

SPION KOP ABANDONED

Gen. Sir Charles Warren Unable to Maintain His Position on the Exposed Hill.

British War Office Notified Briefly of His Sudden Retreat in an Eighteen-Word Dispatch from General Buller.

THE SITUATION REGARDED AS GRAVE.

Rumor Current in London That Later and Worse News Has Been Suppressed.

Over Seven Hundred Britons Killed and Wounded in Seven Days of Fighting, and the List Not Complete—Views of Experts.

LONDON, Jan. 27, 5 a. m.—

Early yesterday morning all Britain was still rejoicing over General Buller's dispatch notifying the War Office that Sir Charles Warren had captured Spion kop. By noon the jubilation had given way to dejection, for the unexpected announcement was made that Warren had been forced to abandon his position. It was at 11:10 a. m. that the War Office posted the unwelcome news contained in the following bulletin from Buller, dated Spearman's Camp, Natal, Jan. 25, noon:

"General Warren's garrison, I am sorry to say, I find this morning, had, in the night, abandoned Spion kop."

WORSE NEWS EXPECTED.

Rumor that the War Office is holding back a dispatch from Buller. LONDON, Jan. 27, 4 a. m.—Seven days of fighting have left the main Boer position intact and General Buller's army 706 weaker, according to the official casualty lists, which, seemingly, do not include the Spion kop losses, as those last forwarded do not mention General Woodgate's wounding.

England is possessed by a depressing sense of failure, although not a word in criticism of her generals and soldiers is uttered. Not much effort is made to place a happy construction upon General Buller's bare eighteen words telling of the retirement from Spion kop, and there is an uneasy impression abroad that worse news is yet to come.

At one of the military clubs to-night the statement passed from one member to another that the War Office had received an unpleasant supplementary dispatch from General Buller, which was being held up for twelve hours.

FACTS SCANTY.

But facts from the neighborhood of Tugela are scantier than ever. The censorship now is simply prohibitive and something is wrong with the cables. The break on the east coast lines has been repaired, but the cable between San Thome and Loanda, on the west coast, is now interrupted.

Buller has not 20,000 more men, declaring that, if they would not make victory certain, his enterprise without them is hopeless.

The Spectator, dealing with the necessity of large additional military preparations, says: "It may be that we have yet another cycle of disasters in front of us."

The transport Assaye arrived at Cape Town last Friday with 2,127 officers and men. The first portion of the Seventh division is afloat. Hence, with the 10,000 men of this division and about 9,000 others now at sea, it lies in the power of Lord Roberts to reinforce General Buller heavily. This course is advised by several military writers.

Although England's nerves are severely tried, her nerve is absolutely unshaken, and probably nothing that can happen in South Africa will change in the slightest degree her intentions. She will continue to receive bad news, if it comes, with dignity and will maintain her determination to win at last.

URGED TO KEEP COOL. The morning papers editorially advise coolness and judgment and a careful avoidance of overestimating the importance of the lost position. The Times says: "The natural disquietude of the public is increased by the singular vagueness and inconsistency of General Buller's dispatches. There is, indeed, a very singular and somewhat disquieting attitude of detachment on General Buller's comments as revealed in the Gazette's dispatches. For instance, his comment as to the action at Zoutphans drift. His remark concerning the probability that British officers would in time learn the value of scouting might properly have come from a foreign military attaché, but it is rather more than surprising that it should be thrown out in this casual, irresponsible fashion by the head of the forces concerning his subordinates, a week or two, moreover, after the loss of the guns on the Tugela. The consequences of this latest check may be very serious to the gallant Ladysmith garrison. It is impossible to estimate the next movement. It may be that General Buller will be compelled to retire from the ground lately won, but in any event we may be sure that the British people will not show themselves wanting in fortitude and steadiness. The government would be well advised to call out immediately all the militia and to expedite the dispatch of the eighth division and of the fourth cavalry brigade. No doubt Lord Roberts will strain every nerve to enable General Buller to renew the attempt to relieve Ladysmith."

The military critic of the Times, discussing various probable explanations, dwells strongly on "the terrible drawback to British generals involved in the absence of maps of this tangled hill country."

