

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The Business Session of the Encampment Begun.

Commander-in-Chief Gobin Delivers His Annual Address.

Likelihood That Confederate Veterans Will be Invited to Meet With the Grand Army at the Next Annual Encampment.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 8.—Illinois and Pennsylvania are celebrating their victories at the respective headquarters to-night. The one has secured the Commander-in-Chief in Colonel James Sexton of Chicago and the other the location of the thirty-third annual encampment of the G. A. R. at Philadelphia next year.

While heated contests were going on inside the guarded doors of the encampment, all the demonstrations on the outside in the city were in accord with the peace jubilee. The parade of the civic and industrial organizations in the afternoon, with all the illustrations of peace and prosperity and happiness that could be produced, was the most magnificent pageant ever witnessed in this city.

The national encampment elected only its Commander-in-Chief to-day, and will elect its other officers to-morrow, adopt its resolutions and attend to other business.

CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS. CINCINNATI, Sept. 8.—The business of the thirty-third annual encampment of the Grand Army and its auxiliaries began to-day, after three days of preliminary demonstrations.

The business sessions were, however, interrupted by a parade of civic and industrial organizations in the afternoon. This parade was in celebration of peace, a "jubilee day." Over 100 concerts were represented in the line, with decorated wagons, bodies of employees, some mounted and all in gay uniforms, while fifty secret, military, political and other bands were represented by over 10,000 men as they marched to the peace floats. This demonstration was followed by high carnival all over the city.

There were about 1,200 national delegates present when the encampment proper was called to order at Music Hall at 10 a. m. The Rev. Charles H. Metzger was officiating at the day. The welcoming address was delivered by Governor Bushnell of Ohio, with supplemental addresses by Mayor Tafel of Cincinnati, M. E. Ingalls, Chairman of the Citizens' Committee and President of the Big Four and Charles W. B. Melish, in his response, Commander-in-Chief Gobin referred eloquently to the attractions of the week and the lavish entertainment of the citizens of Cincinnati. General Gobin wore the fine gold watch and chain that had been presented to him at the camp last night by his old comrades of the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania Regiment, and on the assembling of the encampment he was presented with a fine gavel made of historic timber.

At the conclusion of these interesting preliminaries, the great hall was cleared of all but the members entitled to a voice in the proceedings, and in executive session various reports were submitted. Commander-in-Chief Gobin said in part: "As comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, we can only think of the events of the year just passed with feelings of congratulation and just pride. To our fellow soldiers and sailors of the present era we extend our congratulations as heartily as it is in our power to do so, recognizing, as we do, that our organization and our teachings during the last thirty years have been effective in preparation for this glorious result.

"To our esteemed comrade, President William McKinley, and his Secretary of War, our past Commander-in-Chief, R. A. Alger, we have given our individual and organized support in the arduous duties imposed upon them. Never in the world's history has there been an occasion when the experience of the leaders in national strife rendered them so thoroughly competent to meet the difficulties encountered.

"The congratulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, age, of the nation, are due to them, and from this present encampment there should go forward no uncertain words as to our united support to the Government in solving the difficult problems yet before them. Confident are we that the result will justify the supreme faith which we reposed in these, our comrades, and through their efforts we believe the nation will continue under the providence of Almighty God to the higher position which he has evidently designed for it."

General Gobin combated the proposition to change the rules of the Grand Army so as to admit into membership the soldiers of the war with Spain. He said:

"They will, doubtless, if they have not already done so, organize a society of their own, but there can be no merit in their becoming members of our organization, and we should not have different principles based entirely upon different principles. When the Grand Army of the Republic has fulfilled its mission it should cease to exist."

He continued: "It has been urged by well-meaning comrades to propose the return of the flags captured during the war, re-subsiding to the States recently in rebellion. I cannot but deprecate any ag-

tion of this question. The action of the Confederate Veterans' camp of New York seemed to suggest a method which will end all discussion and satisfy those gentlemen who continually recur to this subject. Their resolution presents, for the consideration of the various G. A. R. posts and others, the proposition that a building be erected in Washington, under appropriate legislation of Congress, to be a national depository in which not only the captured flags, but all such emblems and trophies of each side as may be offered from any quarter should be properly collected and lodged for their careful preservation and identification. If it is desirable to take any steps relative to this matter, this is the most satisfactory solution of the entire question, and, if properly arranged, this disposition might be a judicious measure. It would, at all events, prevent the continual presentation of this matter to the public and keep the flags where they belong, under the control of the Government of the United States."

