

ANOTHER MANILA LETTER

Henry Landess Writes Concerning the Fighting.

Feb. 10, 1899.

Your lines duly received, also one from Hattie Thompson stating that she had got her shells, and that pa had received his cane, the flag, chamoise skin and such trash. Possibly you would like to know where we are, as you can't tell by the heading. I am writing this in a sharp shooters nest, on the top of a tree, beautifully situated for that kind of business and right around under me is a sweet potato patch. It is very warm and has been for a week or more.

Long before this reaches you you will know more of the scrap than I do or probably will for a long time. It broke out last Saturday night at about 9 o'clock, and has not stopped yet only by lulls. This morning we could hear the heavy canonading and volly firing by infantry and heard since it was the other Oregon boys at work. This battalion was sent or started out to "Malate" Sunday afternoon where the fighting was fast and furious, the "Niggers" had begun to waver badly, and was becoming panic stricken.

We were held in reserve for about 4 or 5 hours, the bullets dropping like hail, but we could not see a thing, a very unpleasant place to be. We were then relieved and taken back to the Cuartel for supper after which we took up our position down along the creek for the night, this making the 2nd night of such work. I walked 19 1/2 hours straight at one pull on street police, so did Elmer. Monday our 3rd batalion was ordered to the front with 4 companies of the 23ds we were to over take and help the Colos Nebs, Kansas and Tennessee. We got in sight of the niggers twice but never in gun shot and marched right along for 6 or 7 miles. It was expected they would make a grand effort to hold the water works, so we got no sport at all to speak of; poor silly creatures they are as ignorant as monkeys. Up to now it is estimated their entire loss, killed, wounded and prisoners from 15,000 to 20,000 we have no conceivable idea, no way to estimate it. We have already buried over 4,000 of them, have captured lots of guns and ammunition. We keep them drove to the water and Dewey massacres them, we burnt one town yesterday and another this morning. I can't think of their names we burn most every house (not stone) that we pass.

This country is certainly an "Eden" when you get to looking it over. Anything on earth grows fine here. We have tramped over thousands of acres of rice and cane fields most of them not under cultivation for years and the prettiest valley I ever seen is the San Waun or San Juan river valley.

They are now killing off lots of Phillipino officers for deceiving them and telling them that the Americans could not fight. Told them we would run after 2 or 3 hours, and they could walk in and take Manila, but their nearest point to it now is about 10 to 15 miles. We see many comical sights, at first the Spanish thought we could not hold the city, now they are begging to get out and help. They see we can't keep in sight of our enemy. Some few Chinamen have been in it with clubs till some Phillipino fell, and then grab their guns and go at them. The English are strictly with us and think we are the stuff. They would haul ammunition or do any thing for us. Every regiment

to a man has done their part and done it well, braver boys were never at El Caney or San Diego. Braver stands and charges were never performed by men and too much cannot be said in their favor. Co C has been under slight fire 2 or 3 times and every man cries on to the front or charge if need be, but such actions have not yet become necessary. I don't believe any of the boys will ever let the enemy see his back in battle, that is about all we have seen of them—backs Our losses up as far as I have heard was 68 dead and something like 200 wounded. I have had about 12 hours of rest, that is one nights sleep in 8 days. I feel fine and am getting stronger already out in the open country and good fresh air. When I get back to quarters I will write you a good long letter. Good bye to all.

Your loving son and brother,
HENRY LANDESS.
Co C 2nd Ore., Vol.

THE PEERLESS OREGON.

Says the Chicago Inter-Ocean: The battle-ship Oregon, after a voyage of 21,000 miles, arrived at Manila on Friday "in fit condition for any duty." This is the longest trip ever made by a modern battle-ship, but is no more remarkable than the journey of the Oregon at the beginning of the war from San Francisco to Key West. This distance of 15,000 miles was made at the highest rate of sustained speed ever attained by a battle-ship, and at the end the Oregon reported to Admiral Sampson "in fit condition for any duty." In fact, she was at once assigned to duty in front of Santiago, and in the great naval battle of July 3 did as much as any vessel in the American fleet to make the victory decisive.

The Oregon was built on the Pacific coast and had in no way distinguished herself up to the declaration of war with Spain. She was of the same class and size as the Indiana and Massachusetts, built at the ship yards on the Atlantic coast, and was pronounced by naval architects one of the finest battle-ships afloat. But there were men in congress to say that the \$4,000,000 spent on the vessel and her armament was practically thrown away, that the battleship was unwieldy and unseaworthy, and would go down at the first shot that struck her in battle.

