

The News and Observer.

LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

Our Guns Roar in Samoa

MATAAFA, BACKED BY ROSE, DEFIES OUR ADMIRAL.

Americans Fortify Mulinuu Filled With Malletoans—Mataafas Attack It—British and American Bombardment.

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Apia, Samoan Islands, March 23, via Auckland, N. Z., March 29.—The troubles growing out of the election of a king of Samoa have taken a more serious turn and resulted in a bombardment of native villages along the shore by the United States cruiser Philadelphia, Admiral Kautz commanding, and the British cruisers Porpoise and Royalist. The bombardment has continued intermittently for 8 days. Several villages have been burned, and there have been a number of casualties among the American and British sailors and marines. As yet it is impossible to estimate the number of natives killed or injured.

As Mataafa and his chiefs, constituting the provisional government, continued to defy the treaty after the arrival of the Philadelphia, Admiral Kautz summoned the various consuls and senior naval officers to a conference on board the Philadelphia, when the whole situation was carefully canvassed. The upshot was a resolution to dismiss the provisional government and Admiral Kautz issued a proclamation calling upon Mataafa and his chiefs to return to their homes.

Mataafa evacuated Mulinuu, the town he had made his headquarters and went into the interior.

Herr Rose, the German Consul at Apia, issued a proclamation supplementing the one he had issued several weeks before, upholding the provisional government. As a result of this the Mataafas assembled in large force and hemmed in the town.

The British cruiser Royalist brought the Malletoan prisoners from the islands to which they had been transferred by the provisional government.

The Americans then fortified Mulinuu, where 22,000 Malletoans took refuge. The rebels—the adherents of Mataafa—barricaded the roads within the municipality and seized the British houses.

An ultimatum was then sent to them, ordering them to evacuate, and threatening them in the event of refusal, with a bombardment to commence at 1 o'clock on the afternoon of March 15th. This was ignored, and the rebels commenced an attack in the direction of the United States and British consulates about half an hour before the time fixed for the

bombardment. The Philadelphia, Porpoise and Royalist opened fire upon the distant villages. There was great difficulty in locating the enemy, owing to the dense forest; but several shore villages were seen in flames.

A defective shell from the Philadelphia exploded near the American consulate, and the marines outside narrowly escaped. A fragment struck the leg of Private Rudge, shattering it so badly as to necessitate amputation. Another fragment traversed the German consulate, smashing the crockery. The Germans then went on board the German cruiser Falke.

During the night the rebels made a hot attack on the town, killing three British sailors. A British marine was shot in the leg by a sentry of his own party, another was shot in the foot, and an American sentry was killed at his post.

The bombardment continuing, the inhabitants of the town took refuge on board the Royalist, greatly crowding the vessel.

Many people are leaving Samoa, the captain of the Royalist urging them to go, so as not to interfere with the military operations.

The Porpoise has shelled the villages east and west of Apia and captured many boats.

The Americans and British are fighting splendidly together, but there is a bitter feeling against the Germans.

Two men, a British and German subject, have been arrested as spies. The bombardment of the jungle was for a time very hot.

FRIENDLY TALKS ON SAMOA.

London, March 29.—The Foreign Office authorize the statement that the discussions going on between Great Britain, the United States and Germany, with regard to Samoa, are proceeding in a friendly and satisfactory manner.

ORDERED TO SAMOA.

Apia, Samoan Islands, March 23, via Auckland, N. Z., March 29.—The British cruiser Tauranga, which it is understood, was intending to annex the Tonga Islands (a section of the Friendly Islands in the Pacific) was intercepted at Suva, capital of the Fiji Islands, by order of the Home Government.

The Clash Foreseen; No Rupture With Germany Expected.

Washington, March 29.—The news from Samoa that the United States cruiser Philadelphia, and the British cruisers Porpoise and Royalist had bombarded the towns held by Mataafa, who has thus far had the official support of the German Government, came with startling suddenness to officials here and displaced for the time being the attention given to the fighting around Manila. The shelling of Mataafa was looked upon as secondary importance, but the deepest interest attached to the attitude of the German Government. At first apprehensions were felt that grave international complications might ensue. But those most intimately familiar with the latest official exchanges between Washington, London and Berlin, did not take such a gloomy view of the outlook. While recognizing that the bloodshed at Samoa created a very serious and delicate situation, yet it was said to be a situation which had been clearly apprehended and had been discussed in advance between the representatives of the three Governments. The real crisis, from an international standpoint, occurred last week when this apprehended outbreak was discussed. Although relations were greatly strained, it was possible to secure an understanding which is said to make sure that the outbreak now reported will not cause a rupture in the relations between the United States and Germany, or between Great Britain and Germany.

