

FIGHTING ALL DAY

Yesterday Spent by Our Troops in Skirmishing With the Philippines.

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN CUBA

General Gomez Ignores the Military Assembly--He Will Co-operate With General Brooke--Assured of Support From All Parts of Cuba--General Brooke Authorized to Dissolve the Assembly if Necessary--The Deplorable Condition of the Inhabitants--Large Body of Philippines Defeated, With Heavy Loss.

Manila, March 15.--12:40 p. m.--General Wheaton's brigade continues the work of clearing out the rebels around Pasig. The Washington volunteers have captured and burned Pateros, meeting with a sharp fire from the enemy while crossing the river.

Today's fighting was like that of the past week, the insurgents occasionally making a stand, but eventually fleeing. Their loss is supposed to have been small, as the Americans were unable to see the enemy in the thickets. The progress of the American advance is slow.

4:40 p. m.--General Wheaton, commanding the United States flying column, attacked and defeated a force of 2,000 Philippines at Pasig this afternoon, inflicting a heavy loss upon them. The American loss was slight. The Americans captured 350 Philippines. Many bodies of rebels killed in the engagement are floating down the river.

6:55 p. m.--Private Pernoff, of Company L, Twentieth regiment, was killed. The wounded are: Private Newman, Company E, Twentieth regiment; Private Carroll, Company A, Twentieth regiment; Private Marshall, Company B, Twentieth regiment; Private Combs, Company C, Twentieth regiment; Private Rogers, Company L, Twentieth regiment.

Aborder 350 Philippines surrendered at the town of Taguig to the Washington regiment and 175 Philippines were captured at Pasig by the Twentieth regiment. Our troops found 106 dead Philippines and 109 new graves near Pasig. The prisoners were unarmed and, therefore, it is presumed they executed their threat of throwing their arms into the river.

London, March 15.--The Evening News this afternoon publishes the following dispatch from Manila:

"General Wheaton has completely routed the Philippines and has occupied Pasig, Taguig and Pateros. Several hundred of the enemy were killed and as many were captured. General Otis says this is the greatest victory since February 5th. The Americans will not press toward Aguinaldo's headquarters."

Washington, March 15.--The following dispatch was received this morning from General Otis:

"Manila, March 15, 1899. Adjutant General, Washington:

"Three thousand insurgents moved down last night to towns of Pasig and Pateros on the shore of Laguna bay fronting Wheaton's troops on the Pasig river line. By heavy fighting Wheaton has dislodged and driven them back, taking 400 prisoners and inflicting heavy loss in killed and wounded. He reports his loss as very moderate; he now occupies these towns with sufficient force to hold them. OTIS."

Los Angeles, Cal., March 15.--A telegram to The Times from Major General Harrison Gray Otis, dated Manila, March 15, says:

"The Twentieth infantry had an all-day fight at Pasig. Three thousand rebels were encountered and defeated. They were routed with heavy loss. Our loss was small. Three hundred and fifty rebel soldiers were made prisoners. Wheaton's brigade now holds the towns of Pasig and Pateros. This news is based upon official information. Our river gunboats fought their way into the lake."

THE SITUATION IN HAVANA.
Havana, March 15.--General Gomez has decided to proceed with the plans agreed upon for distributing the \$3,000,000 to the Cuban troops on disbanding, as though the military assembly did not exist. He conferred for two hours today with Governor General Brooke regarding details.

General Brooke asked Washington several days ago whether in case he dissolved the assembly if his action would be approved. The cable reply authorized him to dissolve that body, if in his judgment, such an act was necessary. He hopes the assembly will soon cease of its own accord to hold its sessions, but should sessions disquieting to the public mind continue, he will intervene.

Havana is much more quiet today and less excitement is noticeable. This is partly due to the fact that the assembly held no meeting. Rumors are current that its self-dissolution is a matter of the early future. At a meeting this morning the Cuban Generals Diaz Robau, Montegudo, Nodarse, Peraza and others decided to join with General Pedro Betancourt, the commander of the Cuban troops in Matanzas, in a public declaration of their position.

A discussion understands that they will side with General Gomez. The papers continue to print letters and telegrams from all points declaring adherence to the veteran patriot's cause.