The fact that such an utterance in congress seems impossible now shows what a great change has taken place not only in the attitude of the public toward the navy but in the amount of information possessed by the people as to war vessels. When the Oregon started on her journey around the continent last spring she was as remote from the every day life of the people as "a painted ship upon a painted ocean." But as she went steaming around Cape Horn, and came steaming up the eastern coast of South America, menaced by the dangers of real war, she took hold of the imaginations and the hearts of men women and children, and when Captain Clark reported to Admiral Sampson with ship "in condition for any duty" every school boy knew what a war ship was and what it meant when the country was in danger. And all the people knew that the United States owned in the Oregon one of the finest war-ships in the world, and glorified in the fact.

Then came the battle off Santiago in which the Oregon made as good speed as the fastest cruisers and did splendid service with her great guns. At the end of the war the Oregon had an unexampled record for seaworthiness and speed

and as good a record as any other battleship afloat in any seas. Many of the cavaliers of the Pacific coast states who had derided the Oregon took such pride in her achievements that they clamored for her return to the Pacific, anxious to associate her splendid record with California ship yards.

Early in November last the Oregon left New York for the return voyage around Cape Horn. Accompanied by the Iowa, our largest battle-ship, she was received at every port in South America with enthusiasm, naval and military men manifesting the greatest interest in the two battle-ships and taking pains to show their appreciation. The Iowa proceeded from Callao to San Francisco and the Oregon to Honolulu, from which point she was ordered, on February 25 to Manila. The distance from New York to San Francisco is 16,660 miles. From New York to Honolulu is more than 17,000 miles, and from Honolulu to Manila is 4,000 miles, so that the Oregon has to her credit two trips around the continent measuring 36,000 miles, and is still "in fit condition for any duty."

WHERE AGUINALDO GETS HELP.

Mr. Vaile sums up the situation in the islands in a letter to Assistant Postmaster Cockett, of Seattle, as follows:

"To one who has watched carefully the development of the independent republic idea among these people it appears that Aguinaldo and his ships are drawing their support from Europe and that from the same source an attempt is being made to create in the United States a sentiment antagonistic to the retention of the islands. Self-interest alone could prompt such support, and anyone who has lived but a brief time among these people can see that a Filipino republic would be as evanescent as a castle in Spain and that the islands would soon be under control of some one, or more, of the European nations. I would not advocate holding them simply because some one else wanted them—playing dog in the manger, but I do believe that we ought to hold them for a little while at least for the same reason that humanity demands that the foundling left on the door step shall be cared for until it can be placed in some home.

"These people in many ways are no more than children. Like the Japanese, they are quick to follow copy and apt scholars. At present, if left to themselves they would try to run a republic in exactly the same lines that Spain has used in governing them. And it does not require much of wisdom to know how long such a government would last. We must, if we would preserve our own self-respect and the respect of the nations, carry out the work we have to do. Let us show them what just government is and when they shall have learned the lesson let them go."—Oregonian.

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Denver Times-Sun and Bohemia Nugget per year \$1.50.
St. Louis Globe-Democrat and Bohemia Nugget \$1.75.

CHURCH NOTICES.
M. E. CHURCH.
Hereafter the services at the Methodist Episcopal church will be as follows: Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching every 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Epworth League at 6:30 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30. Let us hear the Gospel "it is the power of God." Strangers and friends are made welcome to all meetings.
M. O. BRISK, Pastor.
REVIVAL SERVICES.
Rev. E. A. Ross the widely known evangelist who creates a great interest and stir in the hearts of people wherever he goes, will hold a series of meetings at the Methodist church in Cottage Grove, commencing the first Sunday in March.

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE
Cottage Grove, Lane County, Oregon, January 11, 1899.

TO ALL CONCERNED:—
You are hereby notified that we have expended at least \$200, in work on each of the two mining claims known and recorded in the Mining Records of the Bohemia Mining District in Lane county, Oregon, under the names of "Drum Lumond" and "Opportunity" mining claims, as will appear by certificate filed January 13, 1899 in the office of the County Clerk in said Lane county, in order to hold said premises under the provisions of section 2324 revised Statutes of the United States being the amount required to hold in said two claims for the years 1897 and 1898, respectively, and if within ninety days after the completion of the publication of this notice, you fail, neglect or refuse to contribute your portion of said expenses as a co-owner, your interest in the claims will become the property of the subscribers, under said section 2324.
J. H. WARR,
A. M. WHITE.

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