The details of the bombardment, as conveyed in the Associated Press dispatches, were read with eager interest by leading Government and diplomatic officers who have been most directly concerned in handling the Samoan question. There was nothing of an official character, however, either at the State or Navy Departments, or at the British or German Embassies, to comment the very full press report. Upon this officials based their views.

In all quarters there were expressions of concern and surprise at the seriousness and extent of the bombardment, and the resulting loss of life. That some overt act would take place has been apprehended for many days, but there was little idea it would take such a broad sweep and lead to such heavy loss of life. In this aspect of the case the actual results were regarded as far more serious than those which had been expected and provided for, during the recent diplomatic exchanges between the three Governments.

Moreover, new elements of international danger had unexpectedly arisen. These included the proclamation of the German Consul, Rose, which, it is believed, tended to incite the Mataafa party to an open revolt; also the wound-

ing and killing of British sailors and marines, the shooting of an American sentry, and the attacks on the consulates.

These all involve unknown possibilities of serious complication. While they had been guarded against as far as possible by the recent anticipatory exchanges, yet it was felt that the German press and national sentiment might be wrought to a high pitch by the events which had occurred, and that this outburst of popular feeling might overcome the strong efforts of officials to keep the subject within pacific bounds.

In an authoritative quarter the attitude of the British and American officials was stated substantially as follows:

It was mutually understood between the two Governments that the first essential in Samoa was to maintain peace and order. For that reason, it was determined that any lawlessness on the part of Mataafa or any other Samoan element, which threatened the lives or property of residents, would be suppressed even though force was required. This was entirely without reference to the rights of the three Governments—Great Britain, the United States and Germany—and was merely a rule of self-preservation and police security.

Acting on this understanding Captain Sturdee of the Porpoise gave notice some time ago that he would bombard the Mataafas if there was any outbreak or disorder. This insured quiet for a time, but he has always been ready to use force if it was necessary. It was not proposed to give Samoa over to a reign of anarchy simply because the German consular official at Samoa differed with the British and American officials.

Outside of these differences, it was proposed to protect life and property at all hazards. When Admiral Kautz went to Samoa he also had as his first duty to protect life and property and to maintain order. It is evident that the bloodshed has arisen out of this united effort of the American and British commanders to protect the law-abiding and peaceful elements against the disorderly and rebellious subjects of Mataafa. This is evidenced by Mataafa's action in hemming in the town where the American and British officials resided; also in the attacks on the consulate, and in the general lawlessness which has prevailed since Mataafa began his reign. In short, according to the view of those best acquainted with the subject, the British and American case will rest upon the paramount necessity of preserving peace and order.

The German view, it can be stated on very eminent authority, is not likely to raise a direct issue on the position thus laid down by the British and American officials. On the contrary there

is said to be a growing disposition on the part of Germany to hold Herr Rose accountable for the difficulties into which he has directed his Government. For a time he was sustained by the natural desire to protect him in the proper discharge of his duties, but the German authorities have not contemplated that he would carry the matter to an open rupture resulting in bloodshed. On that account there is good reason to believe that the German Government will not sustain Herr Rose and that official information in that direction has already been conveyed.

The diplomatic exchanges leading up to this crisis have been very sharp within the last few days. Early last week the British Government received direct information from Samoa that Admiral Kautz had arrived there and had summoned a meeting of all the officials for March 11th. The German authorities felt sure this meeting would result in serious trouble. The Berlin Foreign Office therefore instructed the German Ambassador here, Dr. Von Holleben, to present a note embodying Germany's views. It argued that a naval commander had no right to act save in executing the will of the three consuls, acting unanimously and not through a majority. But aside from this argument the German note intimated quite plainly that Germany would hold the other Governments responsible if serious trouble resulted from the action of the naval authorities in Samoa. The strained conditions caused by this note were somewhat allayed by the answer of the State Department, which was friendly and reassuring, although it made plain that the American naval commander would act in an emergency, even though the consuls were not unanimous in requesting action. It is just such an emergency that has now occurred in Samoa.

There is no apprehension here that an actual clash will occur with the German civil or naval forces in Samoa. This is due mainly to the official understanding that Germany has given positive orders to the commander of the German warship Falke to refrain from any active move.

COMMENT OF ENGLISH PRESS.

