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LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

In the Filipino Capital VICTORIOUS AMERICAN ARMY RESTING AND FEASTING. The Patience and Endurance of the Private Soldiers the Most Noteworthy Feature of the Campaign.

Manila, March 31.—3:55 p. m.—The American flag was raised over Malolos at 10 o'clock this morning. The Kansas regiment and the Montana regiment, on entering the city, found it deserted, the Presidencia burning and the rebels retreating toward the mountains in a state of terror. It is believed they cannot in future make even a faint resistance. The American loss was small.

It is evident that the rebels had for some time past abandoned all hope of holding their capital, for the Americans found there evidences of elaborate preparations for evacuation. On the railroad the rails and ties for about a mile had been torn up and probably thrown into the river. The only prisoners captured were a few Chinese. They said Aguinaldo left Malolos on Wednesday. The principal citizens of Malolos, their families and goods have been taken into the country over the railroad, while others departed on foot, carrying their possessions and driving their cattle and other animals before them.

Most of the rebel forces were removed yesterday evening to positions east of the railroad, leaving only a small band in the strong trenches in front of Malolos.

General MacArthur started for the rebel capital at 7 o'clock this morning with two rapid fire guns flanking the track, two guns of the Utah battery on the right, and two guns of the Sixth artillery on the left of the rapids, firing continually.

The Kansas and Montana regiments moved upon Malolos and the Nebraska and Pennsylvania regiments and the Third artillery kept along the right of the railroad.

The only effective stand made by the rebels was at a bamboo and earthen work, half a mile from Malolos and on the right, where the Nebraska regiment, as was the case yesterday, had the hardest work and suffered the greatest loss.

Colonel Funston, always at the front, was the first man in Malolos, followed by a group of dashing Kansans.

The Filipino flag, which was flying from the centre of the town, was hauled down by some men of the Montana regiment who triumphantly raised their own.

From the columns of smoke arising from the city it seemed as if the whole place was ablaze. It turned out, however, that only the Presidencia, or government building and a few smaller buildings, had been set fire by the rebels before they evacuated the place.

From the reports gathered by the American officers, from prisoners and others, it is believed that the rebel army is constantly losing strength on account of desertions, and that although the enemy may make one or two more stands, the forces of Aguinaldo will degenerate, in perhaps a month, to a few hundred who may continue waging a guerrilla warfare in the mountains.

The American troops behaved splendidly. They advanced steadily against successive lines of trenches, through woods and jungles and suffering from frightful heat. In addition, the American volunteers were handicapped in fighting by the fact that their Springfield rifles are of shorter range than the Mauser rifles in the hands of the rebels. Under those circumstances, the steady advance of our troops is a really remarkable achievement.

But the most noteworthy feature of this onward sweep of the Americans is the patience and endurance of the private soldiers. They have never hesitated to plunge across any kind of difficult country, against any number of the enemy, and in the face of positions of entirely unknown strength.

The victorious American army is feasting on coconuts and bananas and enjoying a well earned rest, while the hospital train is carrying the wounded to Manila.

Hall's brigade advanced to-day from Marikina up to the Mateo river valley almost to Montalban, driving the enemy to the hills on the north. The rebels were in considerable force at the junction of the rivers Nanea and Ampit with the Mateo; but the American artillery soon scattered them with heavy loss. The American loss was one killed, Lieutenant Gregg, of the Fourth infantry. General Hall eventually retreated to the waterworks.

General King advanced from San Pedro Macati, establishing headquarters at Pasig.

Recently issued copies of the Republica Filipina, Aguinaldo's official organ, contain a proclamation to the effect that certain parties are raiding the northern towns and ordering the same to join the Filipino army immediately or take the consequences when Aguinaldo shall have finished with the Americans.

This is construed as meaning that Macabulos, the Governor of the five northern provinces, is unfriendly to Aguinaldo. If this be true, Aguinaldo's retreat is undoubtedly cut off at the railroad beyond San Fernando.

The Republica Filipina on March 23rd, published an extra edition containing a statement to the effect that the Americans had attacked Pasig, that many of them were killed, and a majority of the remainder were wounded, while 180 of them were taken prisoners.

A second paragraph in the same edition asserted that the Americans had ravished three hundred of the Filipino's fairest daughters, and called upon the natives to "defend their honor with their lives against oppressors who spared neither age, sex nor condition, murdering whole families in cold blooded revenge."