Referring to his visits to departments in the South, the Commander-in-Chief said: "In the South the greeting of ex-Confederates who participated in many of our camp fires was exceedingly agreeable and was preliminary to the devotion to country and flag manifested in their response to the call of the President. It would, however, be a mistake to suppose that the fact that the color line still exists. There are many colored soldiers in some of the departments laboring under great disadvantages. The race prejudice remains, and the chasm seems to be widening; it seems impossible to see any remedy for this, but only express my extreme regret. What the remedy is, if any, I am unable to suggest."

General Gobin discussed the pension question at length, and said: "All that the old soldier demands is that the pension be administered with justice and liberality in accordance with the laws when enacted, and which were made to provide for the soldier and relieve his necessities to the full extent to which he is entitled. This is due him, and there should be no cavil or question about his receiving it."

In his report Alfred Lyth, the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, referred to the visit of Post 2, Department of New York, to Hamilton, Ont., saying that the cheers which greeted the comrades on arrival and the reception on the part of the National Executive Committee and the recent drawing together in sympathy and feeling of the two great English-speaking nations.

The report of the Adjutant General, Thomas J. Stewart, contained the following figures as to the membership: The National Executive Committee, June 30, 1897, numbered 319,456. The gain during the year was, by muster in, 10,949; transfer, 4,275; reinstatement, 12,687; from delinquent reports, 4,551; total, 32,462. The losses were, by death, 7,883; honorable discharge, 1,199; transfer, 2,543; dishonorable discharge, 165; by delinquent reports, 7,041; by surrender of charter, 1,625; total, 46,396. So the members in good standing June 30, 1898, numbered 365,063. The number of members remaining suspended at that date was 36,068. Reports of 25,463 departed members showed that 8,610 members previously reported as suspended had been dropped from the rolls.

The amount expended in charity during the year was \$171,963. The report of the Quartermaster General, A. J. Burbank, showed that the receipts during the year were \$11,195 and the expenditures \$14,694, the balance on hand being \$9,502. Alonzo Williams, Inspector General, reported that the organization is still strong and in good condition, although rapidly decreasing in numbers. It was still maintaining very efficient work throughout the land.

It is now stated that General Sickles has been named in good faith as a candidate for Commander-in-Chief, as a means of uniting the New York delegates. It is also stated that the name of I. B. Hays, of Ohio, will not be presented by the Ohio delegates. The encampment will have much work in considering the proposed revision of the ritual, and also in considering propositions for amalgamation. It is believed that the proposition to make the National Executive Committee a Spanish-American war eligible will not prevail, as the latter soldiers will want a separate organization. There is more sentiment in favor of uniting those who fought on different sides in the same war, and a resolution will be offered inviting the Confederate veterans to meet with the G. A. R. next year. The Missouri delegation will likely present the resolution, as that State was equally divided during the Civil War. If no joint encampment is arranged, it is proposed to have fraternal delegates sent from one encampment to another.

The National Executive Committee of the Women's Relief Corps opened this morning in the Scottish Rite Cathedral with an address by Miss Law White. The ladies of the G. A. R. resumed their sessions at Odd Fellows' Temple. The efforts to unite these two orders have not been successful. When the annual report was being read, especially Gobin's, there was considerable cheering at the mention of President McKinley's name, but when the name of Secretary Alger was mentioned in connection with the recent war the cheering was somewhat demonstrative in his favor. After the reports had been referred to their respective committees, many resolutions were offered specifically indorsing the administration of General Alger in the War Department. The temper of the encampment as shown to-day, indicates that the resolutions will indorse the management of the recent war.

A resolution was introduced to have the school histories use the term of "The War between the States," instead of "the War of the Rebellion." It is quite likely that resolutions will be adopted providing for the use of the term of "War for the Preservation of the Union." There will also be an effort made to secure representation for the colored men in the National Encampment.

