

THE UNITED STATES CRUISER "OLYMPIA" Dewey's Flagship, Whose Guns Opened the Battle of Manila Bay That Caused the Downfall of Spain's Colonial Power in the Far East.

Our Fight for the Philippines

A Review of the Contest That Began in Manila Bay, May 1, 1898.

Battle of Manila Bay

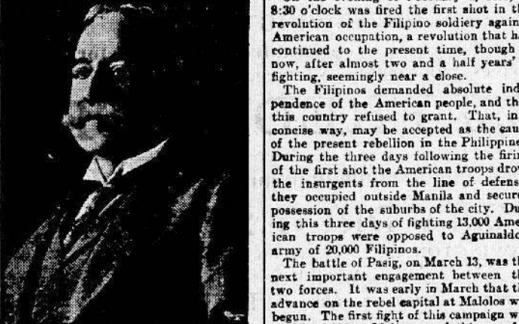
May 1 four years ago Admiral Dewey won his memorable victory in Manila bay that gave to this country a new island empire in the far east.

The enthusiasm with which the news of that victory was hailed in the United States has seldom, if ever, been equaled since the day that marked the close of the long civil war. So great has been its effect upon American policies that we can afford to pause for a moment to rehearse its important details.

The admiral, then a commodore, was a man of action and no sooner did he receive the news that war had been declared than he sailed from Hong-Kong with his squadron, consisting of the Olympia, his flagship, Capt. Charles V. Gridley; the Raleigh, Capt. Joseph B. Coghlan; the Baltimore, Capt. Nebemiah M. Dyer; the Boston, Capt. Frank Widdes; the Monocacy, Commander Oscar W. Farenholt; the Concord, Commander Asa Walker, and the Petrel, Commander Edward P. Wood, for Manila.

The Spanish fleet was lying at Cavite in Manila bay when the intrepid American sailor entered to give battle. He was an unexpected guest, the Spaniards not being used to such energy as it took to put the American fleet into the Philippine harbor at so early a date. They had failed to prepare for his reception and he sailed past Corregidor island, containing what was supposedly impregnable defenses, almost before the garrison were aware of his presence in the vicinity. It was not until

Photo. Copyright, 1901, by Clarendon.



ADMIRAL GEORGE DEWEY, The American Naval Commander at the Battle of Manila Bay.

after his last ship was well past that they thought to give battle to the daring Yankee and then sent a few harmless shots after them.

Day had not yet broken when Cavite was reached, and Dewey quietly awaited its coming. When the sun rose in the east instead of immediately beginning the destruction of the Spanish ships he preferred to play with his enemy, and so weighed anchor and sailed up to the defenses of Manila which he exchanged a few shots as a matter of international courtesy, then returned to give more detailed attention to the Spanish fleet.

It was early even when he got back again to Cavite, so early that it was only 10 minutes past six, when, with the Olympia 5,500 yards from the enemy's ships, he uttered those historic words:

"When you are ready, Gridley, fire."

Instantly the eight-inch guns of the good cruiser broke forth in smoke and flame, and began raining a shower of steel projectiles upon the Spanish ships. Gradually the American fleet drew closer. Submarine mines exploded in front of them, but they were not deterred. The Spanish gunners answered the challenge of the Olympia's guns with a shower of projectiles of equal size, but without doing any considerable damage. As the American boats got within closer range the smaller guns added their roar to that of the larger ones, and the terrific fire was kept up until 7:35 when Dewey felt that he had had enough for a beginner, and not wanting to spoil a good thing too soon, quit for breakfast, and a pull at the pipe or cigar.

As they do things on board an American man-of-war 30 minutes was ample time in which to attend to the wants of the few slightly wounded and prepare dinner to which Admiral Montojo was invited, but which declined.

The Spanish loss was 12 ships—their entire Asiatic squadron—and 618 men either killed or wounded.

For that little morning's work Admiral Dewey gave to the United States something which 125,000 square miles of territory, and which 125,000 square miles of the American people and the rank of admiral in the American navy—and not an American sailor killed or an American vessel seriously injured.

garrisons had been established in Panay, Leyte, Cebu, Negros, Samar and other islands. Gen. Miller had captured Iloilo on February 11; Bacolod, in Negros, was taken by Col. Smith, and on February 21 Cebu was taken by Capt. Conroy, of the Petrel. On August 24 Gen. Bates returned to Manila from the Sulu group and announced the signing of an agreement with the sultan extending American authority over the entire group.

Campaigns followed campaign rapidly, but there was little severe fighting for the American troops. On October 2, 1898, came the first overtures for peace on the part of the insurgents, but the attempt was looked upon by American officers merely as an effort to gain some recognition of the Filipino government and was futile of any result.

