

The Semi-Weekly Messenger.

VOL. XXXI. NO. 75.

WILMINGTON, N. C., TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 1898.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

THE INVESTIGATION

Into the Conduct of the War Department to be Rigid and Thorough.

MONEY ORDER RULES EXTENDED

So as to Allow Orders Issued Payable on the Office of Issue--Ten Six Inch Guns Taken from the Maria Teresa--This Cruiser to be Floated Tomorrow--Redistribution of the Army to be Made--Our Peace Commissioners Sail from New York--Howell Accepts the Commission.

Washington, September 17.—Mr. Evan P. Howell, of Atlanta, Ga., who was asked by the president to serve on the commission to investigate certain departments of the army in connection with the war, was at the White House today and formally accepted the appointment. In his interview the president assured Mr. Howell that it was his purpose to secure a commission which, without fear or favor, would probe to the bottom the charges made by newspapers and individuals, involving the efficiency and integrity of officers of the army, and give to the country the facts. The secretary of war had asked for an investigation and the president thought it due to all concerned that the investigation be made at once by a commission in whose honesty of purpose and ability there could be no question. Under these circumstances Mr. Howell assured the president that he would gladly accept the appointment, as he regarded it a duty which no citizen should evade. Mr. Howell thought that there would be no necessity for the commission to leave Washington during the inquiry officers for its use would be secured in or convenient to the war department, where the official records would be at hand. The only purpose of the commission in securing, if possible, nine members of the commission, is to lighten the labors of the individual members. According to his idea, the work of the commission could be parcelled out to sub-committees so that the larger the commission, the easier would be the work of the individual members. If, however, the president is unable to secure the services of nine members he will proceed with seven. He expects that in any event the commission will be completed within the next few days. The gentlemen who already have accepted or who, it is confidently expected, will consent to serve are: Mr. Sexton, General Dodge, Mr. Denby, Mr. Howell, Mr. Gillman and Dr. Keene. As to the power of the commission to compel officers and others to testify as to facts within their knowledge, the president assured Mr. Howell that if the commission met with any difficulty in that regard, which, however, he did not expect, the president, would know the reason why.

After half an hour's conference with the president today General Schofield announced that he would not serve as a member of the commission.

MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE AT OFFICE OF ISSUE.

The public will greatly appreciate the convenience afforded through an order issued today by First Assistant Postmaster General Heath, which authorizes postmasters to issue money orders payable at their own offices. This practice has not been heretofore followed and the new departure will be an accommodation to the great number of people, who, not having an account at a bank, desire to follow this economical and absolutely safe method in payment of bills, etc. These money orders may now be used, for illustration, in payment of gas bills, merchants' and grocers' bills, etc. In smaller places, the person indebted to a farmer may have an order drawn in favor of the latter, payable to him at any time and sent to him by a neighbor who obtains and delivers the mail for the neighborhood, the entire cost, say for \$10, being but 10 cents.

The war department today received a dispatch from General Brooke, dated Ponce, stating that these American soldiers died in Porto Rico yesterday from typhoid fever.

TO FLOAT THE MARIA TERESA TOMORROW.

Captain Crowninshield, who was today acting as secretary of the navy, received a cablegram from Commodore Watson as Guantanamo, stating that the wreckers have recovered ten six-inch guns from the Spanish flagship Maria Teresa and placed them on the coffer Leondas. The commodore says that it is expected the Spanish ship will be floated next Monday and he will start for home Tuesday. He is under orders to take command at the Mare Island navy yard.

The reports received at the navy department indicate that the big tropical hurricane, which did so much damage in Barbadoes, did not strike near the United States naval vessels at Guantanamo, but passed well to the eastward.

It is learned that the monitor Amphitrite, which was recently reported as broken down at Mole St. Nicholas, Hayti, is now on her way to Norfolk, in tow of the cruiser Yosemite.

DISPOSITION OF CAVALRY REGIMENTS.