Unusual interest was taken in the selection of the Committee on Resolutions on account of the recent issue of indorsing Alger or Miles and other matters in connection with the management of the Spanish war. The following is the Committee on Resolutions: Alabama, R. A. Allison; Arkansas, O. M. Spellman; California and Nevada, M. J. Buckley; Colorado and Wyoming, M. V. Brown; Connecticut, Alfred B. Berls; Delaware, Daniel Ross; Florida, L. Y. James; Georgia, L. B. Nelson; Idaho, H. F. Reed; Illinois, Joel M.

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ALGER REQUESTS AN INVESTIGATION.

Asks for a Thorough Investigation of War Department.

Wants a Court-Martial to Look Into Matters Relating to the War.

President McKinley Takes the Subject Under Consideration and Will Likely Present It at a Meeting of the Cabinet to be Held To-Day.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Secretary Alger has requested the President to order a thorough and searching investigation of the War Department. In this request the Secretary has been aided by Adjutant General Corbin. No decision has been reached yet by the President. He has the request of Secretary Alger under consideration, but has not yet determined whether he will grant it or not.

Secretary Alger had a long conference with the President to-night before he left the city, and impressed upon him his earnest desire that a court-martial should be ordered. The question was thoroughly discussed in all its phases.

Secretary Wilson participated in the conference, and General Corbin was present during a part of the time. It seems not unlikely that a court of inquiry will be ordered, but it is the wish of the President further to consider the matter before announcing a definite policy. The question probably will receive consideration at the Cabinet meeting to-morrow. While all the Cabinet members are not an entirety, General Griggs is among those who will not be present at this meeting, and it is the wish of the President to take up all the particulars of the controversy.

Should the investigation be ordered, it will include, probably, all matters relating to the conduct of the war, so far as they concern the War Department. Secretary Alger expresses himself as confident that such an investigation, if conducted promptly and thoroughly, will result in much good.

Such an investigation has been requested by the War Department with some difficulties. No charges of a definite character have been filed by any responsible person or official. Sensational stories and rumors, for which the Administration has present knowledge that there is no foundation, have been circulated, and objection is made to dignify them by the ordering of an investigation. By those who desire and advocate the investigation it is maintained that it can do no possible harm, and the controversy will be of benefit in clearing away manifest error from the minds of many people, and in placing the blame for the war, so far as a definite character has been placed, where it rightfully belongs.

MAJOR GENERAL MILES.

The Commander of the Army Arrives at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Major General Nelson A. Miles, commanding the army of the United States, accompanied by Mrs. Miles and Colonel Maize and Colonel Micheler of his staff, arrived here from New York at 4:35 o'clock this evening.

General Miles and party came over the Pennsylvania in a dining car attached to the regular west-bound train. They were met at the Sixth-street station by Major Black, a member of General Miles' staff, and Captain Morton, clerk in the office of the commanding General.

In anticipation of the arrival of General Miles, several hundred people had assembled at the station. A cordon of police officers opened a way through the crowd at the gate through which the distinguished party passed from the platform into the station to the main entrance.

As General Miles stepped from the rear platform of his car he gave a kind greeting to his coachman, who stood awaiting him, and then, holding a bundle of souvenir canes, while he grasped the hands of Captain Morton, Major Black and two or three newspapermen. He was attired in an unconventional blue serge suit, and wore a broad-brimmed Porto Rican hat.

As General Miles passed through the crowd in the station his hands were grasped a score of times by enthusiastic men and women. He gave a cordial greeting to all, and as he and Mrs. Miles and Colonel Micheler stepped into the carriage the crowd burst into cheers.

While expressing his gratification at the successful termination of the war, General Miles said he had nothing to say at this time in addition to the statement given to the press by him in New York.

From the Pennsylvania depot General and Mrs. Miles were conveyed directly to their residence.

GENERAL WHEELER'S SON.

The Body of the Drowned Naval Cadet Recovered.

CAMP WICKOFF (Montauk Point, L. I., Sept. 8).—The bodies of Naval Cadet Thomas H. Wheeler, the son of Major General Joseph Wheeler, and of Second Lieutenant Newton D. Kirkpatrick of the First United States Cavalry, who were drowned while bathing in the bay yesterday, came in with the tide about 2 o'clock this morning. The bodies were found lying close together just below the life saving station about a quarter of a mile from where the young men had gone in bathing. A detail of sixty men from the Second Cavalry had been patrolling the beach with lanterns.

