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SEMI-WEEKLY.

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W. N. ARMSTRONG, EDITOR.

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IS WAR IN SAMOA

American and British Officers Killed

LIUT. LANSDALE A VICTIM

Rebellious Natives Ambush the
Combine Forces—Official
Report Made.

AUCKLAND, N. Z., April 12.—Dis-
patches received here from Apia, Sa-
moa, dated April 1, say that a party
of 105 American and British sailors
were forced to retreat to the beach
after having been caught in an am-
bush on a German plantation on that
date. The expedition was led by Lieu-
tenant Freeman of the British third-
class cruiser Tauranga. Lieutenant
Freeman and Lieutenant P. L. Lansdale
of the United States cruiser Philadel-
phia, with Ensign J. R. Monaghan,
also of the United States cruiser Phila-
delphia, were left dead on the field.
Ensign Monaghan remained to assist
Lieutenant Lansdale and was shot
while retreating.

Two British and two American sail-
ors were also killed.
The natives engaged were some of
Mataafa's warriors. They severed the
heads of the British and American
officers killed from the bodies. Priests
of the French mission afterwards
brought the heads into Apia.

The manager of the German planta-
tion has been arrested and detained
on board the Tauranga on affidavits
declaring that he was urging the
rebels to fight.

In a previous engagement twenty-
seven of Mataafa's warriors were kil-
led and there were no casualties among
the European forces.

It is estimated that about 800 war-
riors attacked the Anglo-American
party from ambush.

AUCKLAND, April 12.—Dispatches
from Samoa give further particulars
of the late tragical collision in Sa-
moa as follows:

On April 1 a force of 214 British and
Americans and 150 friendly natives
were surprised in ambush at the German
plantation of Vailao. The rebel force
opened fire on the rear left flank and
front of the Anglo-American force.
The friendly natives stood their ground
splendidly, Americans and British fir-
ing shoulder to shoulder. The Colt
automatic gun with the landing party
became jammed and the Americans
and British were practically at the
mercy of the rebels. But "retreat" was
sounded three times before the marines
and bluejackets retired.

Lieutenant Angel H. Freeman, first
lieutenant of the Tauranga, who was
in command of the allied force, was
shot through the heart. Lieutenant
Philip Van Horn, U. S. N., had his leg
shattered while endeavoring to fix the
jammed gun. Seaman Hunt of the
British ship Porpoise remained with
Lieutenant Lansdale until clubbed over
the head and knocked senseless. The
bluejacket revived as the natives were
cutting off his right ear, and was
turning him over in order to cut off
his left ear. At this juncture a shell
from the British cruiser Royalist burst
on the battlefield, scaring the rebels,
and Hunt succeeded in escaping to the
beach, although severely stabbed in
one foot. The same night the friendly
natives found the bodies of all the officers,
headless. The bodies were buried with
all honors at Mullinui on Easter Sun-
day. Their heads were subsequently
brought in by some French priests and
the graves were reopened and the
heads buried with the bodies.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—The fol-
lowing dispatch from Admiral Kautz
has been received:

"Auckland, N. Z., April 12.—Secre-
tary of War, Washington: On April
1st, while the combined forces of the
United States and British, under Lieu-
tenant Freeman of the British navy,
were entering Apia they were ambushed.
I deeply regret to announce the
death of Lieutenant Philip B. Lansdale,
Ensign John R. Monaghan, Coxswain
James Butler and Ordinary Seaman
Edsel, and also that five men were
wounded who belong to the Philadel-
phia. The British loss in killed was
two men and Lieutenant Freeman."

AUCKLAND, N. Z., April 12, 9 A. M.
—Further advices from Apia, Samoa,
say that on the arrival of the British
cruiser Tauranga at Apia the British
and American Consuls issued a procla-
mation to give Mataafa a last chance,
and that the French priests also used
their influence, but all efforts failed
and the rebels continued their depreda-
tions. Property was destroyed and
bridges and roads were barricaded. On
March 29 the enemy was sighted at
Magafai and machine guns and a
seven-pounder were used against them.
The friendly Samoans also attacked
the enemy during the latter's retreat
and several rebels were killed or
wounded. The "friendly" carried one
head through Apia, which made Cap-
tain Stuart so furious that he went to



THE PHILADELPHIA AND REAR ADMIRAL NAUTZ.

the king and threatened to shoot any
man found taking heads. The king
then issued a proclamation forbidding
the practice.

The German Consul wrote to Ad-
miral Kautz asking if two great Chris-
tian nations approved of this inhuman
and barbarous practice against the
laws of Christianity and the decree of
the Supreme Court.

