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LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

RIVERS AND HARBORS

Bill for Their Improvement Passes the House.

SPOONER ON EXPANSION

WOULD NOT HAVE THE PHILIPPINES AS STATES.

HAVE A RIGHT TO TAKE THEM OTHERWISE

Yet We do not Want Them Permanently. Would not Vote for Ratification if he Thought that Permanent Sovereignty

Would Follow.

Washington, Feb. 2.—The River and Harbor bill, carrying slightly more than \$30,000,000, passed the House today by a vote of 100 to 7. This is the largest majority any river and harbor bill has ever obtained in the House. The bill attracted little opposition and every effort to amend it in important particulars failed.

An amendment was adopted upon the motion of Mr. Moon (Dem., Tenn.) directing an examination by the War Department of the Tennessee River between Chattanooga and Shell Mound, with a view to the construction of locks and dams and an estimate of the cost of the canal at Moccasin Bend.

Mr. Burton, chairman of the committee, offered an amendment to strike out the conditional appropriation of \$60,000 for Brunswick harbor, Ga., and insert in its stead \$5,000 for a survey and \$10,000 for the inner harbor. It was agreed to without objection.

Several amendments were adopted providing for surveys, including Hiwassee River, Tenn., from its mouth to the Ogeechee River, from Galveston jetties to Texas city, with a view to obtaining a depth of twenty-five feet and a width of 100 feet, and James River, Va., with a view of determining the cost of dredging to the head of navigation.

Upon the completion of the reading of the bill the committee rose. Mr. Maxwell (Rep., Neb.) demanded the yeas and nays upon the passage of the bill, but only secured two supporters for his demand. On a rising vote the bill was passed, 100 to 7.

A resolution was adopted setting aside Saturday, February 11th, for paying tribute to the late Representative Dingley, of Maine.

At 4:55 p. m. the House adjourned.

SENATOR SPOONER'S SPEECH.

Washington, D. C., February 2.—At the opening of the Senate to-day Mr. Chilton (Tex.), presented the credentials of Charles A. Culberson elected a Senator from Texas for the term of six years from March 4th, 1899. They were filed.

Mr. Tillman (S. C.), offered the following resolution, which was adopted: "That the President be requested if not incompatible with the public interest, to inform the Senate whether any franchises or concessions of any character are being or have been granted by any municipality in Cuba and Porto Rico since the military occupation thereof by the United States; if so, what they are, for what length of time and the authority by which they have been granted."

At the conclusion of the morning's business, Mr. Spooner addressed the Senate. He said: "I find no objection, constitutional in nature, to the ratification of the pending treaty."

"If I held the view that the United States could not within its constitutional limitations acquire territory which was not to be erected into States, I could not give my consent to the acquisition of the Philippine Islands. This Philippine proposition is one of the fruits of the war—to me one of the bitter fruits. I can conceive of no circumstance under which I could give my consent to the admission of that archipelago as a State, or as more than one State, of the American Union."

Mr. Spooner then presented an argument in contravention of Chief Justice Taney's decision in the Dred Scott case, which, he said, was the foundation of all the opposition to the acquisition of territory by this Government.

"That decision," he said, "ceased years ago to be referred to as a correct interpretation of the law upon this question."

Mr. Spooner maintained that the United States undoubtedly had the power as had previously been shown in the Senate to acquire territory beyond our own domain, and with that power was coupled, of course, the collateral authority to govern that territory.

Mr. Bacon (Ga.), called Mr. Spooner's attention to the fact that the doctrine that the United States had no power to acquire foreign territory except with the intention of conferring upon it Statehood did not rest alone upon Justice Taney's decision. More than 40 years before the decision was promulgated Representative Quincy in the House had laid down the same principle.

To this Mr. Spooner maintained that the doctrine laid down by Mr. Quincy did not affect his argument, and he pointed out how impossible it was that these decisions should be taken as a permanent construction of the Constitution. He knew, he said, of no reason why territory and the people of a terri-

tory should not be governed by Congress.

