads. The tax has been removed from meat and bread and put upon noxious Spanish laws existing here are liquors and tobacco. This has been done repealed. Taxation on property, notary by the practical governor general "to public questions. On past occasions he of the Cuban republic, but only as dele fees, the prevention of Americans get- encourage competition among dealers and pince said necessaries within reach of

'Any action upon the part of officials say that the general is a prohibitionist. in office to the prejudice of Americans or The following schedule of taxation is and wit, the keen thrusts of his logic provided: For every liquor or tobacco were driven home. His words flowed in store or stand per annum, in towns of a perfect torrest. He denounced the from 5,000 to 10,000 inhabitants, \$50; 10,000 proposition to annex the Philippines as to 15,000 inhabitants, \$69; 15,000 to 20,000 inhabitants, \$70; above 20,800 inhabitants,

The position of General Henry is not of the custom houses of the island. Ap- an easy one. He is daily called upon to remedy private wrongs and to reduce public burdens. To do this he must exercise sound judgment and great tact for it is not an easy matter to abruptly change the whole system of government here that has become fastened to the island as barnacies to a ship. The difficulty is increased by the want of a thorough knowledge of the people and their various relations.

REPORTED INSURGENT RISING IN SANTA CLARA.

General Rabbi With One Thousand, Fiv Hundred Men Said to Have Taken to the Hills-Maine Anniversary.

the Herald from Havam says: A report has reached General Menocal that General Rabbi with 1,500 insurgents has taker to the hills in Santa Clara in defiance of the American authorities. Rabbi is a full-blooded Guankanamo Indian and a hard fighter. Menocal hopes the report may prove untrue.

Colonel Maus, surgeon general of the Seventh army corps, complains bitterly of the failure of the Washington officials to supply him with vaccine. He cabled for vaccine points four weeks ago and an adequate supply arrived after 18 days. He then received notice that 10,000 points were shipped on January 14. These have not yet arrived, al-

though urgently needed. Colonel Maus explains the fatlure to vaccimate the soldiers before they left Savannah by saying regimental surgeons were negligent and failed to fellow the simplest instructions given them. Charles E. Watson, of Boston.

came to Havana to conclude the deal for the purchase of the San Jose docks and warehouses, Held a long conference with the owners of the property. this a cable dispatch was sent to Lawrence Turneure saying that the final terms had been fully accepted and authorizing the payment of a forfelt of them know anything about the laws of \$350,000 to bind the contract. All concorned are reticent, but it is learned that the forfeit was just ten per cent of the purchase price.

Captain Sigsbee has written a letter to a commission of women who are arrangimprovements. This order pro- ing patriotic services for February 15 the first anniversary of the destruction of the Maine, in which he says: "Obsermunicipality without the approval of the vance of the day by patriotic American and others would be very gratifying to me, and I am sure the other survivors of those who died because of that great "General Ludlow and Commodore

> Cromwell will arrange for representative bodies of troops, marines and sailors to be present. The men of the Texas have arranged to decorate the graves in the cometery, but the exact ceremonies have not yet been decided upon. "I suggest that your ceremonies should

> consist of prayer, singing and addresses, and finally a volley fired over the graves by marines of the squadron, and during the day colors to be holsted over the Maine and then half masted. "As commander of the late battleship

oncessions now existing. Between the Maine, I beg to present my sincerthanks for the kindness and sympathy ing there was such a cloud of legal ques- already shown in the desire to have "On this question at least I think order was published just as it came from may assume to represent all those mo immediately concerned in the matter of the destruction of the Maine.

Co-operation and endorsement of erals Brooke, Ludlow and Lee and Commodore Cromwell assures success and upon the products of the country have February 15 will probably be observed as

DEBATE IN THE HOUSE

Johnson and Dolliver Locked Horns on the Expansion Question.

SPEAKING WAS BRILLIANT

Indiana Representative Attacked the Administration for Its Attitude.

DOLLIVER DLFENDS M'KINLEY

Branded the Course of Some of the National Legislators as "Almost Treasonable.

WASHINGTON. Jan. 25 .- Not since the stirring days before the declaration of war last spring has the house witnessed such an exhibition of excitement and many have some grounds for action to such scenes of unbounded enthusiasm as protect their own interests. occurred today, when two republicans, Johnson, the Indiana member, and Dolliver, of lows, locked horns on the queswas under debate, was swallowed up in the broader question of our future nationfrom the dead level of mediocrity into absolute brilliancy.

Johnson secured time from the democratic side to attack the position of the he has broken away from his party on has won a reputation as a master of insubversive of every tradition dear to the anguration of a policy that would end in the downfall of the republic. He said the ratification of the treaty by the senate would sound the death knell of all the efforts of those who were trying to prevent the country from rushing on to suicide, and declared that, if he were a senator, he would rot in his seat before it should be ratified.

He denounced the president as a slavish follower of public opinion, but warned him that the tide would recede and the voice of the people would in time rebuke. Members stood in the aisles 10 deep while he was speaking, but he tried to stop the applause which continually broke out from the democratic side. For almost two hours his words poured forth. When Johnson had finished, Dolliver

came to the defense of the administration. One of the ablest debuters, and perhaps the must eloquent member of the house, his reply set the republicans wild with enthusiasm. He described how the president had been fairly driven into war by those who sought to embarass him before peace was definitely obtained, and his clougy of the president, patiently meeting all the preplexing problems which beset him as the great events of the year moved on, aroused his side and the galleries to cheers. These rang out again and again when he paid an eloquent tribute to Admiral Dewey, and out in renewed volume when he declared that the course of some members at both ends of the capitol was "almost treasonable.