On November 1 a movement was begun against Tarlac, then the insurgent capital. Mababac was the first place captured, and on the following day, November 9, San Fabian fell into American hands, and



GEN. A. R. CHAFFEE, Present American Military Commander in the Philippines.

Tarlac was captured on November 12, but Aguinaldo and his government had moved. The following day the insurgents were attacked at San Jacinto, the place being captured, but not until it had cost the life of Maj. John A. Logan. The fighting continued with but small loss to the Americans until Dagupan, the northern terminus of the railroad running from Manila, was reached on November 20. Four days later President Bustaca of the Filipino congress, surrendered himself to Gen. MacArthur and Gen. Otis telegraphed the war department at Washington that "the insurgent government could no longer claim an existence." At that time the insurgent treasurer, secretary of the interior and president of its congress were in American hands.

The American troops pushed steadily northward, and on December 5 Gen. Young's command arrived at Iigan, near the northwest extremity of Luzon. In order to follow the rapidly dispersing enemy Gen. Young divided his force into smaller bodies of troops and dispatched them in different directions for the purpose of capturing Gen. Tino and Gen. Del Pilar, and the whole of the district to the American forces, Capt. McCalla, of the navy, accepting the surrender.

During the middle of December two notable events occurred. The first, on De-



MAJ. WILLIAM H. TAFT, First American Civil Governor in the Philippines.

ember 18, was the rescue of Lieut. Gilmore, of the navy, and his men, who had been captured near Baler, April 12, and the other was the death of Gen. Lawton, killed during the fight at San Mateo on December 19.

By the opening of the year 1900 the insurgent opposition had dwindled to but little more than a force of scattered bands, and guerrilla warfare was the rule. The northern portion of the island had been pretty generally cleared, and Gen. Schwan and Whelan began a campaign against the insurgent forces in the south, and Gen. Bates and Bell headed an expedition which left Manila February 16 to drive the enemy from the Camarines. Both of these expeditions encountered considerable opposition from small bodies of insurgent troops, but were in the end successful in accomplishing the objects for which they were organized with but small loss of life.

The details of the campaigns of 1901 and of the present year are so fresh in the public mind that a rehearsal of their details is unnecessary. Of last year the two most important occurrences were the capture of Aguinaldo by Gen. Funston on March 23 and the establishment of civil government in the islands by the late commission on July 4. There has been considerable fighting since that time. The campaign in Samar, with its attendant horrors, will probably not soon be forgotten, either by the participants or the American public, and now promises to result in a number of



MAJ.-GEN. HENRY W. LAWTON, Killed Dec. 19, 1899, While Leading Attack at San Mateo, Luzon.

court-martials for different army officers. The recent surrender of Gen. Malvar has seemingly virtually ended the organized opposition to American rule, and the officials at Manila are in hopes of an early and permanent peace.

Mountains of Mindanao. Mindanao Island is more or less affected by volcanic mountains. Its mountains are among the highest in the archipelago, one peak, Apo, rising to a height of 10,312 feet. This is a volcanic mountain. Malindang rises to a height of 8,500 feet, and numerous others vary in height from 3,000 feet down to 3,000 feet.

Resources of the Philippines

Speaking of Philippine resources Hon. John Barrett, formerly United States minister to Siam, and an authority on all the far eastern countries, says "a richer isolated land or group of islands, viewed comparatively as to area and population, variety of agriculture, mineral and forest resources undeveloped, in addition to those already improved, cannot be pointed out on the map of the world."

That paragraph gives in a general way the wonderful resources of the Philippines. The soil of the islands is of phenomenal fertility, but its capacities have been most imperfectly developed, neither the natives or the Spaniards seemingly ever thinking of the future. When even impossibly cultivated as it has been it produces bountiful crops of tropical staples, such as sugar, tobacco, rice, coconuts, guava of various kinds, arrowroot, indigo, cotton, pepper, cochineal, betelnut, areca nut, coconuts, cocoanut oil and the Manila hemp so well known to commerce. Of this product between 600,000 and 700,000 bales are exported annually, of which practically one-half comes to the United States. The annual value of the hemp crop exported is about \$7,000,000.

The mineral resources of the islands are as yet almost an unknown quantity. Gold, copper and coal are all found, but as yet in limited quantities. X-ray legends are authority for the tales of fabulously rich gold mines, but these have never been found. It is said that gold formed the chief product of Luzon as far back as the third century, and to-day it is mined in several sections of the island. Zamboanga is the center of the gold mining industry, and is a village that is but little known of to the majority of the people of the islands excepting the Chinese traders who purchase the product of the mines and ship it to the United States. The annual value of the hemp crop exported is about \$7,000,000.