Mr. Tillman interrupting Mr. Spooner inquired: "If we accept the Philippines would the inhabitants of that territory have the right to come without hindrance to this country?"

Mr. Spooner: "Yes, for the purpose of my argument I am disposed to admit it."

Mr. Tillman inquired whether the inhabitants of a territory could be prevented from entering the States.

Mr. Spooner said the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Platt) was inclined to believe they could be, but he himself doubted it.

Mr. Spooner further pressed his question as to the right of the Philippines to come here and declared that by admitting the islands by treaty 10,000,000 people of that territory could take the first ship for this country and upon arrival here could enter into competition with American labor. That was the reason why he would vote against the treaty.

Mr. Spooner said he had no doubt about the constitutionality of the cession of the Philippines or of our right to accept them or of the President's authority to govern in those islands until Congress should provide a proper government for them. Yet he could see nothing inconsistent in that to the contrary to the inhabitants of the islands all the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. He then adverted to the situation on the islands before the war with Spain and defended Spain's right to exercise sovereignty there.

Mr. Caffery (La.): "Then the longer the Philippines is exercised in a colony by a government, the more firmly fixed becomes its sovereignty?"

Mr. Spooner: "The Senator knows I do not mean that and he knows, too, that that is not true. He knows, too, that an unsuccessful resistance of tyranny does not displace the sovereignty of the controlling power."

Shortly afterward Mr. Tillman again interrupted Mr. Spooner with the statement that if Mr. Spooner had been present at yesterday's session he would not have made certain statements. He then proceeded to cite from the reports of the United States Consul at Manila certain facts concerning the progress of the revolution against Spanish rule in the islands.

"Is not the Senator making public," replied Mr. Spooner, smiling, "some information concerning the executive sessions of the Senate?"

"Yes, I am," replied Mr. Tillman, "but the information I have," holding aloft a printed document, "is contained in this book which has been made public and I will, therefore, be excused from violating faith with my brethren of the Senate."

Mr. Spooner said that no government, as had been contended on the floor of the Senate, had been established in the Philippine Islands. It could not be seriously regarded as a government and it was nothing more than a tin horn affair at best.

Mr. Tillman, again interrupting the Wisconsin Senator and again holding aloft the document which he held, said: "Unless the Senator withdraws his imputations against the good faith and honesty of Aguinaldo, I will read what I have here."

Mr. Spooner: "I have made no reference to Aguinaldo."

"Your remarks about Aguinaldo," retorted Mr. Tillman, "were made in a sneering and airy manner, indicating no respect."

Mr. Spooner: "If the Senator from Aguinaldo will permit me to pursue my argument in my own way I will be grateful. I have said nothing about Aguinaldo and do not care to have my speech anticipated."

Mr. Spooner then explained that he had not been present yesterday on account of illness and was anxious on account of his physical condition to complete his arguments as soon as possible.

Mr. Tillman: "In the circumstances, I will not again interrupt the Senator and will even endure the sneer about my being a Senator from Aguinaldo."

Mr. Spooner promptly withdrew his reference to Mr. Tillman and then proceeded with his discussion of the so-called Filipino Republic. Referring to the authority and power of Aguinaldo he said that what he represented nobody knows; whom he represents nobody knows; and nobody could say how far his authority extended.

Mr. Spooner ridiculed the idea that distance could affect our right to acquire territory. Why was there no objection to the acquisition of Porto Rico if there must be so much opposition to taking the Philippines? The consent of the Porto Ricans had not been asked.

Mr. Bacon replied that the circumstances were different because of the proximity of Porto Rico, as the presence of Spain in either of the West Indian Islands would be inimical to the United States.

"I thank the Senator from Georgia for the admission," responded Mr. Spooner. "The declaration of independence is to be suspended to the West Indies because it is in the interest of the United States."

"No, not our interests," replied Mr. Bacon. "Our public safety which is greater than our interests are affected."