The United States military authorities publish the following statement: "We are officially authorized that the president of the United States will not recognize any obligation incurred by the body known as the Cuban assembly, and that all reports and assertions to the contrary are absolutely untrue. This is perhaps due to a story published in the newspaper El Reconstruido to the effect that a representative of an American syndicate including Senator Hanna is now here with a view of making a loan to the assembly. There have been six resignations from the assembly since Sunday--Gen-

AMBASSADOR CHOATE.

His First Public Appearance in London.

THE GUEST OF HONOR

At the Banquet of the Association of the Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom--He Replies to the Toast "Our Guests"--His Reference to the American Eagle and the British Lion and the Friendly Relations Between the Two

London, March 15--Joseph H. Choate, the United States ambassador to the court of St. James, made his first public appearance in England at the banquet of the association of chambers of commerce of the United Kingdom, which was held at the Metropolitan hotel this evening. There was a brilliant and distinguished gathering, about 250 persons having been invited to meet the ambassador, including the lord chief justice of England, Baron Russell, of Killowen; the Hon. Sir Henry Stafford Northcote, the president of the association; the prime minister, the marquis of Salisbury; the earl of Jersey, the earl of Dartmouth, Lord Reay, Rear Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, the Rt. Hon. C. T. Ritchie, president of the board of trade; James R. Carter, second secretary of the United States embassy, and many members of parliament.

Mr. Choate, who, on arriving, was heartily welcomed by the chairman and officials of the assembly, sat in the place of honor, on the right of the chairman.

President Harper submitted the toast of "Our Guests," coupled with the names of Mr. Choate and Baron Russell of Killowen. He expressed his keen pleasure at the advent of Mr. Choate at a time "when there is every disposition to tighten the bonds of the Anglo-Saxon race, whose only objects are peace, prosperity, freedom of trade and progress."

The toast was received with loud cheers, the company standing and shouting the name of Mr. Choate who was thrice cheered, Mr. Choate, on rising to respond, received an ovation.

The United States ambassador began jokingly, protesting that he was overwhelmed with embarrassment at being called upon to respond in priority to the chief justice. He felt that when the British lion was about to roar, even the American eagle should hold his peace. He was delighted, he said, to receive and accept the invitation to the banquet, although he was not at liberty to discuss British commerce. His general instructions from his government were not to discuss, but display only at extraordinary festive occasions. (Laughter.)

Continuing, Mr. Choate said: "I have felt, however, that I might properly avail myself of this public occasion to express the appreciation of my countrymen for the forbearance, good will and friendship manifested to them freely by the British people. It is true, gentlemen, that peace between the United States and Great Britain is the first and not only these two nations, but of the whole world."

In expressing his gratitude for the cordial greeting he had received from all sorts and conditions of men since his arrival in England, Mr. Choate said:

"Everywhere I have been treated as a friend and as the representative of your friends and brothers. In fact, I have actually discovered the open-door open to such an extent as would satisfy even the yearnings of the rear admiral who has made the circle of the globe in search of it. I think I may say, as a testimony to the good feeling sought to be encouraged on our side of the water, that the president gave the best illustration of it when he said, in my letter of credence, that he relied with confidence upon my constant endeavor during my stay in Great Britain to promote the interest and prosperity of both nations." (Cheers and cries of "Bravo.")

Alluding to the satisfactory dispelling of the cloud between Russia and England over the Niu Chwang railway extension loan by means of peaceful diplomacy, Mr. Choate said:

"That is the kind of diplomacy which I, just entering upon diplomatic career, desire very much to understand, for I am fresh enough to believe that if these two countries, laboring together for peace, united their voices in demanding it, it is almost sure in every case. (Cheers.)

"I would like to quote my president again; for the last words I heard him say were that the United States today was on better terms with every nation on the face of the earth than it had ever been before." (Cheers.)

After paying eloquent tributes to the late Baron Herschell, and to Rudyard Kipling, Mr. Choate concluded as follows: "Gentlemen, we are almost one people. What I say is let our voice always be lifted together for the cause of human progress and the advancement of civilization; and my word for it, if that can always be followed, why then law, order, peace and freedom, which are the nurses of commerce the world over, will prevail and the cause of humanity will be advanced." (Cheers.)

