

The News and Observer.

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RALEIGH, N. C. TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 7 1899

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

To Sweep All Before Him

OTIS' PREPARATIONS FOR AN ON-SLAUGHT ALMOST COMPLETE.

Disastrous Result to the Natives of an Attempt Made by Them to Capture the Water Works.

Washington, March 6.—There is some reason to expect important news from Manila within the next fortnight. It has developed that General Otis has practically completed his plans for a grand onslaught upon the insurgents which is expected to deprive them of offensive power at least. It is probable that he will form a large part of his force into columns, as soon as his reinforcements are all at hand, and will push these in parallel lines through the jungles, clearing out the insurgents in every direction as the troops go forward. The American troops are getting restless and nervous under the petty but annoying sharpshootings of the Filipinos and are so anxious to get a step to this that General Otis has yielded to their desire. Forty-one thousand officers and men of the army and navy forces comprise the approximate total of American strength now at, en route and under orders for service at the Philippine islands. No further reinforcements are now in contemplation. The forces of the two services already stationed in and about the archipelago consist of twenty regiments of infantry, one engineer battalion seven troops of cavalry and eleven batteries of artillery, an aggregate of about 24,500 men.

expedition will reach Manila in the early morning of the 10th instant. The transport Sherman, Colonel J. H. Page, commanding, carrying a total of 24 officers and 1,702 men, including the entire Third infantry regiment and a battalion of the Seventeenth infantry. The Sherman sailed from New York February 3rd. The transport Sheridan, under command of Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Smith, of the Twelfth infantry and a battalion of the Seventeenth infantry making a total of 57 officers and 1,735 men. Besides these the Roanoke, with a fair sized detachment of recruits for the various regiments already in the archipelago, has gotten a good start on the way to Manila, and the transport Valencia sailed from San Francisco yesterday for Manila via Honolulu with 150 recruits for the infantry, artillery and hospital corps and a number of West Point graduates assigned to duty with various companies in the Philippines. To swell this formidable list of men already on the field and on route, five regiments of infantry and the crack Sixth artillery, 7,500 men in all, are under orders to proceed to Manila at the earliest moment. These reinforcements, which go to the archipelago under an order issued by the War Department last week, complete the roll of troops so far as now contemplated for service in the islands and are as follows: The Sixth United States infantry now at San Antonio, the Ninth United States infantry at Madison Barracks and the Thirtieth United States infantry at Fort Crooks and neighboring points and the Twenty-First United States infantry at Plattsburg, N. Y., and the Sixth United States artillery, now scattered along the Atlantic coast at a number of points. The date of departure has not yet been fixed, but they are expected to be at Manila by May 15th. If the conditions are satisfactory when they reach Manila, it is likely that a corresponding number of volunteers may be brought home.

Nineteen vessels with an aggregate of 297 officers, 2,500 men and 253 marines make up the naval contingent. This is exclusive of the hospital ship Solace, with 162 officers and men all told, which is constantly passing back and forth from Manila. There are about 4,800 army reinforcements on the way to Manila, making as rapid progress as possible, and there are roughly 7,500 men in the force under orders to proceed to the Philippines.

The following vessels are now at Manila or Hong Kong under the command of Admiral Dewey: Baltimore, Bennington, Concord, Bufalo, Callao, Charleston, Boston, Culgoon, Don Juan de Austria, Helena, Isla de Luzon, Isla de Cuba, Manila, Monadnock, Monterey, Olympia, Olympia, Petrel and Yorktown. These vessels carry 297 officers, 2,500 sailors and 253 marines. The Solace does not remain at Manila. The Castine and Princeton are now on their way through the Red Sea to join Admiral Dewey, and the Oregon and her consort, the Iriz, are travelling through the Pacific to the same destination. These vessels will add to the naval force at Manila 59 officers, 739 men and 84 marines. The captured ships Don Juan de Austria, Isla de Luzon and Isla de Cuba are not available for immediate service as they are in need of repairs. The Solace has taken on a number of recruits and the Isla de Luzon will be manned. The Wheeling will join the Manila fleet, but is not to be counted on as being available in the immediate future.

The regular troops now in the Philippine Islands under command of Major General Otis, consist of the following: The Fourth United States infantry, Eighteenth United States infantry, Twentieth United States infantry (which has but recently arrived there, consisting of 41 officers and 1,218 men), Twenty-Second United States infantry and Twenty-Third United States infantry, a battalion of United States engineers, Companies C, E, I, K, L, of the Fourth United States cavalry, Batteries G, H, K and L, of the Third United States artillery, and Batteries D and G Sixth United States artillery.