Luzon produces some copper, but the mines, all of which are worked by natives, are not of sufficient value to warrant development on a large scale, and the industry will probably continue a primitive one. There are comparatively few coal deposits known in the islands. Cebu has a limited coal belt of rather inferior quality, and another coal field of some magnitude and of better quality is located in the island of Mindanao. The latter field has been worked to some extent by a local steamship owner who secured fuel for his ships from this field so long as the native laborers could secure it by the use of crowbars only. When the men ceased to work the field was abandoned. Practically all the coal found in the islands, however, is not true coal but lignite, but experts claim there is no reason why the better mineral should not be found in paying quantities.

Area of the Philippines

The Philippine group contains approximately 125,000 square miles. Either by its area or population it is larger than Ireland. Among the others of the larger islands are Mindoro, Panay, Samar, Masbate, Negros, Cebu, Leyte, Bohol and Palawan. These vary considerably in size, averaging from 6,000 square miles down to less than 3,000. Of the more than 2,000 islands there are only some 600 that are inhabited, or are large enough to support a population of any size, the majority of the others being but mere rocks or reefs.

Island of Mindanao.

Mindanao Island, from which comes our latest troubles in the Philippines, promises to become a veritable paradise for fortune hunters along various lines. Its soil is probably more fertile than that of any of the other islands, and its streams and mountains are said to abound in liberal quantities of gold and other minerals. It is inhabited by the Moro tribes, all of whom are Mohammedans. Spain never succeeded in establishing anything like a staple government in the island.

School System Established.

A department of public instruction for the Philippines was established at Manila on January 21, 1901, and rapid progress was made during the year in the organization of free public schools. Some 500 teachers were sent to the islands from the United States. English was made the official language of the schools.

Climate of the Philippines.

A weather record kept in Manila between the years 1883-98 shows that the temperature never went beyond the 100-degree point and never fell below 60. The annual mean temperature is given as about 80 degrees.

He—"This new table-tennis ball gives me a pain." She—"Sort of ping-pong pang, eh?"—Outing.



MAP OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Some Philippine History

Spain must credit Magellan with her possession of the Philippines. That bold explorer sailed around Cape Horn, crossed the Pacific and landed on the island of Cebu in 1521, where he attempted to take possession in the name of Spain, but was killed in a skirmish with the natives. The ships of Magellan returned to Spain and his companions aroused an interest in the wonderful lands they had discovered, but it was not until 1565 that another attempt was made to subdue the natives and gain a foothold in the islands. At this later date a Spanish fleet sailing from Mexico punished the natives for the killing of Magellan, and formally took possession of the entire group in the name of the Spanish sovereign. Five years later the city of Manila was founded, and the whole of the archipelago to the British empire had not political combinations in Europe prevented. As it was Manila was again surrendered to Spain upon a promise to pay a ransom amounting to \$5,000,000. It is a debt that England has never been able to collect.

Throughout the present century rebellions on the part of the natives have been frequent. The first serious one began in 1822, which continued for some months before it was suppressed by the Spanish troops. Another came in 1841, lasting through the following year. The next one of any consequence was that of 1859-67, which resulted in the banishment of Aguinaldo and his followers to Hong-Kong.

Spain's Method of Government

The "little government" was the foundation of the Spanish system of government in the Philippines. It represented the lowest rung of the official ladder, and ruled in the parish. He was an official of but little power, with but small opportunity for "graft," and whose greatest perquisite consisted in the removal of the official hat, a stiff, mushroom-shaped affair, liberally covered with

ornaments of silver bullion. Of far more influence were the priests, an influence that was much more often exercised for good than for bad, and many evidences of their rule are to be found throughout the islands in the shape of roads and bridges. To be sure the natives were taxed for far more than the conveniences that were built, but it is a question if any would have been built had it not been for the priests.

The real government of the islands lay in the hands of the governor-general, a crown appointee. He was assisted by a council of state. The minister of the colonies at Madrid was the direct head of the government, as he was of all the Spanish colonies, but he was assisted by an advisory council for the Philippines, residing in Madrid, and to this council was specially entrusted the interests of the Philippines.

The islands could never be properly termed a Spanish colony. They were held only as a military possession. To extract money from the people, under the various forms of taxation that cunning and rapacity had devised, was the sole purpose of Spain and the business and object of the governmental officers that were maintained there. How much these extortions amounted to will never be known outside of Spanish official circles, but there were few Spanish officials sent to the islands who did not return to Spain with a competence, the greater part of which was the result of various forms of bribery and official dishonesty.