Two rude biers were formed out of planks taken from near the life saving station and the bodies placed upon them. In the meantime the cavalrymen had gathered from up and down the beach and followed the bodies to General Wheeler's headquarters. With

the General were three of his daughters, who were in camp nursing the sick.

The uniform of an infantry private, with the shoes, hat and underwear, were found on the beach this morning 100 yards from the westward of where Cadet Wheeler and Lieutenant Kirkpatrick were drowned. It is feared that a third man was drowned last night.

COLORADO POLITICS.

The Situation No Clearer Yesterday Than on the Previous Day.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Sept. 8.—At the end of the first day's meeting of the four State Conventions here the situation seems no clearer yesterday. The chances for fusion between the Democrats, Populists and Teller branch of the Silver Republican party appear a little brighter, judging from actions taken by the different conventions.

According to the agreement reached last night, neither the Democrat nor the Silver Republicans attempted to meet in the Opera-house. The fusionists gathered in Durkee Hall and chose Senator Teller as permanent Chairman. Mr. Teller made an address of two hours' length, in which he traced the history of the fusion movement, and denounced President McKinley and his supporters as enemies of silver. He spoke on some of the phases of the late war, claiming that it would not have been necessary, had the President listened to the plea of Congress when it asked for the recognition of Cuban independence by vigorous advocacy of the annexation of the Philippines.

J. M. Downing was made permanent Chairman, and a committee was chosen to meet with similar committees from the Democrats and Populists to-morrow. After this National Chairman Charles A. Towne addressed the convention. He defended his action in deposing State Chairman Broad, who, he claimed, had arranged to turn the machinery of the party in the State over to the McKinley administration. He was followed by Congressman Shafroth in a brief speech.

The anti-Teller faction met at Coburn Hall and elected Judge Dixon first as temporary and later as permanent Chairman.

This waiting for the report of the Committee on Resolutions, ex-Congressman J. B. Belford addressed the convention. He said he was tired of being a political tramp and wanted to get back to the Republican party. He said Senator Teller had repeatedly stated his purpose of devoting the remainder of his life to the destruction of the Republican party, and predicted that he would fail. He said if silver was ever re-monetized, it must be through the Republican party.

The Democratic convention elected E. C. Stinson of Cripple Creek permanent Chairman, and chose Com. J. B. Belford as temporary Chairman. It also listened to a speech by Charles A. Towne, National Chairman of the Silver Republicans, who was invited to address them.

The Populists met at 9 o'clock, and chose Lyman L. Henry of Ouray as temporary Chairman.

ANTI-TELLERITES.

Simon Guggenheim of Denver Nominated for Governor.

COLORADO SPRINGS (Col.), Sept. 8.—Simon Guggenheim of Denver was nominated for Governor by the Anti-Teller Silver Republicans.

At the night session of the Anti-Teller Silver Republicans the opposition to the nomination of Guggenheim was withdrawn, and he was nominated for Governor by acclamation. When the convention reassembled the Resolutions Committee reported a platform, which was adopted. The most important planks were as follows: Resolved, That we favor the restoration of the money of the Constitution by throwing open the mints of the country to the free coinage of gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1; that we commend the patriotism, skill and ability displayed by the present Administration during the trying times of the late war with Spain, and are proud of the achievements of our army and navy in the victories over the enemy, especially the bravery and patriotism displayed by the Colorado volunteers.

Battleship Oregon.

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.—The battleship Oregon has been safely docked at the navy yard at high tide. Three of the Government tugs towed the Oregon from her berth to the dock, which she entered without difficulty. Naval Commander Bowles was in charge. After sufficient water had been pumped on board the Oregon's own crew set to work to clean the ship below the water line. Considering that she had been in tropical waters some time it was in a fair condition. Barnacles had fastened on the vessel, but these were soon scraped away. It was said by one of the officers that the Oregon would be out of the dock again by Saturday or Monday.

Yellow Fever at Santiago.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Sept. 8.—Six cases of yellow fever have developed in Colonel Sargent's Fifth Immunes. The destination among the Cubans is still appalling. General Wood issued 52,000 free rations yesterday. The capacity of the free supply depot is not great enough to meet the demand, and a new one is to be established shortly.