"Our interests are included in our national safety," said Mr. Spooner. "The Senator practically admits that we want Porto Rico because we need it in our business."

Mr. Spooner announced his apprehension of the policy of expansion. "Some people waltz up to this proposition of national expansion as gaily as the Troubadour touches his guitar," said he.

He shrank, he said, from the policy of making a part of our land tropical islands thousands of miles from our shores, a land whose people were alien to our blood, who were foreign to our institutions, of a tropical climate in which the white man cannot work. He

therefore considered as superficial, sentimental and fantastic much of the talk concerning the permanent annexation of these far-away islands. If the ratification of the treaty involved permanent domain, he said he would not vote for it. But he had not been able to find any half way resting place between accepting the cession and abandoning the islands to their fate, and this was not permissible. The President, kind and generous as he is, would not have us make a treaty leaving the Philippines archipelago to the lust, the savagery and the brutality of Spanish rule. To have attempted this course would have been to inaugurate a rule of anarchy with all its horrors, and "while the war was cruel and bitter, anarchy was hell let loose on earth."

In case of our abandonment of the Philippines, Spain would, of course, reassert her rights there and in case she was not financially able to accomplish this purpose, she would find plenty of assistance from other European nations friendly to her.

In conclusion Mr. Spooner said that the ratification of the treaty and the acceptance by this country of the cession from Spain was not a declaration of principles. He declared that the Bacon resolutions and all other pending resolutions on this subject were rich with mischief and ought not to be adopted.

At the conclusion of Mr. Spooner's argument, Mr. Tillman explained why he had interrupted the Wisconsin Senator. He desired to incorporate with Mr. Spooner's speech some statements with respect to Aguinaldo made in a report by Major J. F. Bell, of the Engineer corps of the army.

Mr. Spooner gave his assent to the insertion of the statements at the proper place in his speech.

Mr. Tillman, however, insisted upon reading them. He declared that Aguinaldo had a well-armed force of 40,000 men and would resist every attempt to re-establish a colonial government in the islands.

Interrupting Mr. Tillman, Mr. Hoar inquired: "Does not Aguinaldo hold in peace and order more than fifty times as much territory in the Philippines as the United States?"

Mr. Tillman replied that Aguinaldo held all the Philippines except a small portion of the Island of Luzon around Manila. In conclusion Mr. Tillman said that the ratification of the treaty could only subject this country to another question which would certainly breed war and bloodshed.

At 3:55 p. m. on motion of Mr. Davis the Senate went into executive session.

At 5:40 p. m. the Senate adjourned.

SENATE'S EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Washington, February 2.—The executive session of the Senate today was merely a continuation of the legal argument which started with Senator Spooner's speech in the open Senate. It grew out of the question of Senator Tillman concerning the status of the Filipinos with reference to citizenship in case of the cession of the Philippine Islands should be accepted.

Senator Hoar made a set argument, quoting liberally from authorities, in support of the contention that they would become citizens and be entitled to all the rights and privileges as such under the Constitution. This view was antagonized by Senators Platt, of Connecticut, Nelson, of Oregon, and Nelson referred to the acquisition of territory from France and Spain during the history of the country, and read from many legal opinions to show that the Indians in such territory were not citizens. Mr. Platt made the point that citizens of territories were not full-fledged citizens and that they were not until they were such by Congressional enactment.

Senator Davis, in charge of the treaty, expressed the opinion after the adjournment of the Senate tonight, that a vote would be secured tomorrow on the resolutions pending in the Senate, declaratory of the country's future attitude toward the Filipinos in case of the ratification of the treaty. The first vote will be on the Bacon resolutions, which will probably be voted down. A vote will then be taken upon a resolution more acceptable to the majority, probably that offered by Mr. Sullivan, which it is expected, will be adopted.

Senator Daniel will speak on the treaty in open Senate tomorrow, and Senator Morgan in executive session.

SWELL WEDDING IN NORFOLK.