Mr. Choate spoke deliberately and in rather a low tone. His humorous remarks met with peals of laughter. He had a wonderful reception, made quite the speech of the evening which was listened to with the deepest attention and resumed his seat amid thousands of applause. Lord Russell personally congratulating him.

A NOTED YACHT MISSING

The Norna Supposed to Be Wrecked.

LOST IN THE RED SEA

In Tow by a British Steamer, but Lost Sight of Just Before a Storm--Not Since Heard of--On a Three Year's Cruise Around the World With a Pleasure Party on Board--One of the Party is a Lady From Greensboro, N. C.

Washington, March 15.--United States Consul Cunningham at Aden, Arabia, reports to the state department that the commander of her majesty's ship Brisko has picked up, but lost again, a small American yacht or schooner after towing her about 250 miles in the western part of the Red sea. There was afterwards rough weather and it was believed to be possible that the yacht had gone aground somewhere, as she was much overdue. Her name was unknown, but the British officer said she had aboard a man from New York named Weaver. The consul on February 22nd received a cablegram from one Percival at Colombo, Ceylon, asking for news of the yacht Norna.

New York, March 15.--The American yacht referred to in the dispatch from Washington as having been picked up and lost again in the western part of the Red sea by the British cruiser Brisko, is undoubtedly the old racing schooner Norna, designed by A. Carry Smith in 1888 and at one time known as one of the "westest" yachts in the New York yacht squadron.

In October 1896 the Norna was fitted out for a cruise around the world, her passengers having the intention of "writing up" foreign countries and photographing picturesque scenes.

R. A. Morris, a Nova Scotian, was given charge of the Norna. She hoisted the flag of the Atlantic Yacht Club and sailed on her long voyage on November 2, 1896. The party on board the Norna, in addition to Mr. N. J. Weaver, a New Englander, who engineered the scheme, consisted of Mrs. C. C. Collins, of Greensboro, N. C.; Dr. T. A. Worrall, of Northeast, Indiana; A. C. Danforth, Jr., of St. Louis, Mo.; Harry P. Taber, of Buffalo, N. Y. and K. P. Newcome.

At the time the Norna sailed from New York statements were published to the effect that from the point of view of an expert sailor the schooner was not exactly fitted for her trip around the world.

One of the passengers on the Norna is reported to have said to a reporter on October 19, 1896: "Each of us goes to hades our own road, and darn the expense."

Captain Morris is understood to have left the Norna before she sailed and it is presumed that his reason for doing so was that he did not believe her to be equal to the task of fighting her way around the world.

When the schooner sailed her itinerary was, roughly as follows: She was to touch at Baltimore, Charleston and Jacksonville thence to the Bermuda and Azores islands and thence to Cadix and Tangier, through the straits of Gibraltar to the Balearic islands, Corsica and Sardinia. The Adriatic sea was next to be visited and the Norna was then to cruise around the coast of Greece to the Aegean sea, the Bosphorus, the Black sea, Southern Russia, Asia Minor, Egypt and Tunis, the north east of Africa, the Cape of Good Hope, Madagascar, the Indian ocean, the Gulf of Aden, the Arabian sea, Ceylon, Sumatra, Java, Australia, the South Sea islands, China, Japan and nearly every other place of the habitable globe.

The Norna is a wooden schooner of about eighty-five tons. She is 105 feet, 8 inches long over all and 95 feet 2 inches on the water line. She has 21 feet, 7 inches beam and draws 11 feet, 3 inches of water. N. J. Weaver is registered as her owner.

Not to Discriminate Against American Oil

London, March 15.--In the house of commons today Mr. Harold James Reekitt, liberal, moved the second reading of the bill raising the flash point of petroleum from 73 to 100. In so doing he said that it would not add appreciably to the cost, as a responsible firm had offered to supply oil at 100 flash point at only half a cent per gallon dearer than the present price.

Mr. Henry Kimber, conservative moved the rejection of the bill on the ground that it was "velled protection at the expense of American oils."

Mr. Robert Grant Webster, conservative, asked how the bill would be considered in the United States, adding: "We ought not to injure a nation which is at present becoming more and more friendly towards us."