Orders will be issued from the war department for the disposition of the five regiments of regular cavalry now at Camp Wheeler in command of Major General Wheeler. Three of them are to be sent to Camp Greble to be designated within 100 miles of Huntsville, Ala., the Second regiment is to go to South Dakota to relieve the Eighth regiment, with headquarters at Fort Meade, and the Ninth is to be distributed throughout Arizona and New

Mexico, to relieve the Seventh now stationed in those territories.

REDISTRIBUTION OF THE ARMY.

General Miles, who has recovered from his slight attack of fever, and Acting Secretary of War Meikeljohn called on the president today concerning several important questions involved in the reorganization of the army on the basis of the changed conditions arising since the war. In general, the plan consists in reducing the volunteer army about one-half and then redistributing the remaining forces, regular and volunteers, to our new possessions and dependencies, viz: Manila, Hawaii, Porto Rico, Cuba, Ladrones, etc., at the same time maintaining sufficient garrisons in the United States. In the redistribution of troops a new military department will be created, including Cuba and Porto Rico.

OUR COMMISSIONERS SAIL.

New York, September 17.—The United States commissioners to conclude the peace with Spain sailed today on board the Cunard Line steamer Campania, en route to Paris. The commission consists of former Secretary of State William R. Day, United States senators William P. Frye, Cushman K. Davis and George Gray, and Whiteley Reid.

Each commissioner is accompanied on the trip by his wife or other members of the family. In the party also are J. B. Moore, secretary and counsel to the commission; John R. MacArthur, assistant secretary, and wife; Frank Branagan, disbursing clerk, and wife; Mrs. Banagan; Miss Atkinson and Miss McNaughton, stenographers, and Edward Savory and Henry Freeman, confidential messengers.

Prior to going on board the steamer, Judge Day said to a reporter: "We had a conference with the cabinet before leaving Washington, at which I was except Senator Gray. All understand the wishes of the cabinet with reference to the terms of the treaty and I believe that there will be practically no change after our conference with the Spanish commissioners."

"Do you expect much opposition to the terms from the Spanish commissioners?"

"I regard that America's terms will be considered as reasonable, and, therefore, I believe the work of the commission will not be impeded by useless discussion."

Senator Frye would say nothing as to the intentions of the commissioners. As to the commissioners going to Paris with set duties and irrefragable conditions to be placed before the Spanish commissioners, the senator said that school boys might just as well be sent if such were the case. He declared that nobody could tell what new conditions might arise which could have as a result the dismissal of the whole by the commission.

THE SPANISH COMMISSIONERS.

London, September 17.—A special dispatch from Madrid says the Spanish peace commissioners were appointed today. They are Senor Montero Rios, president of the senate, who is president of the commission; General Corrales and Senors Abarzuza, Villarutia and Garnica. The Spanish commission the dispatch adds, will start for Paris on September 25th.

The Supposed Murderer Girl Returns.

Middleboro, Mass., September 17.—The supposed victim of the Bridgeport, Conn., murder, Miss Marian Grace Perkins, arrived at her home this afternoon in perfect health, to the great joy of the family and the unbounded astonishment of the entire community. Her father was not in town, for at the time of his daughter's arrival, he was on his way back from Bridgeport with the grewsome remains which he had identified as those of Grace, and for which funeral arrangements, including the digging of the grave had already been completed. Miss Perkins came from Providence, R. I., and was accompanied by her lover, Charles Bourne, and at first it was stated that the couple had been married. This was afterwards denied by young Bourne's uncle. Just across the street from Perkins' house is a little cemetery and only this morning, in response to the request of the uncle of Mrs. Perkins a grave had been dug by the sexton in the family lot and the new earth thrown up beside it could be plainly seen from the home. Half an hour after Miss Perkins' arrival home, a local undertaker's wagon drove up to the house, and in it was the coffin which had been ordered by the family. The funeral arrangements had even gone so far that the family minister had been asked to conduct the services.

Hester's Cotton Reports.

New Orleans—September 16.—Secretary Hester's statement of the world's supply of cotton shows an increase for the week just closed of 22,819 bales, against an increase of 94,738 last year and in increase of 21,231 in 1894. The total visible is 1,598,683 bales, against 1,577,064 last week and 1,113,688 last year. Of this the total of American cotton is 1,402,883 bales, against 1,375,064 last week and 912,688 last year.