London, March 29.—The morning newspapers comment on the serious news from Samoa, the presumption being that the cruiser Tauranga was stopped at the Fiji Islands by the Admiral because required for service at Samoa.

The Standard says: "The rebellious chiefs must be coerced and punished, and something more than a nominal penalty will be required for the blood of British and American sailors. The German authorities at Apia have incurred a heavy responsibility. We cannot believe that Berlin will uphold their action, as it is not worth Germany's while to quarrel with England and America over Samoa."

The Daily Chronicle says: "There is only one alternative. Germany must remove her consul (Herr Rose) or go out of the protectorate."

The Morning Post commenting upon the "mystery surrounding the affair," and the "impossibility of reconciling the events in Samoa with diplomatic astuteness lately given by Berlin and Washington," says: "Admiral Kautz and his coadjutors were not competent to dismiss the provisional government. The single bright spot in this dark business is that the Americans and British fought splendidly together."

The Daily Mail says, "It is a consolation to think that, as in Crete, the spilling of British and American blood will bring a solution of the crisis. All three powers should recall their consuls and as the friendship of Germany is the pivot of our foreign

Steamer Split in Twain

APPALLING LOSS OF LIFE IN AN EXPLOSION.

With a Thunderous Roar the Rowena Lee Was Hurled Skyward—More Than Fifty People Killed.

St. Louis, Mo., March 29.—A special to the Republic from New Madrid, Mo., says: "The steamer Rowena Lee with 31 passengers aboard, besides her crew, exploded opposite Tyler, Mo., about 4 o'clock this afternoon and immediately sank with all on board, except Captain George Carvell and one of the crew. "The steamer left Cairo with 16 passengers aboard bound for Memphis. "At Caruthersville, Mo., she landed and took aboard 15 more passengers. It is estimated that with passengers and crew she then had aboard about fifty people. "She made the next landing at Tyler, Mo., and at 4 o'clock this afternoon backed into midstream from Tyler to proceed on her journey. The steamer had just reached the middle of the river when she suddenly stopped and lurched as if a snag had been struck. The next moment the boat parted in the middle, a volume of steam and debris arose, and the detonation of an explosion thundered over the water. "The Rowena Lee was manned by the following crew: Captain—George Carvell. First Clerk—L. K. Booker. Second Clerk—Gus Mitchell. Third Clerk—Sam Lewis.

Pilots—Sid Smith and E. Banks. Mates—John Crasty and Patrick Flanagan. Engineers—Albert Calder and Frank Stull. Steward—George W. Todd. Mail Clerk—M. T. Kelly. Most of the crew live in Memphis. The names of her passengers cannot be learned. "The river is running very high and the steamer immediately sank with all on board, but the Captain and one of the crew, they cling to wreckage and were saved by boats."

AN APPALLING LOSS OF LIFE.

Memphis, Tenn., March 29.—The steamer Rowena Lee was owned by the Lee Line of Memphis, and was one of the best passenger steamers in the Mississippi river trade. She plied between Memphis and Cairo. From local river men it was ascertained that the Rowena Lee carried a cabin crew of about 15 officers, and a deck crew numbering about 30. Taking the figures and a fair number of passengers taken on at Cairo and other points it can easily be reasoned that at least 60 people were on board when the disaster occurred.

THE JINGOES ARE REBUKED.

Berlin, March 29.—The Neueste Nachrichten, which disapproves the attitude of the jingo papers in accusing the Government of a lack of vigor regarding Samoan affairs, says: "Germany's position in Europe is not so secure that any strength should be wasted in an attempt to treat transoceanic problems in accordance with the dictates of a lively political fancy."

TAURANGA'S MISSION.

Tonga Islands, March 23, via Auckland, N. Z., March 29.—The British cruiser Tauranga arrived here on March 7th under sealed orders on a secret mission. It is surmised that her visit was the result of rumors of an intended German annexation, the cruiser aiming to secure an agreement that, if any nation is to annex the Tonga Islands, it shall be England. The captain of the Tauranga, before leaving on March 18th, said he had accomplished his mission satisfactorily, and that the German incident had been overrated, the German claim being trifling, except as to the right to a coaling station in the Island of Vavau. It is doubtful whether the German Consul intends to proceed even with this.

GENERAL LEE'S FUTURE.