Flag of the Philippines.

Upper Stripe Red, Lower Blue, Sun and Stars Yellow on White Ground.

been the life of the young king that the people of his capital have, as a whole, never been able to cast even a passing glance at his majesty. Although his personal life has thus far been uneventful, history writes that matters of worldwide importance have transpired while his mind was in the early formative period; wrongs have been righted or transferred to the shoulders of another nation, matters have settled themselves as much as ever seems possible in his nervous little kingdom, and his subjects are taking a short breathing spell while waiting for his solemn installation before the house of deputies and estates of the realm as ruler of Spain, which he is by the grace of God and the constitution of 1876, coronation ceremonies belonging to the past.

When King Alfonso XII died in the royal palace of El Pardo, his favorite shooting box, near Madrid, in November, 1885, his little daughter, Mercedes, was apparently heir to the throne and would now be reigning had the child who came six months later proved, like herself and the Infanta Maria Theresa, to be a girl. But the hearts of the Spanish nation were gladdened by the news that the wife of their late king had presented them with a male ruler, and they have accorded her the honor and obedience which her high character and judgment have so well merited.

When this young woman, whose great misfortune it was to have been born a Hapsburg, came, a foreigner and stranger, to wed a childless widower whose heart was buried in the grave of his first wife, and to whom the thought of a second marriage was thoroughly distasteful, her lot was one which no woman could envy. When left a widow with two little girls, the elder but five years old, with a long regency before her, doubts and uncertainty dominated the mind of her subjects. She was wholly inexperienced, having had no connection with politics during the lifetime of her husband, but by her wisdom and foresight during the stormy period through which the nation has passed, she has placed the affairs of

LONG LIVE THE KING

Alfonso XIII. to Be Installed at Madrid, May 17.

He Has Been Carefully Trained for His Monarchical Duties—Owes Throned and All to His Mother's Tact.

[Special Correspondence.] FATHER TIME is so rapidly slipping events that dignified old Spain will soon find itself in gala attire, in full enjoyment of the event toward which its hopes have been directed since May 17, 1886, on the sixteenth anniversary of which date young Alfonso will emerge from his life of seclusion, a full-fledged monarch. So quiet and studious has



HIS MAJESTY ALFONSO XIII. (To Be Installed King of Spain on His Sixteenth Birthday, May 17.)

been the life of the young king that the people of his capital have, as a whole, never been able to cast even a passing glance at his majesty. Although his personal life has thus far been uneventful, history writes that matters of worldwide importance have transpired while his mind was in the early formative period; wrongs have been righted or transferred to the shoulders of another nation, matters have settled themselves as much as ever seems possible in his nervous little kingdom, and his subjects are taking a short breathing spell while waiting for his solemn installation before the house of deputies and estates of the realm as ruler of Spain, which he is by the grace of God and the constitution of 1876, coronation ceremonies belonging to the past.

When King Alfonso XII died in the royal palace of El Pardo, his favorite shooting box, near Madrid, in November, 1885, his little daughter, Mercedes, was apparently heir to the throne and would now be reigning had the child who came six months later proved, like herself and the Infanta Maria Theresa, to be a girl. But the hearts of the Spanish nation were gladdened by the news that the wife of their late king had presented them with a male ruler, and they have accorded her the honor and obedience which her high character and judgment have so well merited.

When this young woman, whose great misfortune it was to have been born a Hapsburg, came, a foreigner and stranger, to wed a childless widower whose heart was buried in the grave of his first wife, and to whom the thought of a second marriage was thoroughly distasteful, her lot was one which no woman could envy. When left a widow with two little girls, the elder but five years old, with a long regency before her, doubts and uncertainty dominated the mind of her subjects. She was wholly inexperienced, having had no connection with politics during the lifetime of her husband, but by her wisdom and foresight during the stormy period through which the nation has passed, she has placed the affairs of



QUEEN REGENT MARIA CHRISTINA. (Mother of the King and the Preserver of the Throne.)

the kingdom in a condition where her son can assume the reins of government peacefully and in comparative security. On May 17, Maria Christina will cease to be queen regent, but it is said that the devotion of young Alfonso to his mother is such that by his request she will remain in the Madrid palace. She has now the respect and esteem of the whole world.

Sixteen years ago, in accordance with ancient etiquette, crown ministers, nobles and high state dignitaries summoned to the antechamber of the palace, formed an imposing assemblage to witness the immediate presentation of the royal child whom Sagasta carried, daintily dressed, through their midst, upon a silver salver. That he was deeply affected was evident to all as he announced: "It is a king." A male once more represented this branch of the Bourbons and the Infanta Mercedes, by right of birth, was but Princess of Asturias and heiress apparent. Every effort tended to render the earliest years of this high-born little personage a season of truce in Spain.