The best medicine you can take is that which builds a solid foundation for health in pure, rich blood—Hood's Sarsaparilla.

A NEW RAILWAY SYSTEM

The Baltimore and Ohio Purchased by Chicago Capitalists--To Form Part of a Great Trans-Continental Line.

Chicago, September 17.—The Times-Herald says: Philip D. Armour, Marshall Field and Norman B. Ream have secured control of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad. They have made James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern railway, the dominating factor in the re-organization of the system and have gained for the Chicago and Northwestern what is practically a trunk line from ocean to ocean controlled by Chicago capitalists. The price paid is not known.

Cincinnati, September 17.—Mr. E. R. Bason, president of the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern Railway Company, who has been engaged for some time with the New York committee, Spere & Co., and Kuhn, Loek & Co., bankers, and the receivers, in assisting in the readjustment of the affairs of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, was in town today and was interviewed about the purchase of the control of the Baltimore and Ohio road. He said a number of representative men identified with large railway manufacturing and commercial interests in the northwest, Chicago, New York and other cities on the company's line had been for some time negotiating for the purchase of a very substantial interest in the Baltimore and Ohio road, and that such negotiations had been brought to a successful conclusion. That under the reorganization simple means had been provided for cutting down grades, increasing capacity and facilities of the road and putting it in a condition to promptly and economically handle largely increased business. That the reorganization managers had also decided that the subsidiary lines, including the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern, should be likewise traded and arrangements were now being concluded to readjust the affairs of such lines and secure capital to put them in the same condition as the main line.

Baltimore, September 17.—J. H. Madry, the press agent of the Baltimore and Ohio railway tonight said to a representative of the Associated Press that the statement made in Cincinnati today by E. R. Bacon, president of the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern, is semi-official and added that no further statement would be issued at present.

St. Paul, Minn., September 17.—President J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern railroad, returned from Chicago today and made this statement to an Associated Press representative regarding the Baltimore and Ohio reorganization story:

"Any connection I may have with the Baltimore and Ohio is simply for the purpose of putting that road on its feet and making it what it was at one time—one of the most important roads in the country. Recently it has failed to such an extent that it was an incubus. Any intention I may have with regard to the Baltimore and Ohio has no connection with the Great Northern. Neither has the Great Northern or myself any connection with any railroad between St. Paul and Chicago; and, furthermore, neither do I expect to have any such connection. Some one who is responsible for statements to the contrary has an imagination that is altogether too vivid."

Further than this, Mr. Hill had nothing to say regarding the matter.

No Malaria at Camp Cuba Libre

Jacksonville, Fla., September 17.—Dr. James Carroll, the bacteriological specialist who has been sent here by the government at Washington to make an investigation into the diseases prevailing in Camp Cuba Libre, and particularly with regard to malarial and typhoid fevers, has concluded his labors and announces most positively that he has been unable to find a single case of malarial infection. This speaks volumes for the naturally healthy conditions of Jacksonville and surrounding country. The continued fever cases are said to be typhoid.

Des Moines, Iowa, September 17.—We believe the soldiers encamped at Camp Cuba Libre are cared for as well as it is possible for a large body of men encamped anywhere in the United States. This is the conclusion of a report filed today by Governor Shaw, by Colonel H. Egbert, of Davenport, and Dr. F. W. Parsons, of Rivenbeck. They were special commissioners appointed to investigate the conditions and needs of the Forty-ninth Iowa, now at Jacksonville and the Fifteenth which has returned since their visit.

The Philippine Assembly

Manila, Philippine Islands, September 17.—The Philippine national assembly which was inaugurated at Malolos yesterday continues in session and is proceeding with the work of appointing committees, formulating rules of procedure and other routine matters. The assembly today unanimously resolved to reject the proposal of a joint Spanish-American protectorate over the Philippine islands, or anything of a Spanish nature.

There are three parties represented in the assembly, one favoring absolute annexation and another absolute independence, while the third is formed of compromise annexationists, who apparently predominate and who suggest internal autonomy. The assembly will probably conclude its discussion of this matter in a few days.