The American steamer Roanoke recently picked up a native boat containing a dozen Spanish prisoners who had escaped from Dagupan, and had been nearly three days afloat with neither food nor water.

They reported that the prisoners expected to be killed when the Americans advanced, but knew nothing of the fate of those in the southern towns.

NATIVES TO FIGHT NATIVES.

The Government Will Probably Employ Them in the Rainy Season.

Washington, March 31.—The following dispatch was received at the War Department early this morning:

"Manila, March 31st.

"Adjutant General, Washington.

"Troops resting at Malolos, considerable portion of city destroyed by fire. Our casualties one killed, fifteen wounded. Hall has returned with his troops to former position north of Manila."

It is said at the War Department that General Otis will not make a campaign during the rainy season, nor is it believed that he will at present chase the Filipinos into the mountain fastnesses of Luzon. The officials consider it evident that the fight that was in Aguinaldo has been whipped out of him and it is believed he cannot hold the Filipino army together much longer.

If General Otis advises, the War Department will approve a cessation of active hostilities or further forward movement, when little can be accomplished save chasing the Filipinos without definite results. A short rest will determine whether the Filipinos intend to keep up a guerrilla warfare and if so a plan is already maturing to meet any such contingency. Natives will be employed to fight the guerrillas, and as the Government can give them better pay and afford them greater protection than Aguinaldo there is no doubt about the ability to employ natives in this way. If there must be guerrilla fighting during the rainy season, which will soon be upon the Philippines, the United States will not sacrifice its troops in such warfare if natives can be obtained.

IMPERIALISM IN THE CHURCH.

Georgia State Baptist Convention in Session at Savannah.

Savannah, Ga., March 31.—The Georgia State Baptist Convention began its seventy-seventh annual convention here this morning. Ex-Governor W. J. Northern is the presiding officer.

The address of welcome was responded to by Rev. Dr. Lansing Burrows, D. D., of Augusta, who is secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. Burrows said that the welcome was accepted in the spirit in which it was extended.

Dr. Burrows touched upon the policy of imperialism during his address. Tremendous changes had occurred since the convention met in Augusta a year ago, Dr. Burrows said. He spoke of the war and its results. The opportunity for which we prayed has come, he said. The shells of Sampson and the guns of Lee have made for us an open door. Dr. Burrows declared that he was an expansionist and an imperialist. He was calmly watching the developments of the Providence of God and was not troubled about what the future might bring forth.

POSTAL GETS RIGHT OF WAY.

Richmond, Va., March 31.—By a decision handed down in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals to-day, the Postal Telegraph Company obtains the right of condemnation of right of way along the Southern Railway in North Carolina.

GERMANY GROWLS A WARNING.

Berlin, March 31.—The comment on the Samoan situation continues furly moderate, though the papers naturally defend the German officials and throw all the blame on the American and English. The Kreuz Zeitung reminds Great Britain and the United States, that Germany is not Spain, and that German peaceable national combinations," it says, "besides the Anglo-German entente."

CUBAN DELEGATES.

Washington, March 31.—The delegates from the Cuban assembly, Messrs. Vilhala and Hevia, called informally at the State Department to-day and had a long conversation with Secretary Hay. The affairs in Cuba were freely discussed, and the delegates presented the resolution of the Cuban Assembly. Secretary Hay assured the delegates that the United States Government would not increase the amount to pay the Cuban army above the three million dollars already set to Cuba. He said this matter could not be further considered. He also informed them that the President would not consent to any scheme for raising money by the Cuban Assembly to pay the Cuban troops. Later the Secretary mentioned the call to the President, and the President informed him that there would be no other or further answer to the delegation than had already been given by the Secretary.

When a man marries an heiress he isn't very anxious for her to retain her charms.

IT CONCEDES TOO MUCH, THEY CRY

Some German Papers Attack the Government.

SAY WE ACT IN BAD FAITH

A CHARGE OUR AMBASSADOR DECLARES FALSE.

THE PRESS, GENERALLY, HOWEVER, FAIR

The Delegates from the Cuban Assembly

Now in Washington, Are Assured that

It Is Useless to Ask for More Money.