Wedding Cake Cut With the Groom's Sword.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 2.—A fashionable wedding was solemnized in the Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart to-night, the contracting parties being Ensign Fritz Louis Sandoz, of the United States Navy, and Miss Annie Moore-Ward.

The bride was given away by her brother, Henry A. Ward, of the Virginia Military Institute. Naval Constructor W. P. Robert was best man. The groom was attired in his official full dress uniform and the bride in white silk and chiffon, trimmed with real lace and pearls. The marriage was attended by people from Baltimore and Philadelphia, and by many officers from the navy yard.

Ensign Sandoz is a native of Alabama, and served on the Cincinnati during the late war.

At a reception at the home of the bride's aunt in Ghent, the fashionable suburb of Norfolk, the wedding cake was cut with the groom's sword.

Ensign and Mrs. Sandoz left tonight for a bridal trip to New Orleans and the Mardi Gras.

ENGINEERS GOING TO CUBA.

Charleston, S. C., Feb. 2.—The First battalion United States volunteer engineers, 430 strong, Colonel Gaillard commanding, arrived here from Macon today. The battalion will sail from here tomorrow on the transport Saratoga for Cienfuegos, Cuba.

GOMEZ WILL ASSIST

Becomes an Active Ally in Cuban Reconstruction.

PORTER IS SUCCESSFUL

GOMEZ WILL AID IN DISBANDING THE ARMY.

ALSO IN PAYING OUT THE \$3,000,000

This Money is not to be Regarded as Part

Payment of Salaries to Soldiers, but

to Facilitate Disbandment and Afford Relief.

Remedios, Province of Santa Clara, Cuba, February 1, via Havana, Feb. 2.—General Maximo Gomez, the Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban army, placed himself squarely in position to-day as an active ally of the United States Government in the work of reconstruction of Cuba.

As a result of the conference which Robert P. Porter, the special commissioner of President McKinley, has had with General Gomez, the latter cabled to President McKinley this afternoon assuring him of his co-operation in disbanding the Cuban army and in distributing among the Cuban soldiers the \$3,000,000 appropriated for the purpose of enabling them to return to their homes.

General Gomez also telegraphed to Major General Brooke, saying he would accept the latter's invitation to go to Havana.

The success of Mr. Porter's mission greatly simplifies the returning of the Cuban soldiers to the pursuits of peace. In view of General Gomez's supposed prior attitude of hostility toward the United States, Mr. Porter came here clothed with absolute authority, and the tender of the \$3,000,000 was practically a verbal ultimatum. Had it not been accepted no more ultimatums would have been made.

Mr. Porter made plain the purpose of the United States Government, and was gratified at the ready response of General Gomez. The conference took place at the house here occupied by the Cuban General as his headquarters since coming to town.

When Mr. Porter arrived here last week he was accompanied by Seno Gonzales Quesada, the special commissioner of the Cuban Junta at Washington; Captain Campbell, of General Brooke's staff; Lieutenant Hanna, of General Wood's staff, and a correspondent of the Associated Press.

The Cuban commander was cordial in greeting Mr. Porter, and opened the interview by referring to the change for the better which had taken place in Cuba since he was last here in September. He also laid stress on the fact that some people were asking where was Cuba's promised liberty.

"The answer to this," said Mr. Porter "is that Cuba now has commercial and industrial liberty, and that President McKinley has directed me in framing the Cuban tariffs to make no discrimination in favor of the United States in the manner that Spain favored herself. Cuba is free to-day to buy in the cheapest market. People are returning to the pursuits of peace, and our military government will give way to the civil government as fast as possible."

Mr. Porter also said that the purpose of the American Government is to lay a firm foundation of noble government for Cuba, to give the Cubans all the liberties they had fought for, and that General Gomez must remember that and more still. For instance, there are 25,000 or 30,000 Spanish soldiers a Cienfuegos who have not left Cuba; that we had only been a month on the island, and that President McKinley needed, and was entitled to the cooperation of all interested in the welfare and future of Cuba, and that he needed the co-operation of General Gomez above all the first.