MORE TROOPS NEEDED.

The Standard, which thinks still more troops will be required and which comments on the "astonishing manner in which South Africa swallows up troops wholesale without any appreciable result," goes on to refer to the continental jubilation and to the predictions regarding General Buller's check. It says: "It is humiliating to find that the Natal territory has been more accurately studied in Berlin than at our own headquarters on the Tugela. The editorial then alludes to the significance of Dr. Leyds's doings in Paris, remarking: "Dr. Leyds was a guest at President Loubet's banquet on Thursday, where, in consequence, the British ambassador did not appear. M. Delcasse conversed some time with him and it is believed that he has since received him at Quai d'Orsay. Our Paris correspondent, however, assures us that the French government is determined to preserve neutrality."

The position of the British armies in Cape Colony is virtually unchanged. Lord Methuen forwards by mail the first official recognition of Boer valor and military art. He calls their tactics and their courage "indisputable." In defending frontal attacks, Lord Methuen says: "The mobility of the Boers is such that they can change front in fifteen minutes, so that a flanking operation, when striking home, simply meets a new front."

The Daily Mail, referring to Boer resistance and what may be necessary to overcome it, alludes to a saying of Napoleon that no position could resist 200,000 men.

There is some concern here as to the whereabouts of General Dundonald and his command of cavalry. Not a word concerning Dundonald's movements or position has been received since Monday, and Gen. Buller's dispatches make no mention of him. When last reported, he was at Olivershoek Pass, on the road from Acton Homes to Dewdorp, well to the west of Warren, and was said to be "awaiting developments."

MONSIEUR MAY BE RECALLED.

British Ambassador at Paris Not at Loubet's Diplomatic Dinner. PARIS, Jan. 27, 5 a. m.—The morning papers comment on the absence of the British ambassador, Sir Edmund J. Monson, from President Loubet's diplomatic dinner on Thursday evening, at which Dr. Leyds was present. The Echo de Paris says: "His absence was the cause of much remark. Moreover, the receptions at the British embassy have been suspended for some weeks past. Marquis De Gallifet, who was formerly a constant visitor, has not been seen at the embassy during the last fortnight. We may add that the recall of Sir Edmund Monson, which was so much discussed before the Transvaal war, is only delayed. He will be replaced after the expiration."

BULLER'S CASUALTY LIST.

Twenty-Four Officers and 154 Men Killed and Wounded—31 Missing.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—General Buller sent a dispatch to the War Office to-day, dated Spearman's Camp, Jan. 25, 10:25 a. m., in which he reports the British casualties on Jan. 24 were:

Table with columns: Killed, Wounded, Missing, Officers, Noncommissioned officers and men.

Two regiments suffered severely, as will be seen in the following detailed list of losses:

Table with columns: Killed, Wounded, Missing, Officers, Noncommissioned officers and men.

The killed include Colonel Buchanan, the King's Royal Rifles. He served in the Niger war of 1883. It is not clear whether the casualties include those at Spion kop or only those resulting from the fighting prior to the Spion kop engagement.

Special dispatches from Durban say the Boer losses on the upper Tugela during the fighting on Sunday last were very great. General Warren's men captured 160 prisoners and 130 Boers were found dead in one trench.

INTERPRETED AS A DEFEAT.

German View of Britain's "Step Into the Mouse Trap." BERLIN, Jan. 26.—The latest news from South Africa is interpreted as a signal defeat for the British. The Deutsche Tagesblatt Zeitung calls the British position there "another step into the mouse trap."

The last direct German mails to the Transvaal are now being returned from Cape Town without any explanation on the part of the British authorities. The German press comments on the fact with considerable heat.

An incident illustrating the bitterness of popular feeling in Germany against England is the appearance of a pamphlet to-day entitled "The Final Reckoning with England." This pretends to describe events in 1881, and sets forth descriptions of naval battles in which Germany defeats England, and the general break-up of the British empire ensues, with Australia declaring her independence and the other British colonies being divided up among various powers.

FRENCHMEN PLEASED.