Berlin, March 31.—The United States

Ambassador, Mr. Andrew D. White, visited

the Foreign Office this morning and informed

the officials there that the latest proposals of Germany regarding

Samoa had been favorably received at

Washington.

The attitude of the press is fair and

moderate, though some of the newspapers

are attacking the authorities bitterly, claiming

that they are making too many concessions to the United States

and Great Britain.

The German press having strongly

intimated that Mr. White and the American

Government showed bad faith when they

recently assured Germany that conciliatory

instructions had been cable

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to Admiral Kautz. Mr. White has

deemed it advisable to denounce this as

a libel and as untrue, adding that neither

Washington nor he knew anything of the

Samoa bombardment sooner than the

German Government.

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POWERS REACH AN AGREEMENT

Joint High Commission to be Created.

IT IS GERMANY'S IDEA

TO WRESTLE WITH THE SAMOAN PROBLEM.

IT WILL BE GIVEN THE FULLEST POWERS

No Doubt Entertained that a Satisfactory

Solution of the Difficulty Will be Reached.

A Cute Stage of the Samoan

Affair Post.

Washington, March 31.—A Joint High

Commission to settle the entire Samoan

trouble has been practically agreed upon

by the United States, British and German

Governments. Lord Salisbury's absence

from London alone delays the formal

acceptance by Great Britain, though in his

absence Sir Thomas Sanderson and Mr.

Villiers, who are understood to be especially

familiar with the Samoan question, have

approved the plan for a commission. The

United States has informally expressed its

approval, and the formal acceptance, it is

learned from the highest quarter, will

follow speedily. As the proposition

emanates with Germany, her approval,

of course, is assured. This high com-

mission, it is felt, affords a pacific

solution to the whole trouble at the moment

when Samoan affairs began to look the

most threatening.

The new plan has been fully gone over

by Secretary Hay and the British and

German Ambassadors here, and its

essential details worked out. Each nation

is to be represented by one member on

the commission. It is to have practically

unlimited authority, without the necessity

of referring its decisions back to the

several Governments for approval. It is

felt that by conferring such complete and

final authority on the high commission

the danger will be obviated of any further

deadlocks and delays.

Still another important provision under

consideration is that King Oscar, of Norway

and Sweden, shall be the umpire in case

the three high commissioners should fail

to reach a determination. The plan of

inviting King Oscar to referee a dispute

meets the approval of the British and

German authorities, and doubtless will

be approved also by the United States

as a means of ensuring finality of decision,

though it is not known just how far this

has been considered by the Washington

authorities. King Oscar was agreed upon

between the United States and Great Britain

as a final arbitrator in connection with

the proposed Anglo-American arbitration

treaty, as well as in the Venezuelan matter.

He is also mentioned in the treaty of

Berlin as the one to name a chief justice

of Samoa in case the three signatory

powers fail to agree on a chief justice.

It was this that led to the suggestion

of his name at the present time to act

as final arbitrator.

The expectation is that the sittings of

the commission will be in Samoa, where,

for the time being they will have complete

authority over the whole range of

(Continued on Second Page.)

Their Grave to Ocean STEAMER STELLA CRASHES ON THE CASQUET ROCKS.

Seventy People Believed to Have Perished—

Captain at His Post as the Steamer

Went Down.

Southampton, March 31.—The passenger steamer Stella, plying between this port and the Channel Islands, crashed upon the dreaded Casquet Rocks, near the Island of Alderney, yesterday afternoon in a dense fog and foundered in ten minutes, her boilers exploding as she went down. Reports as to the number lost are conflicting, but the officials of the London and Southwestern Railway Company, which company owns the boat, said that the drowned will not exceed seventy. Other reports make the loss much higher. Three boats, including a collapsible boat, are missing.

The Stella left Southampton at noon yesterday, conveying the first daylight excursion of the season to the Channel Islands. There were about 185 passengers on board and the crew numbered 35 men. The weather was foggy but all went well until the afternoon, when the fog became more dense.

At four o'clock the Casquet Rocks suddenly loomed up through the fog bank and the steamer almost immediately afterwards struck amidships. The captain, seeing that the Stella was fast sinking, ordered the life boats to be launched. His instructions were carried out with the utmost celerity, and the women and children were embarked in the boats. Then the captain ordered the men to look after themselves.