Stars and Stripes and Union Jack.

LONDON, Sept. 8.—The Stars and Stripes were raised to-day with the British Union Jack on the marquee erected on Salisbury Plain during the march past of the troops at the end of the army maneuvers, as a compliment to Captain Alfred Bates, the United States military attaché, and other Americans.

Triple Murder in Ohio.

CAMBRIDGE, Sept. 8.—Squire John Boyd, his daughter and son-in-law, living four miles east of here, were murdered last night. Boyd's little granddaughter reported the fact to neighbors to-day. The house was ransacked. Boyd was wealthy. A drug was used by the murderers. The police have gone to the scene.

Huret Wins the Bicycle Race.

BERLIN, Sept. 8.—Huret, the Paris cyclist, won the twenty-four hour cycling race which ended here this evening, covering 820 kilometers (about 515 miles 203 yards).

CABINET CRISIS IMMINENT IN SPAIN.

Downfall of the Present Ministry Is Predicted.

Government Isolated as to the Conclusion of a Peace Treaty.

Understood That Spain Will Bargain at the Paris Conference to Retain a Part of the Philippines—The Government Charged at the Attitude of the Conservatives in the Chamber of Deputies.

MADRID, Sept. 8.—The Spanish Cabinet at its meeting this morning decided to take the most stringent measures to prevent the publication of the proceedings of the Cortes, and to provide for the censorship of telegraphic dispatches.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Duke Almodover de Rio, informed his colleagues that as a result of the negotiations at Washington relative to the Spaniards in the Philippine Islands instructions had been sent to the Spanish Consul at Hongkong in accordance with the agreement reached. The Society of the Commercial Union is sending a petition to the Cortes demanding the closing of all military schools, the curtailment of retiring pensions, that all officers returning from Cuba be placed in reserve, and that in addition a budget of 1,000,000 pesetas annually be provided for the care of the sick and wounded Spanish soldiers returning from the colonies.

The newspapers assert that the Government is greatly surprised and chagrined at the attitude of the Conservatives in the Chamber, which indicates that the Government is isolated on such magnitude as the conclusion of the peace treaty. Continuing, the Spanish papers express the opinion that this foreshadows the downfall of the Ministry.

The disorderly scenes witnessed in the chamber yesterday evening would have shamed the bull-ring. Flats and sticks were shaken in the air, and invectives were to be heard on all sides. As a result several duels are expected to take place.

It is understood here that Spain intends to bargain at the Paris peace conference to retain part of the Philippine Islands, but the impression somehow prevails that a republic will be established there under the protectorate of the United States, Great Britain and Germany.

General Polavieja, the former Captain General of Cuba and of the Philippines, who has just issued a manifesto intimating that he is ready to place himself at the head of a neutral political party, is understood to be recruiting a strong party of disaffected Liberals and others with the object, it is claimed, of destroying the military preponderance of the Government.

PORTO RICO CAMPAIGN.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—By direction of General Miles, President McKinley has been presented with a Spanish flag, which was captured by American troops at Coamo, Porto Rico. It was taken from the barracks at Coamo by the Sixteenth Pennsylvania volunteers, together with 200 Spanish prisoners, who were endeavoring to retreat.

Colonel Biddle, who was accompanied by Captain Harry Alvin Hall of the Sixteenth Pennsylvania, made the presentation speech.

The President, in reply, complimented the American troops on their courage and soldierly conduct throughout the campaign. When the committee left the White House the flag was sent to the Adjutant General's office, where it will remain until it is put on exhibition, probably at the National Museum.

PORTO RICO EVACUATION.

SPANISH COMMISSIONERS TRYING TO DELAY MATTERS. SAN JUAN (Porto Rico), Sept. 8.—The Spanish evacuation Commissioners seem disposed to delay the meeting of the Commissioners. They say the instructions have not yet arrived, but are expected on the Alfonso XIII. in the course of a few days. They intimate that even then they will need time to study them.

The American Commissioners have replied that the first meeting must be held before September 12th, under the terms of the protocol.

The United States cruiser Cincinnati, Captain Chester, arrived this morning from St. Thomas, and saluted the Spanish flag and Rear Admiral Schley's pennant. The Spanish forts and warships replied.