The Admiral replied, agreeing with
the Consul as to the inhumanity of the
practice and pointed out that, had the
German Consul upheld the decree of
the Supreme Court of January, there
would have been no bloodshed; that
the custom was an old Samoan one
but first made known to the world ten
years ago, when the heads of home-
sick German sailors were cut off by
the barbarous chief, Mataafa, whom
the representative of the great Christian
nation, Germany, is now supporting.

Expeditions in armed cutters belong-
ing to the Tauranga and Porpoise are
doing considerable execution against
Mataafa's strongholds along the coast.
The British forces are being assisted
by 100 Samoans. About forty-six of
Mataafa's boats and several villages
have been destroyed. In the meantime
flying columns are being sent daily
along the roads and through the bush
near Apia.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—The news
from Samoa was received here with a
feeling approaching dismay. There
was a refusal on the part of the higher
officials to discuss the sad event. The
Secretary of the German Embassy called
early in the day upon Secretary
Hay. Neither of the officials would
disclose anything as to the nature of
the exchange that took place.

The arrest and retention by the British
naval officials of a German subject is
one of the most dangerous features of
the controversy. It is said that the
Consuls of the three powers stationed
at Apia claim extra territorial jurisdic-
tion, involving the right to try the
subjects of their respective countries
for any offenses alleged to have been
committed. Under this practice Ger-
man Consul Rose may demand the sur-
render of the German. If the man is
guilty it is considered improbable that
the British will yield unless upon some
adequate guarantee that he is to be
sufficiently punished. It is not be-
lieved likely that Rose will make such
promise.

It is believed that Admiral Kautz
with the co-operation of the British,
will continue his efforts to bring the
rebellious natives to terms. This is
not likely to be an easy task, in view
of the somewhat small force at his
command, but it is said the British
Government may accept the proposi-
tion of the authorities of New Zealand
to send a regiment of soldiers to Sa-
moa. No protest thus far has been
lodged at the State Department against
Admiral Kautz.

At the British and German embas-
sies the news of the bloody conflict
in Samoa was received with deep
concern. Sir Julian Pauncefote expressed
his profound regret at the collision at
a moment when he had hoped the trou-
ble was in a fair way to adjustment.
Mr. Elliot, the British High Commis-
sioner to Samoa, also deplored the
event. The British officials were quite
content, however, that the chance of
a settlement would not be destroyed
by this affair, although they might be
somewhat embarrassed.

At neither of the embassies had a
word of official information been
received, and the Associated Press ac-
counts were, therefore, scanned with
great interest. The German Ambassa-
dor, Dr. Von Holleben, stated that
while he was wholly without official
advices, he deeply regretted to hear
that there had been further loss of
life. In all diplomatic quarters there
was a disposition to treat the news
as grave, but not as disrupting the
plans for a settlement.

JUSTICE FIELD DEAD.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Justice
Stephen J. Field of the United States
Supreme Court, retired, died at his
home on Capitol Hill, in this city at
6:30 o'clock this evening of kidney
complication. He had been uncon-
scious since Saturday morning, and
death came painlessly.

SENATOR TABOR DEAD.

DENVER, April 16.—Horace A. W.
Tabor, Postmaster of this city and ex-
United States Senator, died at 9:30 a.
m. today of appendicitis, after three
days' illness. He leaves a widow (his
second wife) and one son and two
daughters.

A HEARTY SECOND

Chief Engineer Hunt Supports Mr. Landers.

MANY IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED

People Lulled to Sleep in Fancied
Security—Equipment Needed
Would be Cheap in the End.

"Every statement that Mr. Landers
makes in his article in the Advertiser
regarding necessary innovations in the
fire department is correct," said Chief
Engineer Hunt yesterday afternoon.

"This is a most vital question and
should receive immediate attention.
Owing to the fact that there have not
been any large fires in Honolulu for
years people have allowed themselves
to think that this freedom from a con-
flagration will be perpetual. But unless
more protection is obtained, the time
will undoubtedly come when they will
be rudely awakened from this idea. It
is the history of every city that some
day there comes a conflagration which
involves the loss of a vast amount of
property and generally of human life.
To be ready when it comes is a city's
duty.



J. H. HUNT.
(Photo by Williams.)

"In time of peace prepare for
war" applies to the fire department.

"One of the main things that is need-
ed is the hook and ladder. At present
we have no ladders at all except the
small ones we carry with the engine
outfit. If a fire would break out at the
top of our highest buildings we would
be comparatively at a standstill. Of
course we could play water on it from
the outside. But we don't want to fight
fires as they did forty years ago. A hook
and ladder outfit is a necessary ad-
justment to a fire department equipment.