A survivor states that he and twenty-five others put off from the Stella in a small boat. The sea was calm, but there was a big swirl around the rocks. When this boat was a short distance away from the wreck, the boilers of the Stella burst with a terrific explosion, and the vessel disappeared stern foremost in the sea.

The last thing the survivor saw was the figure of the captain of the Stella standing calmly on the bridge and giving his last instructions. The captain perished with his vessel owing to the suction caused by the sinking steamer being very great indeed.

Continuing, the survivor referred to said:

"The suction was so tremendous that we thought our boat would be engulfed. I saw five boats and the collapsible boat, beside our boat, leave the wreck. They contained altogether between eighty and a hundred persons. Five of the boats were soon lost to view, but we took a boat filled with women in tow, and the occupants of our boat took the oars in turn and rowed all night long until most of us dropped asleep, thoroughly exhausted.

"We sighted a sailboat at six o'clock in the morning but the same company, which arrived at the Island of Jersey at about noon to-day, reports having passed many bodies of victims of the disaster about the Casquet Rocks.

A survivor of the disaster named Bush, says the speed of the Stella in the fog was not diminished, though the fog whistles were sounded. Bush adds that at 3:30 a. m. the engineer showed him in the engine room a dial registering a speed of 18½ knots. He says the vessel struck within twenty-five minutes afterward.

Bush asserts that two life boats were sunk with the steamer which, after resting on the rocks for ten or fifteen minutes, split in two and disappeared.

Continuing, Bush said:

"When the Stella disappeared forty or fifty persons were discovered clinging to pieces of wreckage or cabin furniture and crying piteously for help. All the passengers and crew had been provided with life belts, and there was little panic as the ship sank. I first slipped into the water and then swam to one of the boats, into which I was helped. We rowed apparently in the direction of Guern-

sey, but seven hours later we found ourselves near the scene of the wreck, and saw dozens of persons clinging to the rocks."

The boat in which Bush was a passenger was afterward picked up by the Lynx.

The passengers all agree that perfect order and discipline prevailed on board the Stella. The crew promptly took up their stations when the steamer struck, served out the life belts and lowered the boats.

The scene at the moment of the sinking of the vessel was heartrending. Women were screaming and praying and people were clinging to spars and other wreckage in all directions. Those who had succeeded in getting into the boats had a narrow escape from being engulfed on account of the suction caused by the sinking vessel.

The voice of Captain Rooks, from the bridge, was frequently heard urging the rowers to pull for their lives.

The boats were adrift for fifteen hours, during which time their occupants were without food or water, and as their clothes were drenched they suffered greatly.

The disaster is generally attributed to the high speed at which the steamer was travelling in the fog.

It is thought probable that the Partons were the only Americans on board the Stella, as the list of survivors does not contain the names of any other Americans so far as known.

The second mate was the only officer of the Stella who was saved.

The captain and the other officers, most of the crew and many of the passengers sank with the Stella. A boat in charge of the chief officer capsized and almost all its occupants were drowned. A few of them were picked up by other boats.

The steamer Honfleur returned to-night after having made the circles of the Casquet Rocks. She picked up two boats containing women's clothing, money, jewelry and an opera glass case. The last had evidently been used in bailing.

Many pathetic incidents are reported. In several cases men lifted their wives and children into the boats and then perished themselves in their presence. One wife, who was thus bereaved, lost her reason.

A large number of the survivors arrived here without any clothing, clad only in blankets.

THE STORY OF DR. KING.

London, March 31.—The news of the disaster to the Stella spread slowly through London, in the absence of the usual evening newspapers, to-day being Good Friday. As the afternoon advanced, small groups gathered at the Waterloo station, where many painful scenes transfixed among the inquirers for friends at the railway offices. A large crowd collected to wait the arrival of the train from Southampton at nine this evening, which brought the three survivors, Messrs. David King, a London merchant; Heilbron and Greener, all of whom were wrapped in great rags and bore traces of their sufferings. They were immediately surrounded and anxiously questioned.