PHILIPPINE INSURGENTS.

The Administration Apprehends No Serious Trouble. WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Administration officials have had no recent cause to feel that a critical condition of affairs was near at hand with the insurgent forces of the Philippines. It will be recalled that Major General Merritt, before starting for Paris, advised the insurgent leader, Aguinaldo, that the authority of the United States in and about Manila must be respected, and that in the interest of a quiet and orderly administration of affairs it was desirable for the insurgents to vacate the suburbs of the city within a reasonable time.

About that time Aguinaldo gave assurances of co-operating with the American forces toward the maintenance of order, and there has been no reason to believe that his adherents would give serious opposition to their removal from the suburbs. The time within which the movement is to be accomplished has not expired, according to the understanding here, and a satis-

factory arrangement is expected before the time arrives.

In the meantime no reports have come from General Otis, who is acting Governor in the absence of General Merritt, as to friction with Aguinaldo over his retirement. Reports have been circulated that the President received a dispatch from General Otis yesterday saying that he had given Aguinaldo until to-day to vacate the suburbs, or else take the consequences. This is erroneous, however, as no crisis has been reported by General Otis, and the reports appear to be according to the original orders given by General Merritt.

There is no uneasiness in official circles over our relations with the insurgents, as the American officers at Manila have thus far shown an ability to cope with the situation so tactfully as to avoid friction and entanglements.

THE COMAL'S CARGO.

To Remain at Havana, but the Duty Will Not be Paid.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—The order directing the payment of the Spanish duty on the rations carried by the Comal for the starving inhabitants of Cuba has been held up pending further information on the subject. In answer to a cable message as to what the duty would be a reply was received stating that it would be according to the Spanish rates, \$60,000 in gold. No agent of the United States Government has any such amount of money on hand at Havana, and it may be that the United States Government will take a different course than that agreed upon last evening. It would be according to protocol Spain relinquishes her right to Cuba, and the United States Government may decide that it will not pay duties on such cargoes as sent in the Comal.

It was decided after a conference to-day that the Comal should remain in Havana Harbor with her supplies on board and await further developments. The duty will not be paid.

CANDIA RIOTS.

Estimated That Two Hundred Persons Were Killed.

CANDIA (Island of Crete), Sept. 8.—A detachment of international troops, which has just arrived here, has occupied the fortifications and restored order.

It is now estimated that 200 persons were killed during the rioting. The Mussulman troops protected the Christians placed under their care, but they did not attempt to prevent the pillage of Christian houses, which continued until the international troops arrived.

The President of the Cretan Executive Committee has notified the foreign Admirals that in view of the massacre at Candia, it is impossible to continue the effort to organize an administration until the Turkish functionaries and troops are withdrawn. He demands the convocation of the Cretan Assembly, and proposes to place a force of Cretans at the disposal of the international administration.

TORU HOSHI.

The Japanese Minister Will Retire From His Post at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Toru Hoshi, the Japanese Minister, has been elected to the Japanese Parliament and will retire from the post at Washington. The present indications are that his successor will be Mr. Hatoyama, a leading member of Count Okuma's party, a prominent lawyer of Tokio, and a fine well versed in American affairs, being a graduate of Yale.

Mr. Hoshi left Washington several weeks ago on a leave of absence, in order to take part in the Parliamentary elections, his purpose being to return this fall. He had been mentioned for a Cabinet portfolio, and it was thought he might take the Ministry of Justice or of Foreign Affairs. His election removes him to the legislative field.

The appointment of his successor here is attracting much attention in Japan, owing to the interest Japan takes in the determination of the Philippine question. Mr. Hatoyama is well qualified to fill the post, owing to his familiarity with the language and his long residence in the United States.

NICARAGUA CANAL.

Admiral Walker Thinks the Project Entirely Practicable.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Admiral Walker, President of the Nicaragua Canal Commission, has returned to Washington from his recent visit to attention to the collation and compilation of the material which will form the substance of the report of the commission.

The Admiral says that the commission has now about 250 men at work along the route of the proposed canal, and while they stay there throughout the rainy season. They are making borings and ascertaining the character of the soil at every point where it is proposed to locate dams, locks or other heavy masonry structures. In addition to this, the field parties are taking accurate measurements of the rainfall and the flow of the various streams lying within the limits of the canal concession.