The queen regent, in accordance with the advice of Canovas, the head of the conservative party, called Sagasta and the liberal party to her councils, uniting the two great parties in defense of the throne. The republicans, at first

very active in the larger towns, were conciliated by moderate reforms. The loyalty of the two services was guaranteed by admirals, marshals and generals. The prelates, in accordance with strict orders from the Vatican, kept the clergy working harmoniously with the government. The mother of the important little boy had requested no less a personage than Pope Leo XIII. to act as god-father to her son and he had graciously consented, since which time his holiness has exercised a certain guardianship over his god-son and his mother which has tended more than anything else to hold in check the partisans of the pretender; hence authority over 18,000,000 Spaniards passes uncontested to King Alfonso XIII. from the hands of his Austrian mother.

The first 18 months of Alfonso's life, a healthy, handsome peasant woman from the Valle de Paz (Peace valley), Santander province, cared for him with the greatest devotion. This woman in her picturesque native costume figured prominently for years in the royal train. She was carefully directed by Dr. Riedel, the queen's Austrian surgeon-in-ordinary and by an English woman.

Only by his exceeding wilfulness and activity did the baby give trouble white growing into a promising looking boy. No matter how restive he became, his mother could always appeal to him successfully and her influence over him was such that a word of sorrow or reproach brought prompt obedience to her wishes. In his baby days his subjects in Madrid enjoyed many more opportunities for seeing him than later.

The queen purchased a beautiful estate at San Sebastian, where she passed her summers with her family, at her residence, El Palacio de Miramar, built expressly for her use. Here the little king spent his early days playing on the sandy beach, where he was the center of attraction. His activity here proved to those who witnessed his sports that the stories of his delicate health were without foundation. Like other children, he had attacks of illness, when his mother never left his bedside, and the light in the sickroom at night and bulletins by day were eagerly watched. But he developed into a healthy, vigorous young man. When a mere child he learned English and German from being present at his sisters' lessons. His younger sister was his favorite playmate.

It was a great trial to the queen-mother when court etiquette decreed that her son must pass to the charge of men. Great care was taken that these should be in every way fitted for the responsibility of training their future monarch. A chaplain of



THE LATE ALFONSO XII. (Father of the King, Who Died Six Months Before His Son's Birth.)

the pope, Monsignor Merry del Val, son of a distinguished Spanish diplomat, was the king's first confessor. He was succeeded by Padre Montana, a Jesuit, confessor to the queen regent. For political reasons he was displaced and had several successors.

Gen. Sanchis, an artillery officer of distinction, and veteran held in high esteem by the army, was appointed director in chief of the pursuits of the royal student. For several years, as head of the king's household, this director de estudios, together with three other principal officers in charge of the king's education—Rear Admiral Aguirre de Tejada and Cola Casteljo and Lorica—lived in the palace superintending the numerous professors from whom Alfonso received instruction. One of them always sleeps in his bed chamber, and unless he is with his mother or sisters, one of them always accompanies him when he goes out. After the death of Gen. Sanchis, Admiral Aguirre de Tejada, as senior in rank, succeeded in his duties.

It has been the aim of those who had it in charge to render the king's education thoroughly practical. The language, grammar, history and literature of his own country, in all of which he evinces a keen interest, have received especial attention. Geography, Greek, Latin, science and mathematics have been mastered by his retentive memory, aided by his investigating disposition. He converses fluently in modern languages. Agricultural and engineering have been studied carefully, but nothing so much interests his majesty as international and constitutional law, political economy and social questions. At all seasons, he rises at seven in the morning and earlier in summer. Until one o'clock, with but an hour's interruption for exercise, he studies assiduously. Except on special occasions, he resumes work after luncheon. His last evening lesson is music. Only within 18 months, and then but rarely, has he accompanied the ladies of his family to public entertainments, his life having been very secluded. Recently he appeared for the first time at a bull-fight, to the delighted surprise of the 15,000 spectators at the Plaza de Toros. He showed the keenest enjoyment in the spectacle, to the joy of his subjects who then and there declared him a true Spaniard. His physical training has been excellent. He is a keen lover of horses. If near the window when the guard is relieved, he stands erect and gravely salutes the colors of Spain.

EDWARD JULIAN.

Recognition After Death. An artist must be dead ten years before specimens of his work are permitted to hang on the walls of the Louvre, in Paris.