Editors Ticked Over the Forced Retirement of Warren. PARIS, Jan. 27, 5:40 a. m.—Most of the French papers will with great satisfaction the announcement that the British have abandoned Spion kop. The ambiguous wording of the first dispatch had led them to declare that the British War Office was keeping back something, and they now insist that this dispatch must have contained the fact that Sir Charles Warren had abandoned the position, and that this was suppressed by the War Office. All comment upon this "extraordinary step" and express the opinion that it is sufficient to "drive any nation to despair."

The Matin even goes so far as to make this insinuation: "The British government willingly gave the nation false joy when it knew it had the truth. Was it from motives of policy or from other motives? To what must we attribute such sharp practices? Signor Crispien acted thus at the time of the Abyssinian war. We believe Lord Salisbury to be a stranger to such proceedings, which are only explicable if the direction of affairs is in the uncontrolled hands of Mr. Chamberlain."

GLOOM IN LONDON YESTERDAY.

How the News of Warren's Retreat Was Received by All Classes. LONDON, Jan. 26.—A few minutes before 11 o'clock this morning the War Office had a deserted appearance, only a few reporters and messengers being visible about the building. A few minutes later, however, and almost simultaneously with the posting of General Buller's dispatch, carriages and cabs came rolling up, people with anxious faces hastened to the boards and the lobbies soon became congested.

"Forced back, shelled back," "Shelled out, I suppose! Great heaven, he's had to go back!" These and similar expressions were heard on all sides and with downcast countenances the long stream of callers made their way back to the street while their places were occupied by newcomers. The main trouble here seems to be that the people assumed the point gained by War-

ren on Tuesday night was more conclusive than it really was, hence the extreme reaction of feeling caused by General Buller's announcement of the abandonment of Spion kop. Considering that the Boers who held the position fled, that the British casualties in retaining it during the subsequent attacks were heavy, and that the strategic value of the point had still to be demonstrated, there never was any great reason for throwing up hats, and until further particulars arrive it is impossible to estimate to what extent the present disappointment is justified. It is impossible just now to say whether the British suffered a reverse or the movement was dictated by strategic reasons. Obviously the position was useless unless guns could be planted on it, and discovering this was impossible, General Warren may have decided it was unsafe to attempt to hold the position any longer; or, perhaps he is seeking a more profitable ascent elsewhere.

Whatever may be the explanation of the abandonment of Spion kop by the British, it will doubtless have the same temporary moral effect as a reverse. It appears to have been so entirely unexpected at the War Office that General Buller's dispatch caused something in the nature of consternation. The only official comment was: "Apparently General Warren found the position too hot to hold."

Business in the Stock Exchange became very flat to-day. Consols dropped 1/2, leading to a general decline.

Nowhere, however, in spite of the depression, is there the least sign of abatement in the determination to carry the war to a successful issue. The Cabinet met this afternoon under the presidency of Lord Salisbury and doubtless the ministers fully canvassed the new situation, though primarily summoned to discuss the terms of the Queen's speech.

Under other circumstances the news from Ladysmith showing greatly improved sanitary conditions, the plentifulness of provisions and the strengthening of the fortifications until the place is regarded as impregnable would have inspired the nation, but these good tidings to the British ever so shadowed by the anxiety as to the situation on the upper Tugela and the thought that the heavy losses suffered during the struggle Tuesday night have counted for naught.

Military circles made no effort to conceal their chagrin, expressing the gravest fears as to the ultimate fate of Ladysmith. Such authorities as Maj. Gen. Sir Frederick Carrington, who is under orders for South Africa, and Lord Gifford, who was the Victoria cross for scouting for Lord Wolseley, would not be surprised to hear of the capture of General White's force within a week. Lord Gifford, who knows the country like a book, could not understand how General Warren got to the top of Spion kop without ascertaining what positions command it. The pooriness of the map, it was pointed out, could hardly be an excuse for this, as there must be with General Warren several scouts, to say nothing of officers who at one time or another have served at Ladysmith and whose mere hunting expeditions would have given them knowledge of the country. While General Warren is not blamed for retreating under what is supposed to have been heavy shell fire, he is severely criticised for occupying a position to which he could not bring up his artillery.