The first problem, Mr. Porter then pointed out, was the disbandment of the Cuban army, and the return of the Cuban soldiers to work. This was the specific mission which had brought Mr. Porter to Remedios, and in which President McKinley expected General Gomez's aid.

The Cuban commander-in-chief replied that he was ready and willing to give the aid required, but asked how he could do so.

To this Mr. Porter replied that President McKinley would be glad to have him go to Havana and co-operate with General Brooke in disbanding the Cubans, and in paying the \$3,000,000 appropriated for that purpose.

General Gomez said the amount was too small, but that it was not his fault, while thinking it to the miracle of the loaves and fishes.

"No man in history," said Mr. Porter "has done so much with so small resources as you have done. Hence your co-operation with General Brooke will bring good results."

General Gomez especially requested that the money, for which Mr. Porter had orders in his pocket, should be paid over to General Brooke and not to him self, as he did not want the personal responsibility of keeping it.

The Cuban General then assured Captain Campbell of his good feelings to General Brooke and the formal compact was presented to General Gomez by Mr.

Porter, and was assented to by General Gomez.

In brief the compact is as follows: 1. The Cuban officers in each province shall assist the American officers in distributing the funds.

2. That these officers shall at once meet at some convenient point and devise how when and where the payments are to be made and arrange any other details.

3. That the sum paid to each man shall not be regarded as part payment of salary or wages due for service rendered, but to facilitate the disbandment of the army, as a relief of suffering and as an aid in getting the people to work.

4. The Cubans shall surrender their arms to the Cuban Assembly or to its representatives.

5. The Committee on Distribution shall use its best endeavors to distribute it among the population so that all may secure work.

6. That the \$3,000,000 shall be placed subject to the order of General Brooke, and that action in the matter shall be immediate.

General Gomez was tendered a public reception this evening, and Mr. Porter was among those present.

THE LETTER OF GEN. GOMEZ.

He is Preparing for His Trip to Havana.

Remedios, Province of Santa Clara, Cuba, Feb. 2.—Via Camaguey, Feb. 2.—Immediately after yesterday's conference, General Gomez wrote the following letter to President McKinley in Spanish: "Republic of Cuba, Headquarters of the Army, Remedios, Feb. 1, 1899. "President McKinley, Washington: "It has been a great pleasure to me to confer with your commissioner, Mr. Porter, introduced by my friend, Quesada, and I am now aware of and pleased with your wishes. In a short time I shall go to Havana and confer with General Brooke, so that everything will go well. Following your advice, I will co-operate in the work of reconstructing Cuba. (Signed) "MAXIMO GOMEZ, General."

Today General Gomez is preparing for the trip to Havana. The whole attitude of the old fighter is much more cordial than was anticipated by Mr. Porter. He told the latter he was proud to receive the special commissioner of the President, and he is evidently much gratified at the prospect of the early solution of the disbandment problem.

The money will be sent on Commissioner Porter's order to General Brooke and will be paid out, as called for, by the delegation through sub-committees of Cuban and American officers in the various provinces. As agreed upon at yesterday's conference, the entire amount will be Spanish silver.

At the ratio of sixty it will amount to \$4,200,000, or nearly \$100 for each man in the Cuban army, as estimated by the delegation from the Cuban military assembly which went to Washington in December and has recently returned to Cuba.

The late General Galindo Garcia told President McKinley this amount would be satisfactory. The correspondent of the Associated Press learns that the delegation was examined by Mr. Porter for the President and that a report was submitted which has not yet been made public. The figures given in it, as supplied to the correspondent of the Associated Press yesterday, call for \$57,000,000 as the first estimate of the delegation, but the delegation said they could hardly expect better pay for the Cuban private than the American private gets, which is \$13 a month or 43 per cent of their figures, and the American basis would mean \$9,000,000 for private. As the sum to be paid is worth more than \$4,000,000 in Spanish silver here, nearly half of the amount calculated on the American basis is to be realized by the Cubans.