Will Probably be Made a Brigadier and Remain in Cuba. Havana, March 29.—Governor General Brooke this afternoon received the following dispatch from Puebla, Mexico: "Please publish our energetic protest against slanderous reports stating that the Cubans residing here are trying to help the Tagalos in the Philippines against the United States. We reiterate our public testimony of gratitude and adherence to the United States. This in the name of the Cuban colony at Puebla. (Signed) "ANTONIO HEVIA."

Major General Lee takes so much to heart the breaking up of the Seventh army corps that he will not say good bye to the departing regiments. Of the fourteen thousand men originally constituting the corps, not five thousand remain.

General Lee's future is uncertain. Secretary Alger asked him what he wished, and he replied that he would like the Governorship of Havana Province, exclusive of the city of Havana, and of the Province of Pinar Del Rio, as it is understood the two will be placed in one department. The supposition is that General Lee will be made a brigadier and remain in Cuba in some command.

A GIFT OF TEN MILLION.

Vanderbilt Gives Young W. K. a Princely Fortune. New York, March 29.—The Evening World says: "William K. Vanderbilt has deputed his wedding present to his daughter Consuelo, Duchess of Marlboro, for his son, William K. Vanderbilt, Jr. Securities amounting in value to \$10,000,000 have been turned over to the young man by his father."

A PROMOTER.

"And so her father got rich out of an invention? Well, I'm surprised. He doesn't look as if he knew enough to invent anything."

"He didn't invent anything except a plan for freezing out the inventor."—Chicago News.

At the Gate of Malolos

THE FILIPINOS FIGHT FURIOUSLY IN THE JUNGLE.

Desperate Resistance Expected at Malolos—Country Full of Ashes of Burned Homes, Bodies of Unburied Dead.

Manila, March 29.—(Noon.)—The American army advanced at six o'clock this morning, sweeping onward three miles before 10 o'clock and driving the rebels beyond Boacave, to the east of Bulacan, and on the railroad leading to Malolos. Our troops met with but slight resistance. The Filipinos fired volleys yesterday evening, for the purpose of drawing the American fire and disclosing the locality of our positions. Two men of the Pennsylvania regiment and one man belonging to the 1st Iowa regiment were wounded. The Americans remained silent. "The country between Marilao and Manila presents a picture of desolation. Smoke is curling from hundreds of ash heaps and the remains of trees and fences torn by shrapnel are to be seen everywhere. The general appearance of the country is as if it had been swept by a cyclone. The roads are strewn with furniture and clothing dropped in flight by the Filipinos. "The only persons remaining behind are a few aged persons too infirm to escape. They camp beside the ruins of the former homes and beg passers-by for any kind of assistance. The majority of them are living on the generosity of our soldiers, who give them portions of their rations. "Bodies of dead Filipinos are stranded in the shallows of the river, or are resting in the jungle where they crawled to die of wounds left in the wake of the hurriedly retreating army. There is no time at present to bury them. "The inhabitants who fled from Marilao and Meyeatayan left in such a panic that on tables our soldiers found spread money and valuables, and in the rooms were trunks containing other property of value. "This was the case in most of the houses deserted. They were not molested by our soldiers, but the Chinese who slip in between the armies, are looting when they can and have taken possession of several houses, over which they raised Chinese flags, some of which were torn down. "7:35 P. M.—At daylight General McArthur's division advanced from Marilao along the railroad to Bigaa, five miles distant, with the Nebraska, South Dakota and Pennsylvania regiments on the right, and the Kansas and Montana regiments and the Third artillery on the left. General Wheaton's brigade is in reserve. "The American forces met with strong opposition in the jungle. First one Nebraska, then one Pennsylvania, and afterward two of the Montana regiments were killed. Thirty-five were wounded, including one officer of the Kansas regiment. "The rebels burned the villages as they retreated, in bad order, toward Malolos. "The enemy also tore up sections of the railroad in many places and attempted to burn the bridge at Bigaa, but the fire was extinguished, owing to the timely arrival of the Americans. The rebels had not finished their trenches along the line of to-day's march, showing they were not prepared for our advance. "It is believed, however, that there will be a hard fight before Malolos is taken. "The Minnesota regiment re-enforced the division to-day, marching from the water-works during the night to Manila, and going to the front by train. "THE STORY TOLD BY OTIS. "Washington, March 29.—The following report was received at the War Department to-day from General Otis: "Manila, March 29th. "Adjutant General, Washington. "McArthur's advance yesterday only to outskirts of Marilao; took until late in afternoon to repair road and railroad bridges and send cars through with supplies. Commenced march at six this morning; will march rapidly on Boacave and will continue to Bigaa, seven miles from Malolos. Enemy have destroyed railway and telegraph lines; construction train is following our forces. Enemy's resistance not so vigorous to-day. Our loss thus far slight. Towns in front of our advance being destroyed by fire. Troops in excellent spirits. (Signed) "O. T. S."