As far as the general public is concerned, now that the first flash of disappointment is over it takes the news stolidly. When the newspapers, bearing big placards containing the words "Spion Kop Abandoned," appeared in the streets the people rushed to buy the papers, and, from cabmen on top of hansoms to business men hurrying cityward, all could be seen scanning the news with dazed expressions. The signs of pleasure which were visible everywhere yesterday have now given place to a wave of depression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the West End the rapidly with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars. The St. James Gazette says: "We are only at the beginning."

The Westminster Gazette suggests that the abandonment of Spion kop need not mean more than the given up of a wave of depression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the West End the rapidly with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars. The St. James Gazette says: "We are only at the beginning."

The Westminster Gazette suggests that the abandonment of Spion kop need not mean more than the given up of a wave of depression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the West End the rapidly with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars. The St. James Gazette says: "We are only at the beginning."

The Westminster Gazette suggests that the abandonment of Spion kop need not mean more than the given up of a wave of depression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the West End the rapidly with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars. The St. James Gazette says: "We are only at the beginning."

The Westminster Gazette suggests that the abandonment of Spion kop need not mean more than the given up of a wave of depression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the West End the rapidly with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars. The St. James Gazette says: "We are only at the beginning."

The Westminster Gazette suggests that the abandonment of Spion kop need not mean more than the given up of a wave of depression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the West End the rapidly with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars. The St. James Gazette says: "We are only at the beginning."

The Westminster Gazette suggests that the abandonment of Spion kop need not mean more than the given up of a wave of depression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the West End the rapidly with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars. The St. James Gazette says: "We are only at the beginning."

The Westminster Gazette suggests that the abandonment of Spion kop need not mean more than the given up of a wave of depression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the West End the rapidly with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars. The St. James Gazette says: "We are only at the beginning."

The Westminster Gazette suggests that the abandonment of Spion kop need not mean more than the given up of a wave of depression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the West End the rapidly with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars. The St. James Gazette says: "We are only at the beginning."

The Westminster Gazette suggests that the abandonment of Spion kop need not mean more than the given up of a wave of depression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the West End the rapidly with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars. The St. James Gazette says: "We are only at the beginning."

CHINA EXCITED

CELESTIAL KINGDOM IN A FERMENT OVER POLITICAL AFFAIRS.

Progressive Chinese Begging Foreign Ministers to Intervene and Restore the Deposed Emperor.

JAPANESE ALSO EXCITED

THINK RUSSIA IS INFLUENCING THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

Letter is Dismissing Many High Officials and Taking Precautions Against an Uprising.

GERMAN COURT IN MOURNING

FUNERAL OF THE EMPRESS DOWAGER TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY.

Italy Trying to Suppress the Mafia—Strike of Carpenters Employed on the Paris Fair Buildings.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—A special dispatch from Shanghai says the news of abdication of the Emperor has caused a tremendous sensation in Japan, where a strong desire is expressed to adopt stringent measures, as it is believed Russia is the leading hand in the coup d'etat.

The Dowager Empress has dismissed Jung-Lu, generalissimo of the Chinese forces, on account of his supposed disapproval of the coup d'etat. Other high officials have been superseded. Extraordinary precautions have been taken at the view royal capitals to prevent uprising. The troops have been served with ball cartridges. The interior of China is greatly excited, and progressive Chinese are begging the American, British and Japanese ministers to intervene and restore the Emperor to power.

An official communication received here from Peking says: "Pu Chun, who has been appointed heir apparent to the throne, has given the status of a son of the last Emperor. The statement that a new Emperor has ascended the throne is premature although it is liable; the present action is preparatory thereto."

The Shanghai correspondent of the Times says: "A petition was forwarded by telegram to Peking to-day signed by 1,200 representatives of local Chinese merchants and gentry, begging the prince and ministers of the Tsung Li Yamen to urge the Emperor to reconsider his abdication and to revoke the edict."

The Hong-Kong correspondent of the Times says he has received a dispatch intimating the dethronement and death of the Emperor.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Nothing further has been heard from United States Minister Conger at Peking since his cablegram yesterday announcing the selection of an heir apparent to the Chinese throne. Hence it is concluded that the action taken by the convocation of Chinese notables was technically limited to the naming of Pu Chun as the heir apparent.