At the conference Mr. Porter laid special stress on the fact that the \$3,000,000 was not to be regarded as wages due for services rendered, but as a relief fund from the United States to expedite the disbandment of the army and to further the aims of reconstruction. This article of the compact, previously cabled, was the most delicate point under consideration, as the question of the recognition of the Cuban army as a military body and, tacitly of the Cuban Revolutionary Government, was involved. General Gomez acquiesced in this premise more readily than might have been expected, in view of his reputed hostility to the United States.

PORTER RETURNS TO HAVANA.

Havana, Feb. 2.—Robert P. Porter, the special commissioner of President McKinley, to confer with General Maximo Gomez regarding the disbandment of the Cuban troops, arrived here this evening from Remedios. He met General Wood at Colon, on his way to Cienfuegos and Santiago. General Wood, who was delighted to hear of the outcome of the conference, said it greatly simplified the problem of Cuban reconstruction. Several Cuban officers who boarded Mr. Porter's special car in the Province of Santa Clara, expressed their satisfaction at the attitude that General Gomez had taken, remarking that he had felt slighted at being unnoticed, and at the failure of the men of Central Cuba to get appointments and attention from Havana.

DRIVING CUBANS TO REBELLION

Fernandez Says Lack of Money and American Tyranny Are Doing This.

London, Feb. 2.—A former captain in the Cuban army, Juan Fernandez, the London representative of General Gomez, issued by orders of the latter to the Remedios dispatch of the Associated Press, showing the settlement of the

great Cuban difficulty, a long but statement purporting to explain the situation in Cuba. He said: "The proffered \$3,000,000 as payment of the Cuban troops has been refused as totally inadequate to meet the expenses and losses of the troops, many of whom have lost all proofs that they are owners of property, which is now being monopolized by American capitalists and railroad magnates. "Even twice the \$3,000,000 demanded by General Gomez would not properly recoup the Cubans. We all respect President McKinley and the American Government; but we have no respect for the petty officials employed by the United States Government, who are exercising as bad tyranny towards the Cubans as did the Spaniards. This tyranny and lack of money is driving the Cubans heading to rebellion. If the demands are not satisfied they will follow in the footsteps of the Filipinos and resist to the death the authority of the United States in Cuba. God knows how it will result, but carnage and the annihilation of the Cubans is inevitable. "God forbid that it should come to that. I will even add: 'Vive La Republica de America!'"

Fernandez recounts, in the course of his statement as an example of the alleged tyranny of minor officials, the story of the alleged employment of himself by a United States naval attaché in London to proceed to Spain on secret service during the war. He relates the dangers he encountered and the success he achieved, and says that when he returned here the United States Embassy refused to make him any further payment, although he was \$250 out of pocket, above the traveling expenses given him. He further asserts that the United States Ambassador refused to see him, although he claims he had a letter from the Department of State, in reply to a complaint telling him to see the Ambassador.

NO ESTATE WAS BURNED.

Wilson Says no Property has Been Fired Since the Protocol.

Havana, Feb. 2.—Governor General Brooke's invitation to General Gomez to come here was embodied in two or three lines at the end of a note, informing Mr. Porter. He said he would be pleased to see Gomez in Havana at the latter's convenience. The note was carried by General Brooke's aide, Captain Campbell, it had official significance.

"Matanzas, February 1st. "Richards, Adjutant, Havana. "The Sun of New York of January 27th contains a dispatch from Havana alleging that an agar estate belonging to Mr. Terry, situated in this Province had been burned. This is entirely without foundation. Neither Mr. Terry nor any one else has had a sugar estate or other property destroyed in this province by fire since the protocol. Perfect peace and good order prevail. (Signed) "WILSON, Major General."

ON A SECRET MISSION.

Belgian Consul en Route From Manila to Washington.