To Reorganize the Militia

Tallahassee, Fla., September 16.—Governor Bloxham today issued a call addressed to the governor of each state for a national convention to assemble in Tampa, February 8th 1899, for the purpose of discussing plans for a re-organization of the state militia.

OUR PEOPLE ARE UNITED

Cheering News From all Parts of the State.

SURGEON STOCKARD

To Be Put on Trial this Week--The Present Small Arms Cartridge a North Carolina Invention--Mrs. W. E. Shipp Receives the Lieutenant's Sabre--The Sick of the Second Regiment--The Small Mast Crop Indicates an Open Winter.

Messenger Bureau, Raleigh, N. C., September 16.

It appears that as to the Second regiment there is lack of administrative ability. Weeks ago there were complaints that the chief surgeon was unfit for his position. The chief surgeon is Dr. Stockard. There was an inquiry as to the management of the hospital which in effect condemned him, and it is odd that he did not resign. Colonel Burgwyn is now called on to have an investigation made as to the gravest charges against Dr. Stockard. These are that he has not been at camp since the troops have returned here, but has hung around the hotels and shammed sickness. Today he was in bed. The complaints as to him are widespread. He alone can order medicine. He alone can buy the delicacies for the sick, under the government allowance for the sick. Up to today there was no hospital. Today the Young Men's Christian Association tent was fitted up as a hospital and twenty-five cots put in it. There are eighteen sick, a hospital steward stands nearby with material trouble, but no cases of any degree of seriousness. Last night Colonel Burgwyn was in his quarters when he was told that a soldier was sick and that there was no hospital and no medicine and no chief surgeon on the ground. He was very angry and said that the medicine must be had if he paid for it himself. The sick man was of the Gastonia company and its officers are greatly incensed at Dr. Stockard's neglect.

The regiment was reviewed this afternoon after a march through the city. Many invited guests were at the executive mansion to witness the review by the governor.

It was said this morning to be as yet uncertain as to the date of the thirty days furlough. Colonel Burgwyn said last night that there was telegraphing to Washington in regard to it, but that he did not know the date of the beginning of the furloughs.

Some of the men are complaining about the food and coffee. Specimens of both have been kept at the newspaper offices. An investigation will be made. Some of the men make charges that the supplies issued so liberally by the government have not found their way to the men.

John C. Drewry, of Raleigh, is appointed marshal of the state fair, October 24th-29th.

The Capital Club will have guests from all over the state at its "house warming" during the week. The entertainment it will then give will cost \$1,000, it is said.

There is a laughable phase of politics in this district. Two of three democrats tried to start a movement to have Congressman Strowd, populist, nominated. But this would never do, except as a joke. A straight democrat was nominated on the 29th. It is said now that there are two or three aspirants. Ed. Chambers Smith says that while he is not seeking the nomination he will accept it if it is given him.

The republicans here express disappointment that Senator Butler in his opening campaign speech at Jacksonville yesterday did not endorse fusion with the republicans. He kept perfectly silent on that subject. He spoke against trusts and combines and in favor of government ownership of railroads and telegraphs. Then he took a turn the republicans like by denouncing the democrats as "liars and hypocrites, who are trying to deceive the people by the cry of 'Nigger'." He declared there was no such thing as negro supremacy in North Carolina and charged white men with hiring negroes to make themselves offensive, so as to use this for capital for campaign purposes. Then he made another tack and declared that "this is a white man's country and the sooner the negroes understand it the better. It will be best for them if you will elect a populist legislature. We will give you a white man's government."

There is practically no bankruptcy business in this district—only three cases.

Over 300 pupils have arrived at the blind institution here.

Judge Norwood passed here yesterday on his way to hold Eastern court. Judge Carter, who it is decided is not the judge, has been paid \$584 as salary.

Five of the soldiers of the Third (negro) regiment were slightly hurt in a wreck near Asheville, early yesterday morning.

The republicans are circulating in pamphlet form large numbers of copies of C. Y. Thomson's speech which he made at Clinton.

It is said that not a single street railway in this state pays expenses. An official here makes the statement: "The mosquitoes at Tybee must be terrible fellows. Some of the officers and men have many sores, as large as a dime, made by these insects."