WILL BE BURIED ON SUNDAY.

Body of the Late Empress Dowager Taken to Primenkau.

BERLIN, Jan. 26.—The funeral of the late Dowager Duchess of Schleswig-Holstein, mother of the Empress of Germany, will take place on Sunday at Primenkau, a town of Silesia, in the Legation district. The body left Dresden at 11 o'clock this evening for Primenkau, where it will be placed in the family vault, beside that of her husband.

The court will go into mourning until Feb. 15. Their Majesties started for Berlin immediately after the mourning service was held, at 5 o'clock this afternoon, at the King of Saxony's chateau at Strehlon, in which all the principalities present joined.

While the orders of Emperor William to omit all court fetes will be carried out rigorously, the military and popular celebration of his Majesty's birthday to-morrow will not be omitted. At 8 o'clock in the morning military bands will perform the so-called "Waking" along the Unter den Linden to Brandeburg gate. Simultaneously trumpeters from the Castle Cupola will play several chorals. At noon there will be a parole at the arsenal, at which all the generals and admirals will be present. On his Majesty's appearance a salute of 101 guns will be fired. The parole is "long life to the Emperor-King." The Bundesrat, Reichstag and Diet will give banquets, omitting their usual sessions; the Municipal Council will present an address to the Emperor; the schools and universities will celebrate, and all Berlin will be illuminated in the evening.

In consequence of the mourning the Emperor has postponed the performance of the historical play, "Der Eisenbahn" (The Iron Tooth), which was to have received its premiere at the Royal Theater this evening.

THE CLAYTON-BULWER TREATY.

London Spectator Urges Britain to Voluntarily Abrogate It. LONDON, Jan. 26.—The Spectator, in the course of an important article, urging that it is entirely to the advantage of Great Britain that the Nicaragua canal should be cut, urges the government to "anticipate the possibility of the Washington administration raising the problem of the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty in an offensive form by voluntarily offering to abrogate the treaty. "We should thus avoid," says the Spectator, "being put in a ridiculous position by seeming unwilling to yield to pressure when pressure was being exerted in regard to something which was our own interest to do. We do not want, in fact, to quarrel with America over not doing something which would be greatly to the advantage of the British empire. If the canal is to be made and cannot be made under our control, it is immensely important that it should be in the hands of a strong, friendly neutral power, and God be thanked, there is less fear of our being at war with America

OPENING PORTS

KOBBE DOING GOOD WORK ALONG THE PHILIPPINE COAST.

Cleaning Out Rebels and Lifting Embargo on Thousands of Bales of Hemp Stored in Warehouses.

SHARP FIGHT AT LEGASPI

WHERE THE GUNBOAT NASHVILLE SHELLED THE TRENCHES.

Pacific Villagers Forced to Cover the Retreat of the Insurgents, Who Fled to the Mountains.

FILIPINO LOSSES HEAVY

FIFTY KILLED AT ONE PLACE AND TWENTY-EIGHT AT ANOTHER.

Intrenched Force Defeated by Lieut. Col. Hayes—Latest Account of the Loss of the Gunboat Unadeta.

MANILA, Jan. 26, 6:45 p. m.—

A dispatch from Sorogon, dated Thursday, Jan. 25, says Brigadier General Kobbe's expedition has occupied Sorogon, Donsol, Bulan, Legaspi and Virac, on Catanduanan island. The only resistance was at Legaspi, where five Americans were wounded and forty-five dead and fifteen wounded Filipinos were found. It is estimated there are 125,000 bales of hemp in these provinces and 75,000 bales in the ports of Sorogon and Legaspi. The United States gunboat Nashville's shrapnel burned 8,000 bales in Legaspi.

