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CAUSE OF PHILIPPINE WAR.

OTIS TELLS HOW IT WAS BROUGHT ON.

He Makes a Statement to Correct Some Prevailing Impressions That the United States Government is Responsible—Ugnialdo's Premature Proclamation of Independence and His Subsequent Actions—Some Important Correspondence—How the Insurgents Drew the Fire of an Outpost and Started the Trouble.

WASHINGTON, May 31.—The Secretary of War to-day made public the report of General Otis, transmitting the reports of his subordinate operations around Manila, up to April 6. General Otis begins with this statement:

"The military operations are fairly well presented in the reports and I have little to add thereto, but desire particularly to call attention to the rise and development of conditions and circumstances which resulted finally in war. This I deem to be essential in order to correct the somewhat prevailing impression that the government of the United States was responsible through default or wrongful action for the present existing hostilities."

To this end he gives a short summary of the Philippine insurrection against Spain, laying stress on the fact that a small band of the natives of Luzon, leaders of the rebellion of 1896 against Spain, were induced for a momentary consideration to leave the island. These men returned to the vicinity of Manila after the destruction of the Spanish fleet, there being, as General Otis says, "encouraged without authority to attempt the organization of what they were pleased to denominate an independent government for the Philippine people."

Independence, General Otis says, was proclaimed by Aguinaldo in August and as early as June he had warned the United States authorities against the landing of his military forces on Philippine soil without first obtaining his consent, because, as he expressed it, "the Philippine people might consider the occupation of Philippine territory by North American troops a violation of their rights."

General Otis describes Aguinaldo's efforts to strengthen his lines in preparation for hostilities with the United States during this time and explains the growth of the insurgent independent movement. Describing briefly the high tension that existed at the time, General Otis includes in explanation of his course some highly important correspondence that passed between himself and Aguinaldo. Early in January General Otis was appointed by conservative Filipinos to appoint a committee of army officers to meet an insurgent committee by which peace might be recognized any insurgent government, but was willing to negotiate with Aguinaldo or a commission appointed by him.

The report sets out in full the correspondence on this subject which passed between Otis and Aguinaldo. The latter named a commission consisting of three of his leaders in the name of General Otis with a view to an amicable understanding, but expressed surprise that Otis would not receive the commissioners as official representatives of the insurgent government.

In his reply, General Otis explained that he was acting merely as the agent of the United States government. As such he had no authority to recognize the Filipino government and could not receive, officially, representatives of the government. He expressed earnest hope that the commissioners named by him and Aguinaldo would be able through a conference, to dispel the misunderstanding which existed. He was under strict orders from the President, he said, to avoid a conflict if possible, but he admonished Aguinaldo that the American troops were aware of the Filipinos' efforts to precipitate hostilities. He pointed out that a definite policy with reference to the Philippines would have to be declared by Congress, and for the action of Congress he hoped Aguinaldo would wait. General Otis says the negotiators were barren of practical results. The negotiators desired absolute independence, but were unauthorized to present any statement they could maintain.

At the latter part of January the insurgents became aggressive, interfering with American troops, and finally led General Otis to address another letter to Aguinaldo, calling attention to the arrest by Filipinos of some American soldiers and requesting an explanation. General Otis' letter to Aguinaldo was doing everything possible to preserve the peace and avoid all friction until the Philippine people can be made fully acquainted with the sentiments and intentions of the American government, when I am confident that they will appreciate the endeavors of the United States and will again look upon that country as their friend and protector. I also fully believe that the present unrest is the result of machinations of the evil disposed persons."

To this latter letter Aguinaldo sent a sarcastic reply, but ordered the release of the prisoners. General Otis next tells how the American soldiers were openly insulted and how the insurgents had continually labored to strengthen their lines, threatening to drive the Americans out of the island, and how, finally, on the night of February 4th, the demonstration was made, and resulted in the killing of a Filipino by an American sentry and the firing on the Americans by the insurgent troops. General Otis continues as follows:

BILL ARP HAS SWORN OFF.

NO USE TRYING TO BRIGHTEN THE NORTHERN PEOPLE.

The Negro's Condition—Our Best Men Have Talked to the Boston People For Their Papers Continue to Abuse The South.

I've sworn off again. These Boston people make me so tired. It seems impossible to make a lasting impression upon them. From time to time we have sent our best men there. We sent General Gordon and Colquit and Henry Grady, and they were well received, and we thought our Georgia missionaries had converted them, but in a little while they had a relapse. Governor Northern thinks he has converted all but the editors, but my observation is that the editors control the animus of the people, and if they are against us their readers will be. I notice that some of their editors are easy on our governor, but none of them apologized. They've got to repent and apologize before we will be satisfied with their conversion. This thing of going up to the altar and shaking hands is about played out. They liked to have South Henry Grady's arm out, but in a few months they took it all back and went to abusing us again about the negro. It is very discouraging to a missionary to have to keep on converting the same heathen. I notice that one of their papers lets us down rather easy on Sam Hose, but wants to know what about this Lynch Law something bad. Like was a preacher in Meigs county, and his father-in-law, Aaron Wagon, says he was the meanest nigger in the county, that he beat his wife scandalously and out and gashed her with a butcher knife and the members of his own church took him out one night and gave him a hundred lashes, and told him to leave the county. Then he settled down in Coweta and turned politician and made himself generally popular by public peace and order, and finally escaped the noose by denouncing the white people and ousting Sam Hose. The general opinion is that like got off pretty well, for they didn't burn him.