The bill was rejected--244 to 159.

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Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

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SMALLPOX IN THIS STATE

The Disease in Twenty Counties--Inspector Long at Work--Compulsory Vaccination Probable

Raleigh, N. C., March 15.--Smallpox continues to spread in this state. Up to tonight its appearance has been reported in twenty counties of the state. The latest cases reported are from Guilford, Moore and Warren. The counties in which cases have been reported to the state board of health are: Currituck, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Gates, Bertie, Tyrrell, Edgecombe, Warren, Wayne, Johnston, Wake Alamance, Guilford, Buncombe, New Hanover, Northampton, Columbus, Halifax, McDowell and Moore.

So rapidly is the disease assuming the proportions of an epidemic that the state board of health has appointed a smallpox inspector, Dr. Henry F. Long, who successfully treated seventy-five cases in Iredell county last summer, was selected. He will visit infected districts, compel quarantine of patients and direct their treatment. He began service this morning, going first to Warrenton. From there he will go to Hertford. The disease is worse at these points than anywhere else. It is especially bad among the mill operatives at Burlington. Compulsory vaccination in the town and county has been resorted to.

At Greensboro, the authorities have given the people three days' notice to be vaccinated and failure to comply with the ordinance will subject the offender to \$20 fine.

There is one case in Wilmington and it is rigidly isolated.

The town of Clinton, in Sampson county, has quarantined against Wilmington and Norfolk.

The greatest secrecy prevails in infected districts as to extent and fatality of the disease and this is one of the reasons that induced the board of health to appoint an inspector. Unless the epidemic is speedily checked, compulsory vaccination will be ordered over the entire state.

AN IMPORTANT ENTERPRISE

Silk Manufacturers Coming--Putting in a Steam Plant--Farming Set Back (Correspondent of The Messenger.)

Fayetteville, N. C., March 15. Fayetteville is assured of a new and very beneficial enterprise. A few days since Mr. Arhley, of Paterson, N. J., owning large silk manufacturing interests in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, paid a visit to this city, induced by correspondence with Messrs. Holt, president of the Holt-Morgan and Holt-Williamson cotton factories, and A. H. Slocumb, a public-spirited and successful business man.

Mr. Arhley's stay here was brief, but eminently satisfactory--so much so that after studying our labor conditions, climate, etc., Mr. Arhley has purchased a large body of land, southwest of the town, from Dr. T. M. Hunter, where he designs erecting a silk spinning mill, to be followed probably by a weaving factory, if success attends the first enterprise.

Let your correspondent put himself right here. He knew all these facts three days ago, but they received publication in advance of this letter in the local papers, for the reason that the writer held himself bound by promise to the parties interested to withhold the matter until now from the newspapers.

Work is being pushed night and day to equip Houe Mills factory No. 2 with a steam plant, on account of the destruction of the dam by a freshet a short time ago.

Excessive rains are making the farmers very dependent, as plowing and other field work are impossible.

Before the discovery of One Minute Cough Cure, ministers were greatly disturbed by coughing congregations. No excuse for it now. R. R. Bellamy.

A FEARFUL TORNADO

Swamps Over Avondale, Ala.--Many Homes Destroyed--Miraculous Escapes of Several Persons

Birmingham, Ala., March 15.--The fiercest tornado ever known in this vicinity visited the town of Avondale on the eastern outskirts of the city at 5 o'clock this morning. It came directly from the south, with rain and lightning. Passing immediately in front of the Avondale cotton mills, it blew down the negro Methodist church and utterly demolished it. Three new frame houses and a second negro church a short distance away were next destroyed.

Mrs. R. C. Foster was ill in bed and her husband was watching at her side. The house was taken from over her head and the bedstead blown a hundred feet away. Strange to say, Mrs. Foster was not hurt.

The negro school house and negro Baptist church were torn to pieces. Mrs. Annie Johnson was buried under her house and had to be dug out. She is badly cut and bruised and is in a critical condition.

Arthur O. Hudgins, a white boy, was also buried in the wreckage of his father's house. His arm was broken and he was seriously injured.