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 2.—Edward A. Andre, for the past sixteen years Belgian Consul at Manila, is in this city en route to Washington on a secret mission. It is understood that he is to offer the United States his good services as mediator between this country and the Philippines.

Speaking of the present condition of affairs in the Philippines, Consul Andre said that should the Americans and Filipino clash, the loss to the Americans would be great, not so much from the loss of the force of bullets, but from the sickness which would follow an active campaign. The Filipinos, he said, modern rifles and could inflict much damage before being subdued, but he did not look for any serious disagreement.

"The Filipinos," he said, "do not understand their position. As soon as they can be made to realize that the United States will not make rash promises then so soon will the Filipinos welcome the protection of this country, but until that time arrives there will be always some signs of discontent. As soon as the natives realize that they can make money and live comfortably, they will cease fighting. The recent proclamation emanating of the President did much to relieve anxiety of the people and the recent conference between the American commissioners and Filipino representatives will result in much good."

INDIANS ON THE WARPATH.

The Redskins Are Drunk, and a General Rising is Feared.

Chicago, Ills., Feb. 2.—A special to the Tribune from Vancouver, B. C., says: "Indians are on the warpath in Alaska. One battle has taken place, and more fighting is imminent. "Four Indians were killed and several wounded in the fight which has already taken place. Four American deputy marshals were wounded. The Indians are drunk, and there may be a general uprising."

KILLED BY SNOW AVALANCHE.

Denver, Colo., Feb. 2.—Information has been received here by Superintendent Ridgeway, of the Denver and Rio Grande railroad that a snow slide on the line nine miles east of Glenwood Springs, to-day came down on top of a work train, wrecking the engine and cars, and killing three of the wrecking crew and injuring two others, a fireman and a brakeman.

Snow is falling throughout the State, and there is great suffering. At several places there is danger of a famine, owing to shortage of supplies and the impossibility of receiving aid at present.

MAY TRY GEN MILES

They Say Alger is Anxious for This Trial.

THINKS GROUNDS AMPLE

A COURT OF INQUIRY ALSO TALKED ABOUT.

McKINLEY MIGHT FIRE GENERAL MILES

He Might do so Without Explanation; But the President is not Seeking Trouble.

Action of Some Kind Expected Next Week.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Everybody is wondering what is going to be done with General Miles. There is no doubt that the Secretary of War is very anxious for a court martial, and believes there is ample ground for one in the way the General has criticized the Secretary and the different bureaus to the prejudice of good order and discipline, but as Miles denies having authorized any of the many interviews which have been printed, there seems to be difficulty in finding a way to get at him.

There is talk of a court of inquiry and also of relieving him from the command of the army without explanation or trial, as the President has the power to do; but it is not at all likely that the latter course will be pursued. The President is not seeking trouble, and he knows that to fire Miles when the sentiment of the country is so strongly in his favor, would give all kinds of trouble in the future.

The court of inquiry seems the most likely course, but the officials of the War Department are still working on plans for a court martial in the hope that the Secretary may be able to bring the President to their view of the matter. Something is expected to drop just as soon as the war investigating commission gets in its report, which will not, however, be until next Monday or later.

ANOTHER STATEMENT.

Washington, Feb. 2.—Great interest was expressed to-day throughout the War Department in the reiterated newspaper reports that severe action was meditated by the Department and the Administration in the case of General Miles, who has been quoted in numerous recent interviews as condemning the quality of meat furnished the army by contractors during the war, and maintaining that he had evidence in reserve which would substantiate his charges that chemists were used in preserving the contract beef.

It may be definitely stated that no official action has been taken looking to a court martial, a court of inquiry or to the sending of General Miles to the command of a Department.

RECORDS REACH PRESIDENT.

Contention That Egan's Conduct Was Not Legally Unbecoming.

Washington, Feb. 2.—The record of the court martial in the case of General Egan is now in the hands of the President for review. Today Mr. Worthing