The Boston *Traveller* says we are "a generation behind the times, in fact several New England generations behind it." How is that? Why it hasn't been 200 years since New England was burning innocent, harmless women for being witches. It hasn't been fifty years since Boston merchants were shipping rum to Africa to buy negroes to sell again to slave countries. Long after Massachusetts set her slaves free her merchants carried on the slave trade, Joseph Story, the great jurist, charged the grand jury in Boston and said: "The slave trade is still carried on among us with implacable ferocity. Avarice has grown more subtle in its evasions of the law. Its appetite is quickened rather than suspended. Our citizens are steeped up to their very mouths in this iniquity."

W. W. Story, his gifted son, says: "The wretched negroes denounced my father, and said that a judge who would deliver such a charge ought to be buried from the beach," and he says further, that "the fortunes of many men of prominence were invested in this infamous business. When slavery disappeared in New England the African slave trade took on new life, and was winked at. A man might have position in society and be considered a gentleman and a Christian while his ships were freighted with a human cargo, and his commerce was in the blood and yin of his fellow creatures. Many of the largest fortunes in Boston were the blood money of the slave trade and came from the sale of the wretched cargoes of negroes that survived the horrors of their transportation across the sea."

Yes, we are behind that sort of business several generations. But I've sworn off. The history of Massachusetts fatigues my imagination. Here are our negroes who would be happy and contented if the North press would quit stirring up discontent and telling them lies. If old Mother Julia Ward Howe, who is now in her eighty-first year and ought to have an old woman's sense, was to drop down here in Cartersville, she would see some young bucks wrestling on the depot platform while waiting for freights, and she would hear the merry laugh of a score of negro draymen who stood around. She would hear the sound of the colored school bell. She would see a young negro woman with a basket of clothes on her head and a smile on her face. She would see negro girls, clad in clean garments, cursing white children and watching them with tender care. If there was a funeral on hand she would see a happy gathering of women and girls, daughters of Zion, following the hearse, and if there was a railroad excursion on hand the depot would be crowded with both sexes and all sorts and sizes. Then we would escort her over to the baseball ground and let her see the young bucks play and hear them shout and give the negro yell of victory. But she is too old to be cured. I remember when she published an oldition paper in 1847. But she was off. Somebody said that if a woman was a fool at forty she would be a fool until she died. And somebody else said convince a woman against her will and she will be of the same opinion still. And the parable says, "if they will not believe Moses and the prophets, neither would they believe if one should rise from the dead." And so I will swear off for good and let those Boston pharisees die in their own conceit. The Massachusetts state board of charities was in their annual report: "And now we find that there is hardly a country in the civilized world where atrocious and flagrant crime is so common as in Massachusetts." Well, that settles it, Georgia has but two white women in her prisons, while Massachusetts has

ALONG THE NARROW GAUGE.

An Interesting Story of a Trip Over the Narrow Gauge by a Yorkville Newspaper Man—Gastonia Mentioned With Special Distinction.

Yorkville Enquirer, May 21.

Mainly for the purpose of getting material for a story of the trip; but incidentally for recreation and pleasure, a representative of the Enquirer went over all but a few miles of the Carolina and North-Western last Saturday. It was the first time this particular representative had made the trip in a half a dozen years or more, and during the day he saw a great deal of what he probably had but an imperfect idea. As a matter of fact, the Carolina and North-Western is an interesting line of railroad. From Yorkville to Gastonia the features presented are generally quite commonplace, especially to the people of this immediate section. About the only thing that is calculated to attract special attention is the building of the "new" cotton mill at Clover. Work is now under full headway and progressing rapidly. It is in the form of an addition to the old mill, practically doubling the capacity of the latter, and furnishing a guarantee of the increased importance of the town.

On up to Gastonia there have been very few changes in the landscape. The country looks just about the same as it has looked for years. There are the same cotton and corn crops along the sides of the railroad; but maybe a little more wheat than for some time past. There is also a considerable amount of timber much more than is to be seen along the railroad further south. However one does not begin to grow really interested until he reaches Gastonia. Up to that point he has been pretty lonesome on the train. There are only two or three passengers besides himself. At Gastonia, however, quite a crowd comes aboard, and this little more wheat than for some time past. There is also a considerable amount of timber much more than is to be seen along the railroad further south. However one does not begin to grow really interested until he reaches Gastonia. Up to that point he has been pretty lonesome on the train. There are only two or three passengers besides himself. 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