But the highest pitch of excitement was reached when Johnson and Dolliver got to close quarters toward the end of the latter's speech. Johnson pressed the close the president's ultimate purpose regarding the Philippines, but Dolliver for some time adroitly evaded a direct response. At last he contented himself with declaring that this was not the point at issue-that the first thing was to end the war by ratifying the treaty. The failure of the Philippines was a question for the future. It was in every respect remarkable debate.

The senate today agreed to vote on the ace treaty on February 6.

PROTEST AGUINST THE

SEATING OF ROBERTS.

House Wants the Mormon Member Thrown Out-Incorporation of Warrenton and New Astoria.

SALEM, Jan. 25.-The house this afternoon devoted most of its time to the first reading of bills, 47 being presented to the second reading.

McCullough introduced and secured the adoption of a lengthy joint memorial to congress protesting against the seating of Brigham H. Roberts, the Mormon in 24 hours. nember from Utah.

In the senate today seven bills were introduced, 17 finally passed and 40 went through formal readings or were reported

at the night session to the consideration | to hold his sent in that body.

of incorporation bills. Eight passed, among them the bill to incorporate New Astoria, and Young's bill to incorporate

FILIPINOS MAY RESORT

TO ARMS ANY MOMENT, Spain and Germany's Recognition of In-surgents Thwarted by Fear of En-

NO. 157

gland's Recognition of America, CHICAGO, Jan. 25 .- A special to the Tribune from Washington says: It cannot longer be denied that considerable alarm is felt in administration circles

over the situation at Manila and Ilo Ilo and the latest advices are not of a reassuring character. General Otis is of the belief that the insurgents are about to force an issue and if this should occur the result cannot

be predicted further than that the Americans will be victorious in the end. onfronting the troops near Ho Ho, one being a conflict with the natives and the other a feur that smallpox may break

out among the troops. Besides this, the aftuation at Manile is considered much more grave than at Ho Ho, and it is feared the insurgests may commit an overt act which may

bring on a conflict. While the warlike attitude of Aguinaldo excites alarm at the department, that is not considered the most serious feature of the situation. Those in a position to know the facts say the diploma tion is even more grave. Either Germany or Spain, or both, may recognize Aguinaldo's little republic for interested motives, Germany to secure a foothold and Spain to secure the release of its

prisoners of war. This action is imminent, and the government officials say they would not be surprised if it took place within 24 hours, Prompt ratification of the treaty would have avoided this entanglement, but it is conceded now that both Spain and Ger-

The cables announcing the proclama-

tion of a republic did not create much of a disturbance, as Aguinaldo proclaimed tion of expansion. The army bill, which his independence last summer. Agoncillo first came here, then went to Paris and then returned to Washington in the caal policy, and the debate was lifted pacity of the representative of the Phil. ippine republic. This is the reason he has not been received officially, as to do so would be to recognize the lic. He was treated exactly like Palma administration. It was not the first time and Quesada, who were never recognized as the diplomatic representatives gates of the insurgent army. vective, and the knowledge that he was will not be recognized at any time. He to speak had attracted an enormous has been permitted to file papers at the state department, but has never be received dipiomatically and will not be There is an understanding ut the

ent moment entirely informal but none the less effective, that in case Spain or Germany, or both, recognize Aguinaldo as the president of an independent re-American heart in the past and the in- public, Great Britain will at once recognise the temporary sovereignty of the United States in the Philippine islands pending action on the treaty. of this fact, it is said, is all that causes Germany to hesitate. Ambassador White has not been directly instructed to make any representation to Germany, but he conveyed, "unofficially," an intimation that the United States, pending the disposition of the treaty, would consider any recognition of Aguinaido by Germany as an unfriendly act and by Spain as a direct violation of a solemn pledge to give this country six months in which to consider the treaty.

SANGUINARY BATTLE

FOUGHT AT SAN ANCANNA Insurgent Troops Routed and Four Hun-Heavy on Both Sides.

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.-The latest dis-

patch from the Herald's correspondent at Guayaquil reports that a sanguinary battle took place yesterday between the revolutionists and the government forces at San Ancanna. The fighting was desperate all day, the advantage remaining finally with the

government's army. The losses on both sides were heavy. More than four hundred men were killed and three hundred were wounded. Four hundred insurgents were taken prisoners.

The rest of the defeated rebels fied toward the province of Bolivar, hotly pursued by the victorious troops of Pres-

News of a lecisive engagement between the forces of the revolutionists and the defender of the administration to dis. government troops has been expected for Recent dispatches from Panama stated that the rebels representing the cierical

party determined to overthrow the Al-

den't Alfaro

fare administration, had invaded Ecuador from Colombia and that an engagement was looked for at Tulcan, on the TERRIBLE EXPERIMENTS

OF VIENNA PHYSICIANS Indescribable Practices Upon Patients at the Free Hospitals in the Austrian Capital.

LONDON, Jan. 25 .- The Vienna correcondent of the Morning Leader says: It has been discovered that physicians in free hospitals at Vienna systematically experiment upon their patients, especially new born children, women who are enclente, and persons who are dying, In one case a doctor injected the bac cilli of an infectious disease from a deomposing corps into 25 women and three new born children. In another onse a youth who was on the high road to recovery was inoculated, and he died with

PROTEST AGAINST ROBERTS. JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 25.-The senate today adopted a resolution protesting against allowing Roberts, the The house devoted nearrly two hours newly elected congressman from Utah,