OUR BOYS ALMOST AT HER GATES.

Fierce Fighting Brings Them Less Within Than Four Miles of Malolos. Washington, March 29.—The following advices from Manila were received by the War Department to-night: "Manila, March 29th. "Adjutant General, Washington. "MacArthur at six yesterday morning from Marilao, passed rapidly to Boacave. At eleven forty-five took up advance for Bigaa and at three fifteen in the afternoon for Guiguinto, three and one half miles from Malolos, reaching that point at five. Casualties for the day about 70. Fierce fighting in the afternoon. Troops made crossing of river at Guiguinto by working artillery over railroad bridge by hand and swimming mules against fierce resistance. Column will pass on railroad

GEORGETOWN VS. LEHIGH.

Washington, March 29.—Georgetown bunched her hits to-day mainly in the fifth inning and won easily from Lehigh. Kenna struck out 14 men. Score: Georgetown, 9; hits, 11; errors, 3. Lehigh, 2; hits, 4; errors, 5. Batteries: Georgetown—Kenna and Cranston; Lehigh, Kelly and Carmen.

MERRITT GOES TO NEW YORK.

Newport News, March 29.—General Wesley Merritt, who has been resting at Old Point, left for New York to-night. He will make an unofficial visit of inspection to the fortifications there.

to extreme front; nearly repaired and will re-supply troops to-day. (Signed) "OTIS."

DISCUSS WAR SITUATION.

The President Gratified With Otis' Progress. Washington, March 29.—The President discussed with his advisers and callers the situation in the Philippines. Assistant Secretary of War Meiklejohn and Adjutant General Corbin, who have kept close track of the progress of the American army and the condition of the troops were with him for some time. With them he went over the situation and expressed his pleasure at the good progress General Otis and his generals had made, though he regretted the loss of life. The dispatch of General Otis received early this morning was not supplemented by any later news. The opinion was given at the War Department that General Otis had ample force under his command, and that when the regulars now on their way to Manila reached their destination there would be little need of retaining the volunteers in service there. No demand for muster out will hold good until the formal ratification of the peace treaty occurs, and when this will be done is not known. The French Ambassador, who is acting for Spain, has no information on the subject, and does not know when the treaty will be received here. Secretary Alger has reported a favorable condition of affairs in Cuba, and has expressed the opinion that more troops than are now in the island will not be needed. After the volunteers are sent home, there will be 14 regiments with a total of 18,000 men in Cuba, making two regiments of regulars to each province. There was some discussion in official circles regarding the proclamation which the Philippine commission may issue. This action, it is said, is entirely discretionary with the commission. It may issue its proclamation after General Otis reaches Malolos, or it may delay it until the time seems more opportune. The Filipinos abandon Malolos as a capital and go further north, it is possible that the proclamation may be withheld. It is intended that the proclamation shall declare the purpose of the Government of the United States in the Island of Luzon, and it may seem desirable to establish fully the authority of the United States over the island before any such step is taken.

DEATH OF GENERAL FLAGLER.

He Passes Away at Old Point After Acute Suffering. Newport News, Va., March 29.—Brigadier General D. V. Flagler is dead. After many weeks of suffering from rheumatism, which recently developed acute and distressing phases, General Flagler passed away this afternoon at the Hygeia Hotel at Old Point, whither he came three weeks ago by advice of his physicians in the hope of obtaining at least an amelioration of the suffering attendant upon his ailments. The General's wife and daughter were constantly at his bedside during the past week, and with tender hands and loving devotion, soothed him in his last hours. The patient's attending physicians from the day of his arrival at Old Point, was the best surgeon at Fort Monroe, who spent much of his time in the sick room giving his personal attention to the case of the invalid. The body will be prepared for burial and removal to Washington to-morrow afternoon. General Flagler at the time of his death was Chief of Ordnance, U. S. A.

INFANTICIDE DIES IN JAIL.

Wilson, N. C., March 29.—(Special.)—Della Green, a negro woman who was in jail upon the charge of infanticide, died last night. She was arrested in Halifax county, where she had gone after the destruction of her baby. The body of the newly born infant was found in the garden of the house, in which she lived before she left Wilson. The body showed that it had been partially burned.

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