The Second regiment yesterday afternoon had the first dress parade since its return here. The drill ground is in 300 yards of camp. All the regiment is in tents, two companies being in shelter tents. The latter are better than the large tents. Most of the latter are old. The Fayetteville and Greenville companies have new tents.

The absence of John R. Smith, who

is the "make believe" commissioner of agriculture, is one of the standing jokes here. It is said he has not been in his office two days in the past two months. Nobody misses him.

A negro alderman of this city who recently held his wife while his paramour best her in his own house, will be tried next Monday by Mayor Russ.

The provost guard of the Second regiment kept very good order in the city last night. The night before some of the provost guard were drunk and were placed in the guard house.

Colonel Armfield, of the First regiment, is said to be the senior volunteer colonel in the United States. He is now acting as brigadier general.

The populist (fusion) handbook actually contains a couple of affidavits that George H. White, the negro congressman, did not make the outrageous speech at the republican state convention here, which has been so freely quoted. There are scores of people who will swear to the report of the speech.

Judge Simonton says the Postal Telegraph Company can place its wires alongside the railroads. The Western Union has a "contract" which was thought to be a "cinch." The Western Union will appeal the case.

Messenger Bureau, Raleigh, N. C., September 17.

It is expected that the court of inquiry to examine into the charges of neglect of duty, absence without leave and incompetence against the chief surgeon of the regiment will meet next week. The assistant surgeons are doing good work, as they have always done.

It is now said that there are three aspirants for the democratic nomination for congress in this district. E. C. Smith, F. S. Sprull and J. R. Young. Orrin R. Smith who is now here and who is a Mexican veteran, says the idea of the present cartridge for small arms originates in Franklin county, N. C.

The populist of the Fifth judicial district nominate W. D. Merritt for judge and say if the republicans will endorse him they will endorse W. P. Bynum, Jr., the republican nominee for solicitor.

James H. Pou, who is back from a tour in Lenoir, Jones, Wayne, Nash and Edgecombe, says there is a political revolution in progress.

State Chairman Simmons, who returned today from the western part of the state, says he is more than satisfied with the outlook. He knew it was good, but finds it even better than he hoped. He declares that there is no reason to expect anything save democratic success. He says "our people are united" everywhere.

Mrs. Ship, widow of the gallant Lieutenant W. E. Shipp, who was killed at Santiago, has received her husband's sabre and camp baggage.

The sick (and there are no serious cases) at Shipp-Bagley camp here are now well supplied with medicines and delicacies. Eight of them are convalescent.

A warehouse will be rented here and in it will be stored the arms and equipments of the Second regiment.

A great many compliments are paid Lieutenant Rowland, commissary of the Second regiment. He is one of its very best officers.

Chief Surgeon Stockard got thirty days leave in August and went to his home in Alamance, claiming he was sick. It is desired to know whether he was sick or was working for the republican nomination for the legislature.

There is remarkably little mast this year and also few hickory nuts or walnuts. It is said the scarceness of these is a sign of an open winter.

During the present month there have been only two funerals of white persons in this city. It is a remarkable record.

A new lodge of Odd Fellows was organized at Statesville Thursday.

Captain Frank Cameron of the Ninth regiment of immunes arrived here today. He was a first sergeant of regular cavalry at Santiago, was slightly wounded there and was promoted for gallantry to a captain.

A Sad Death.

New York, September 16.—Dr. Geo. W. Lindheim, surgeon of the Red Cross and corporal in the Eighth regiment, New York volunteers, who had charge of the train carrying 265 sick soldiers of that regiment to this city from Chickamauga, died at his residence here today from typhoid fever. He was 27 years of age. Dr. Lindheim's illness, Dr. Monacasser, chief surgeon of the Red Cross, said, was brought on by his labors at Chickamauga and worry over the accusations that he ill-treated the 265 sick soldiers of the Eighth regiment whom he brought from the Tennessee camp to this city. For the last five days Dr. Lindheim was delirious and raved over charges that had been brought against him, crying out that they were cruel and unjustified. None of the men who came north on that train had died or is now seriously ill and most of them are now able to be about.