The expedition arrived off Sorogon Jan. 20 and the town displayed white flags. General Kobbe and Colonel Howe, with a battalion of the Forty-seventh Infantry landed and raised the United States flag. The insurgent force, numbering 300 men, evacuated the place. The natives were passive. During the morning of Jan. 23 the Nashville and Venus, with four companies of the Forty-seventh Infantry Regiment, under Major Shipton, approached Legaspi. Filipino flags were flying and the trenches were crowded. A detachment of 150 picked men, led by Major Shipton, landed on the beach about a mile north of town, the Nashville bombarded the trenches and the enemy retreated to Albay, whence they were easily dispersed to the hills. About 200 insurgents, armed with rifles, forced 600 unwilling villagers, armed with bows and arrows to serve in the trenches in the close-range street fighting before the enemy fled. The Filipino dead were mostly villagers, who were attempting to flee.

The expedition proceeded to Samar and Leyte, where the Forty-third Infantry and a battalion of the Third Artillery will be distributed. The natives complain of lack of food, resulting from the blockade. They were strongly opposed to the return of the friars. Native priests are officiating in the churches.

Lieut. Col. Webb C. Hayes has defeated an entrenched force of the enemy at Samar. One American was killed and five wounded. A record of eleven American prisoners was found. Captain Castel, while scouting near Barns with his company, encountered four hundred insurgents. He was reinforced by Captain Grace and the enemy was driven to Tanny. One American was killed and one wounded.

OFFICIAL DISPATCHES.

Advices from General Otis and Rear Admiral Watson.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—General Otis cabled the War Department to-day as follows: "Kobbe's troops occupy the hemp ports of Sorogon, Donsol, Bulan, Albay and Legaspi, southeastern Luzon, and Virac, island of Catanduanan. Will probably occupy the ports of Calbayogon, Calbayogon and Tacloban, on the islands of Samar and Leyte, before evening. No opposition except at Legaspi, where 800 insurgents, strongly entrenched, under the Chinese general, Powah, made a stubborn resistance. Our troops landed under protection of guns of the Nashville, which bombarded fortifications at close range. The enemy's loss was over fifty killed or mortally wounded and twenty-eight killed at Enbridgehead at almost a hand-to-hand encounter, refusing to surrender. Our casualties were Captain Bradley Hancock, quartermaster volunteers, aid to Kobbe, wounded in hand, and six men, including one sailor on Nashville, slightly wounded. These ports contain a great quantity of hemp ready for shipment and will be open on the 30th inst."

General Otis's report of yesterday's movements in the campaign in Luzon is as follows: "Hayes's cavalry reported at Santa Cruz, drove the enemy out of Luzena, Tayabas and adjacent towns; rescued twenty Spanish prisoners and five women; other Spanish prisoners moved back in small detachments in mountains. The enemy dispersed and the greater part is believed to be seeking homes at Tayabas. Found a record dated last night saying eleven American prisoners leave to-morrow, know not to what place. Hayes's casualties, one killed, three mortally wounded, two slightly wounded."

Rear Admiral Watson has cabled the Navy Department an account of the part taken by the navy in the splendid campaign now being made in southern Luzon by General Schwann. The admiral's dispatch refers to the engagement, or rather series of engagements, which took place along the eastern and southern shores of Lake Taal a week ago. There is no outlet from the lake to the sea and three shells across into the insurgents' defenses. The admiral's account of the affair is as follows: "The Marietta, with Green commanding, on the 15th co-operated with the army in the capture of Taal. Enfiladed the insurgent trenches at about 1,600 yards. Lieut. Price landed with Colt gun. Green reports that a battalion of the Forty-sixth

OPENING PORTS

KOBBE DOING GOOD WORK ALONG THE PHILIPPINE COAST.

Cleaning Out Rebels and Lifting Embargo on Thousands of Bales of Hemp Stored in Warehouses.

SHARP FIGHT AT LEGASPI

WHERE THE GUNBOAT NASHVILLE SHELLED THE TRENCHES.

Pacific Villagers Forced to Cover the Retreat of the Insurgents, Who Fled to the Mountains.

FILIPINO LOSSES HEAVY

FIFTY KILLED AT ONE PLACE AND TWENTY-EIGHT AT ANOTHER.

Intrenched Force Defeated by Lieut. Col. Hayes—Latest Account of the Loss of the Gunboat Unadeta.