At this house the four walls were blown away and a bed containing three children left in the middle of the room. The children were not scratched. The injured boy was in an outer wing when the main building crashed this in.

"Give me a liver regulator and I can regulate the world," said a genius. The druggist handed him a bottle of DeWitt's Little Early Risers, the famous little pills. R. R. Bellamy.

A NERVOUS TENSION

General Among the People of Havana Police Prevent Their Gathering in Groups--A Duel Declared Off--Gomez With General Brooke

Havana, March 15.--The reported resignation of Civil Governor Mora is untrue.

A certain nervous tension and uneasy restlessness, especially during the evenings, is noticeable in the vicinity of Central park, where the men congregate and talk politics. The police have orders not to allow groups to assemble and are dispersing them. This causes uncomplimentary comment about the force, the people declaring that the police are interfering with their rights and freedom.

General Gomez conferred with Governor General Brooke from 10 o'clock until about noon today.

The junta patriótica dissolved last night, after passing resolution of adherence to Gomez.

It is said on good authority that the seconds of General Alejandro Rodriguez, chief of staff to General Gomez, and Colonel Raoul Arango, a mounted inspector of police, who was called a coward by Rodriguez on Monday for clubbing a woman, while dispersing a portion of the parade in Belascoain street, arranged a duel between the two principals to be fought with pistols today, but the military assembly sent a notification to General Rodriguez and Colonel Arango last night, forbidding the duel, which was consequently declared off.

JOHN SHERMAN ILL

Attacked With Pneumonia While Making a Tour of the West Indies With a Party on the Steamer Paris

Fort de France, Martinique, March 15.

John Sherman, who is a passenger on board the American line steamer Paris, captain Frederick Walkins, who arrived here today from Trinidad, with the party of excursionists who are making a tour of the West Indian islands, is suffering from pneumonia.

While at San Juan de Porto Rico last Wednesday, Mr. Sherman was entertained by Brigadier General Fred Grant, commander of the military department of San Juan and caught cold. The malady was not considered serious until last night, after leaving Port of Spain, when pneumonia in the most serious form developed.

Dr. Graff, of the Paris, and Dr. Magree, of Duluth, are attending him and Mr. and Mrs. Colgate Hoyt, of New York, and F. B. Wiborg, of Cincinnati, close relations of Mr. Sherman, are constantly near him.

St. Pierre, March 15.--On the arrival of the American line steamer Paris, Captain Walkins, from Fort de France, this evening, Mr. Sherman's physicians reported that his condition was much improved and gave ground for encouragement.

For frost bites, burns, indolent sores, eczema, skin diseases, and especially Piles, DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve stands first and best. Look out for dishonest people who try to imitate and counterfeit it. It's endorsement by a good article. Worthless goods are not imitated. Get DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. R. R. Bellamy.

The Greene County Contest

Solicitor Rodolph Duffy returned yesterday from Kenansville where he has been in attendance upon the Spring term of the Superior court of Duplin county. Judge Timberlake presided.

The quo warranto cases from Greene county in which the fusion candidates are striving to oust the democratic county officers were continued and will come up before Judge Timberlake at Goldsboro.

The court at Kenansville adjourned Tuesday afternoon.

Truck Looking Well

Mr. J. T. Foy, of Scott's Hill, was in the city yesterday. He tells us that the pretty weather of the past ten days is making truck look exceedingly well. Strawberries are blooming vigorously. He says if the crop is not killed off strawberries will be on the market in about four weeks. Owing to the cold weather the crop is about ten days late, but if the weather is fine from now on, he thinks the lost time may be regained.

Not one child dies where ten formerly died from croup. People have learned the value of One Minute Cough Cure and use it for severe lung and throat troubles. It immediately stops coughing. It never fails. R. R. Bellamy.

The Mt. Airy News recently printed a card from W. E. Pitterson, Company E, Fifty-third North Carolina, in which it was stated that at the Confederate Bazaar in Raleigh there was a ration of Nassau bacon that had been drawn the day before the battle of the Wilderness by R. C. Woodlief, of Company K, Forty-fourth North Carolina, now of Franklin county, N. C. The bacon had been kept, wrapped in oiled silk, by the veteran's mother.