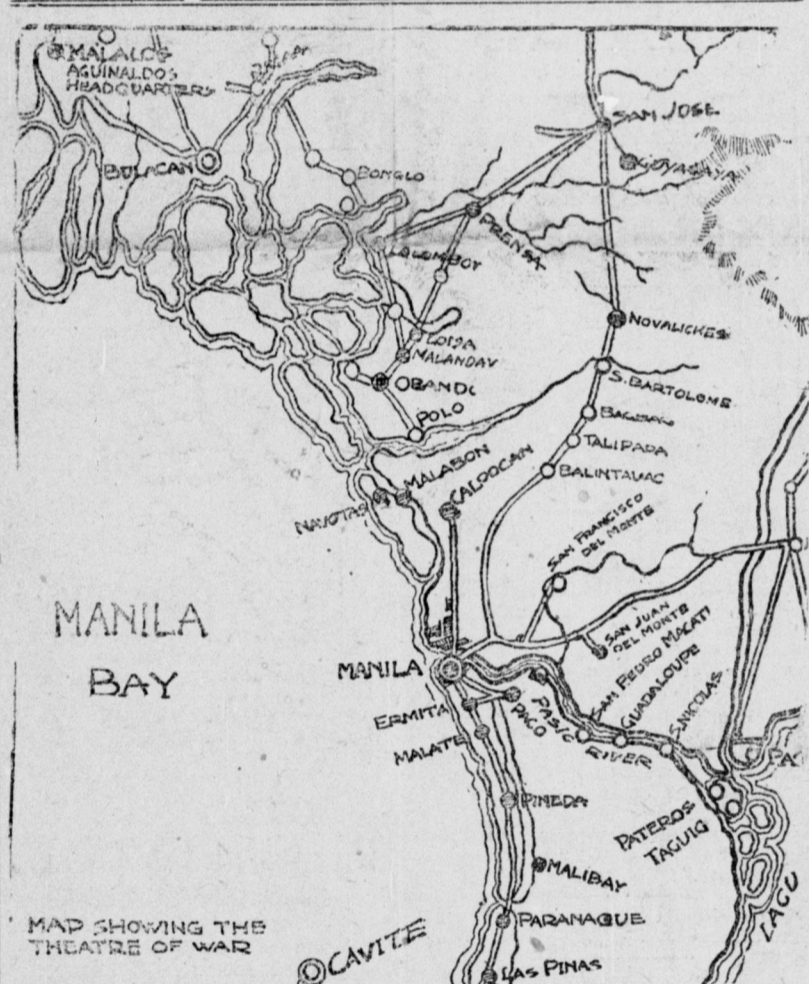
Mr. King, who was among the last to leave the ship, said:

"The greater part of yesterday was exceedingly pleasant, but toward evening we encountered a mist, which soon developed into a dense fog. There was, however, no apprehension. Suddenly a great shock told us that the Stella had struck the rocks. The cohesiveness of the officers considerably allayed the excitement. The crew behaved splendidly, lowering the boats with the greatest promptitude. Every woman was supplied with a life belt. At first we thought there would be time for all the boats to clear away; but the heaviest burst, reaching the ship amidships."

Mr. King and two firemen, O'Shann and Bailey, were the last to leave the vessel. He had just given up a life belt to aid a clergyman's wife, and was pulled into a boat by Second Mate Reynolds, who was instrumental in saving many lives.

The boat with twenty-two persons drifted for fifteen hours in the intense cold and was finally picked up by the Great Western Railway's steamer Vera, from Southampton.

Mr. King believes that five boats were launched. He saw one returned, with children clinging to it.



A CORNER OF LUZON THAT WILL LIVE IN HISTORY.

CONVICT LEASE EXPIRES.

Georgia's Felons Will Now be Leased for Five Years.

Atlanta, Ga., March 31.—The twenty-year convict lease, out of which have grown so many investigations, so many scandals and so much alleged cruelty, expired to-night at midnight, and the lessees who have enjoyed the profit of the felons' toil for twenty years gave up the convicts.

For the past twenty years lessees have had the keeping of convicts and were permitted to administer punishment. Under the new arrangements, which were ordered by the last Legislature, convicts will be leased for five

year terms only, and the State will clothe, feed and guard them.

It is estimated that there are now in the State penitentiary about twenty-four hundred convicts, and they are to be distributed among eighteen contractors who recently made bids for the labor of the felons. The transfer of the convicts from the different camps will require considerable time and many transfer guards, and will begin to-morrow.

Some of the camps under the old lease have given up all convict labor and will hereafter employ free labor; other camps will get the convicts again.

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