Most of the volunteer forces already in the field, and most of whom have borne the brunt of the engagements with both the Spanish army on the islands, and more recently the Filipinos, have been there since the beginning of the American occupancy of the islands. They comprise fifteen regiments of infantry, one troop of cavalry, and five batteries of artillery, as follows:

The First California, First Colorado, First Idaho, Fifty-First Iowa, Twentieth Kansas, Thirtieth Minnesota, First Montana, First North Dakota, First Nebraska, Second Oregon, Tenth Pennsylvania, First South Dakota, First Tennessee, First Washington, First Wyoming, First Troop of the Nevada cavalry, Battery A and Battery B, Utah light artillery, Battery A and Battery D, of the California artillery, the First Wyoming light battery and the First and Eighteenth companies of the United States Signal Corps.

In addition to these another company of the Signal Corps has just been formed at Manila, being recruited by transfer from the regular branch of the army. This means of making up the new company was made necessary by the lack of time for dispatch of men from the United States. Reinforcements for the Philippines now on the way aggregate in the neighborhood of 4,800 men, all told. They are made up of three general expeditions as follows:

The transport Grant, with General Lawton and staff, with a total of 42 officers and 716 men, including one battalion of the Seventeenth infantry regiment and four companies of the Fourth infantry. This expedition sailed from New York January 19th and was reported at Singapore on Saturday and General Lawton has called Gen. Otis that his

FIGHT AT WATER WORKS.

Manila, March 6.—The rebels have been concentrating in the vicinity of the reservoir. To-day a patrol of Company G, Second Oregon volunteers, was taken in ambush. Two men were wounded, but the Oregonians held their ground under a heavy fire until the remainder of the company, assisted by two companies of the First Nebraska regiment, flanked the enemy, killing thirty and capturing several more. Two battalions of the Twentieth regular infantry have reinforced General Hale's brigade.

WILD SCENES IN THE CORTES.

Sivela in the Senate Reads the Decree of Dissolution.

MEMBER OF FIRST STABBED.

Private Frank James, of Statesville, He Will Recover.

REPUBLICAN COMMISSIONERS RESIGN.

Winston, N. C., March 6.—(Special.)—The three Republican county commissioners resigned today, leaving the business of the county in the hands of the five Democratic commissioners elected by the Legislature last week.

A COTTON MILL SOLD.

Charleston, S. C., March 6.—The Charleston Cotton Mill was sold by public auction here today under an order of the United States court for \$100,000, the upset price fixed. John H. Montgomery, of Spartanburg, was the purchaser. Mr. Montgomery said he represented a syndicate and the mill would be operated with negro labor. The mill was built in 1882 and has never proven a success. It has 28,000 spindles, and owns commodious buildings and considerable real estate in this city.

SAMPSON-SCHLEY CONTROVERSY

Secretary Long's Second Letter Made Public.

THE LETTER OF MAY 20TH

WRITTEN BY SAMPSON, NOT WITHHELD BY DEPARTMENT.

ORDERS AS TO CIENFUEGOS BLOCKADE

What Captain Sigbee Said Relative to the Whereabouts of Cervera's Fleet and as to the Difficulty of Coaling Off Santiago.

Washington, March 6.—The Senate Committee on Naval Affairs to-day made public Secretary Long's second letter in the Sampson-Schley controversy, this communication being in reply to Admiral Schley's letter. The first matter which the Secretary takes up is Admiral Schley's mention of Admiral Sampson's letter of May 20th, which the Secretary says seems to have given certain Senators the impression that the Department has withheld that letter. On this point he says: "First—That this letter was not in the possession of the Department on February 6th, nor was its existence known to the Department at that time. "Second—That in its possession, of Admiral Schley until the 6th of February, when it was sent to the Department, upon its request to be furnished with all official records relating to his duty as commander-in-chief of the flying squadron, and as a flag officer in the North Atlantic fleet."

NO INTERFERENCE IN CHINA.

Given a Free Hand in Trade, Uncle Sam Asks Nothing more.

Washington, March 6.—The United States Government has remained absolutely passive throughout the execution of the Italian project to secure an "open door" on the Chinese coast through the acquisition of San Mun Bay and outlying islands. Some days ago United States Minister Conger, at Peking, acquainted the State Department with the fact that Italy had preferred a request upon China for a lease of the spot selected, but he has made no report since, and it is not known officially whether or not the Italian forces have landed at San Mun.

OUR WOMEN'S SACRED TRUST.

Daughter's of Confederacy on Care of Confederate Graves.

FOR BETTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The House Has Appropriated \$100,000 Extra to Them.

Closing Scene of Session

TO-DAY WILL WITNESS ALL LEGISLATION

Tomorrow at Noon General Assembly Will Adjourn—Appropriation of \$100,000 for Public Schools.

"Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, that the General Assembly adjourn on Wednesday, the 8th day of March, 1899, at 12 o'clock m., to meet again in the city of Raleigh, on Tuesday after the second Monday of June, 1899.

A DULL DAY OF THE HOUSE.

But it Was a Day of Hard-Honest Labor.

TAX ON RAILROAD PROPERTY.

A Bill Passed Authorizing Collection of Certain Back Taxes.

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(Continued on Second Page.)