A Fatal Boiler Explosion

Evergreen, Ala., September 16.—News has just reached here of the bursting of the boiler at the mill of Travis & Perdue, fourteen miles from here. Bud Archer, the engineer, his wife and child and his wife's sister were instantly killed and four men knocked senseless, but not fatally hurt.

Just What She Wanted

"My appetite was very poor and I was so nervous I could not sleep. I was troubled with dyspepsia and was very weak. After I had taken a few bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla I could eat anything I wished, could sleep well and was much stronger." Mrs. John J. Martin, Werrington, North Carolina.

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills. Easy to take, easy to operate; reliable, sure. 25c.

The Royal is the highest grade baking powder known. Actual tests show it goes one-third further than any other brand.



REJOICINGS OVER A DEATH

A Chicago Household Give a Theatre Party and Receive Congratulations Over the Suicide of the Head of the Family.

Chicago, September 17.—Fritz Benfield, Danish laborer, shot and killed himself today immediately after firing two bullets into Mrs. Minnie Youngberger and fatally wounding her 2-year-old son Emil, whom she was holding in her arms. Benfield, who was of an ugly, quarrelsome disposition, threatened last night to kill his wife and five children, and Mrs. Benfield caused his arrest today. He accused Mrs. Youngberger, a neighbor, of being a party to his arrest and when she denied it he drew a revolver and opened fire. The boy died within an hour; the mother will recover. Benfield then sent a bullet through his own brain, dying instantly.

His death instead of being a grief to his family was an unqualified joy. Within an hour after the shooting Mrs. Benfield was holding an impromptu reception and acknowledged the congratulations of the neighbors who called. Minnie Benfield, the eldest daughter, remarked: "I'm glad of it. He should have done it long ago." She and one of her sisters announced their intention of giving a theatre party to celebrate their father's death and their mother went there one better by saying that she would not even bury him. The county authorities she said, could take the body and give it a pauper's funeral. She will pay the expenses but will have nothing more to do with the funeral.

Benfield had kept his family in terror for years and was generally accounted worthless by his neighbors.

The West Indian Storm

Kingston, Ja., September 17.—Details of the hurricane are constantly coming in, which show the disaster to have been infinitely worse than was at first expected. The destruction at Barbadoes was fully equal to that at St. Vincent, while St. Lucia, also suffered considerably. The island of Barbadoes, presenting practically a flat surface, was completely swept by the vortex of the cyclone. The distress is unparalleled in the history of the West Indies and the governor has cabled that instant and continuous outside relief is absolutely necessary in order to avert widespread famine and possibly, a resultant pestilence. The actual extent of the fatalities has not yet been ascertained owing to the extent of the ruin wrought throughout the island.

Spanish Peace Commissioners

Madrid, September 16.—It is reported here that the Spanish peace commission will be composed of Senor Montero Rios, president of the senate, Senor Villarutia, General Corero, General Azcarraza and Senor Urziaz. But it is added further changes are possible.

The Spanish peace commission has been appointed. Senor Montero Rios, president of the senate will preside. The other names are withheld until the queen regent has given her approval. Duke Almodovar, de Rio, the foreign minister, and Senor Moret, former secretary for the colonies, are engaged in drafting the instructions for the commission. The queen regent has signed the joint bill passed by the cortes authorizing the cessation of national territory under the terms of the protocol.

General Agustin, former captain general of the Philippines, accompanied by his family, arrived today at Genoa and is about starting for Spain.

More Yellow Fever at Jackson

Jackson, Miss., September 16.—Dr. Parnell made the announcement today of a new case of fever in Jackson. The patient is J. H. Manley, a train dispatcher employed by the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley railroad. His condition tonight is serious. Following the announcement, many persons left today. Numbers more are preparing to leave. Two more cases are being watched, but are not classed as suspicious, all in the southwest part of the city. A large part of Jackson, including the Illinois Central depot, has been quarantined.

Dr. Birtchett reports no new cases at Orwood and Taylors. A suspicious case has been reported at Winona and is under investigation by the state board.