MANILA, Jan. 26, 6:45 p. m.—

A dispatch from Sorogon, dated Thursday, Jan. 25, says Brigadier General Kobbe's expedition has occupied Sorogon, Donsol, Bulan, Legaspi and Virac, on Catanduanan island. The only resistance was at Legaspi, where five Americans were wounded and forty-five dead and fifteen wounded Filipinos were found. It is estimated there are 125,000 bales of hemp in these provinces and 75,000 bales in the ports of Sorogon and Legaspi. The United States gunboat Nashville's shrapnel burned 8,000 bales in Legaspi.

The expedition arrived off Sorogon Jan. 20 and the town displayed white flags. General Kobbe and Colonel Howe, with a battalion of the Forty-seventh Infantry landed and raised the United States flag. The insurgent force, numbering 300 men, evacuated the place. The natives were passive. During the morning of Jan. 23 the Nashville and Venus, with four companies of the Forty-seventh Infantry Regiment, under Major Shipton, approached Legaspi. Filipino flags were flying and the trenches were crowded. A detachment of 150 picked men, led by Major Shipton, landed on the beach about a mile north of town, the Nashville bombarded the trenches and the enemy retreated to Albay, whence they were easily dispersed to the hills. About 200 insurgents, armed with rifles, forced 600 unwilling villagers, armed with bows and arrows to serve in the trenches in the close-range street fighting before the enemy fled. The Filipino dead were mostly villagers, who were attempting to flee.

The expedition proceeded to Samar and Leyte, where the Forty-third Infantry and a battalion of the Third Artillery will be distributed. The natives complain of lack of food, resulting from the blockade. They were strongly opposed to the return of the friars. Native priests are officiating in the churches.

Lieut. Col. Webb C. Hayes has defeated an entrenched force of the enemy at Samar. One American was killed and five wounded. A record of eleven American prisoners was found. Captain Castel, while scouting near Barns with his company, encountered four hundred insurgents. He was reinforced by Captain Grace and the enemy was driven to Tanny. One American was killed and one wounded.

OFFICIAL DISPATCHES.

Advices from General Otis and Rear Admiral Watson.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—General Otis cabled the War Department to-day as follows: "Kobbe's troops occupy the hemp ports of Sorogon, Donsol, Bulan, Albay and Legaspi, southeastern Luzon, and Virac, island of Catanduanan. Will probably occupy the ports of Calbayogon, Calbayogon and Tacloban, on the islands of Samar and Leyte, before evening. No opposition except at Legaspi, where 800 insurgents, strongly entrenched, under the Chinese general, Powah, made a stubborn resistance. Our troops landed under protection of guns of the Nashville, which bombarded fortifications at close range. The enemy's loss was over fifty killed or mortally wounded and twenty-eight killed at Enbridgehead at almost a hand-to-hand encounter, refusing to surrender. Our casualties were Captain Bradley Hancock, quartermaster volunteers, aid to Kobbe, wounded in hand, and six men, including one sailor on Nashville, slightly wounded. These ports contain a great quantity of hemp ready for shipment and will be open on the 30th inst."

General Otis's report of yesterday's movements in the campaign in Luzon is as follows: "Hayes's cavalry reported at Santa Cruz, drove the enemy out of Luzena, Tayabas and adjacent towns; rescued twenty Spanish prisoners and five women; other Spanish prisoners moved back in small detachments in mountains. The enemy dispersed and the greater part is believed to be seeking homes at Tayabas. Found a record dated last night saying eleven American prisoners leave to-morrow, know not to what place. Hayes's casualties, one killed, three mortally wounded, two slightly wounded."

Rear Admiral Watson has cabled the Navy Department an account of the part taken by the navy in the splendid campaign now being made in southern Luzon by General Schwann. The admiral's dispatch refers to the engagement, or rather series of engagements, which took place along the eastern and southern shores of Lake Taal a week ago. There is no outlet from the lake to the sea and three shells across into the insurgents' defenses. The admiral's account of the affair is as follows: "The Marietta, with Green commanding, on the 15th co-operated with the army in the capture of Taal. Enfiladed the insurgent trenches at about 1,600 yards. Lieut. Price landed with Colt gun. Green reports that a battalion of the Forty-sixth