Admiral Walker is confident that the commission will be able to report to Congress at the approaching session, and while he says the necessary data has not been obtained to accurately determine the cost of the canal, he feels confident that the project will be shown to be entirely practicable and worthy of execution.

Future of the Philippines.

LONDON, Sept. 8.—A cable dispatch from Hongkong, dated September 6th, received in London yesterday, announces that a committee of three Filipinos, appointed by Aguinaldo, has left Hongkong in order to confer with President McKinley upon the future of the Philippine Islands.

Letter Wheat Deal Closed.

CHICAGO, Sept. 8.—Joseph Letter has cleared up his famous wheat deal. This has been done only by great sacrifice, including the giving of mortgages on property belonging to the Letter estate aggregating nearly \$5,500,000 in value.

Condition of the Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—To-day's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, \$302,16,054; gold reserve, \$229,994,701.

AFFAIRS IN THE HAWAIIAN GROUP.

American Commissioners Make a Tour of the Islands.

Idea Among Natives That Annexation Was Only a War Measure Disposed Of.

Much Distress Among a Large Number of People Who Rushed to the Islands Expecting to Engage in Business, Many Applying for Free Transportation Back to the United States.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 8.—The following advices have been received from Honolulu under date of August 31st: "The Congressional Commission, with the exception of President Dole, left for the other islands on August 23d, and returned on August 28th, after visiting the principal towns of Maui and Hawaii."

In speaking of the trip Senator Morgan said: "I think we accomplished some good on the tour. I think we very effectively disposed of the prevalent idea among the natives that annexation was only a war measure. We are satisfied that the Hawaiians now thoroughly understand our position, and that when we speak we do so by authority."

Ex-Queen Liliuokalani arrived at Hilo at the same time the Commissioners did, and accompanied them in a separate conveyance to the volcano. She was introduced to members of the commission, but no political talk was indulged in. The ex-Queen was more than gracious, and extended every courtesy to members of the commission. On the voyage from Lahaina members of the Congressional party were presented with royal leis by order of the ex-Queen, and Senator Cullom, Minister Sewall and others personally thanked the former ruler of the islands for the pretty gifts. The people of the islands seem to appreciate the visit of the commission, and the speeches did much to enlighten the Hawaiians on the subject of annexation.

General Merriam states that his orders from Washington are to hold everything at Honolulu until he heard from the Government again. These instructions apply to the Tacoma and her livestock, as well as to the Arizona and her troops. It will take about three weeks more to complete the repairs on the Tacoma, and it is thought here that she will never go to Manila.

The steamship Alliance arrived here August 27th with Companies F, G and H of the First New York. Surgeon Davis was also on board with a complete outfit for a forty-bed hospital in Honolulu.

The steamship Arizona has arrived here with the Third Battalion, Eighteenth Infantry, recruits of the First Colorado, First Nebraska, Tenth Pennsylvania and Third Artillery, in all 1,206 men, besides General Merriam and the Red Cross corps. Preparations are being made to have the troops at the Arizona camp at Kapoleia Park. In case they are to be held here instead of going on to Manila.

Sergeant Ormond Fletcher, Company E, Second Regiment, United States Volunteer Engineers, died August 31st from rheumatism. He was four years young County Surveyor of the State. About fifteen men of the Second Regiment, United States Volunteer Engineers, will be sent back to San Francisco. Most of them are suffering from climate fever.

The Honolulu Stock Exchange has been re-organized. At the request of the Carnival Committee of Topeka, Kan., a native woman has been selected as carnival queen. She is Miss Anna Rose of Hilo, Hawaii.

The Chinese of the Hawaiian Islands have presented a memorial to the members of the Congressional Commission, asking that all Chinese who have become naturalized under the laws of Hawaii and all children born in Hawaii be eligible to become citizens of the United States; that Chinese in Hawaii be permitted the right of transit to and from the United States; that in the laws effecting the immigration of Chinese labor special provision be made for the importation by the owners of rice plantations of a limited number of Chinese laborers to work such plantations; that the Chinese be permitted to bring into this country their children from China and also women of good character; that Chinese merchants be permitted to import clerks for their business establishments;