"A fire alarm system is another
pressing need. There is not a city in
the States of Honolulu's size that does
not have them. When an alarm is given
by means of the regular system the
department is at once notified. There
is no delay. As it is now the alarm is
at first turned in to central, and from
there to us, causing more or less de-
lay. Then there is the possibility of
getting it wrong. When that little
blaze occurred the other day we were
notified that it was at Kuakini Road.
When we arrived there it was found
that the blaze was at the corner of
Kuakini and Liliha streets. All this
caused delay, which would be obviated
by using the proper alarm system. If
there were a fire then it would natu-
rally occur to one seeing it to turn in
the alarm from the nearest box. If
there were a fire at Hotel and Fort a
person would not run to Beretania to
turn in the alarm when there would be
a box at the corner where the fire
was.

"More men and horses are needed.
We have apparatus here that is not
available for the reason that there are
not men nor horses to equip it. If a
fire occurred which would necessitate
its use we should have to unhitch the
horses and bring them to the station
so as to haul the other engine. It
seems ridiculous, but it is true.

"The matter of gratings needs at-
tention. The iron bar gratings has been
relegated to the past in most cities and
should be so dealt with here. Only
yesterday I was passing along the side-
walk and happened to glance through
one of these gratings. Below it was
filled up almost to the top with wood-
en and pastboard boxes and inflam-
mable rubbish of all descriptions. The
thing in order would be a lighted cigar
dropped carelessly through.

"Auxiliary hoisters, so that the boiler
may always be kept with twenty
pounds of steam up, are necessary im-
provements. People wonder when the
engine arrives at a fire, why she does
not commence to work immediately.
The reason is that there's no steam up
and it takes time to get it started.
More valuable time lost.

"The station out at the Plains is get-
ting into shape and will be ready for

occupation in about a month. There
will be an engine and a hose wagon
out there.

"The quicker the people awake to the
fact that a more thorough equipment
is necessary the better it will be. The
expense of putting in the improvements
mentioned would be a small matter
compared to the loss which would re-
sult from a large fire. The whole sub-
ject deserves immediate attention."

Sewerage Material Bids.

Bids were opened yesterday after-
noon for the material to be used in the
sewerage construction. The number of
bids was very large, about two hours
being consumed in going through them
all. They came from New York, Bos-
ton, Chicago, London, San Francisco
and other cities. Honolulu was well
represented. They have been placed
in the hands of Superintendent Row-
ell and Rudolph Hering, the engineer,
and it will be a few days before it will
be decided where the contract goes.

LABOR QUESTION.

Important Washington Advice on the Subject.

From advices received in this city
by the last steamer it is learned that
the old statutes in regard to the la-
bor permits is to be continued. The
Hawaiian Government is given full
authority to continue and to assist in
the importation of Japanese for labor
purposes.

In this way the labor question which
has received considerable agitation
during the past month is put in a new
light. The old system is so continued
and the question that was under dis-
cussion is dismissed.

The Executive will meet with the
planters in a few days to inform them
of this latest development. Although
some restrictions may be proposed,
the applications for permits for labor-
ers on the new plantations will doubt-
less be approved. Plans will be pro-
mulgated with a view of gradually
shaping the conditions on the islands
to the American labor restrictions
which will come in the future.

The Resident Claimants.

Edgar Caypleas, the Seattle attor-
ney who settled here on the first visit
of the S. S. City of Columbia, has been
retained to look after the claims of
Mrs. R. W. Wilcox and Mrs. F. S.
Pratt to crown lands. Mr. Caypleas
has been working six months on the
case already and it is reported that
he and Robert Wilcox will go to Wash-
ington on the business, though the at-
torney will say nothing about the
trip. Mr. Caypleas says he is con-
vinced that his clients are heirs in the
matter.

Getting Under Way.

The Australia carried orders for
two large engines and fifteen miles of
rail to be used by the Hilo railroad.
The promoters wisely decided that the
track should be broad gauge. The
engines are to be larger than those
which were recently received by the
O. R. & L. Co. It is probable that the
cars will be made here, as the excel-
lent work lately turned out by the O.
R. & L. Co. has proved what can be
done. The iron work of the cars will
be shipped from the States.

"The Man With the Hoe."

In a note to an attaché of this paper
Edwin Markham, the California poet
whose "Man With the Hoe" startled
the world, says:

"I am gratified to learn that there is
in this world a large body of earnest
men who are quick to respond to all
questions of justice and humanity.
These men are the hope of social pro-
gress. They are the sea-wall against
the tides of anarchy and disorder. I
wish you all prosperity in all your
ways."

To be Tried for Murder.

The six Kahuku Japanese charged
with the murder of Yee Ling were
committed yesterday morning. This
ended the murder proceedings, the
Japs having been committed on three
distinct charges. The case of the riot-
ers will come up next Monday and will
probably be finished in a couple of
days.

Another Business Block.

This is a mention of a 1900 enter-
prise. The site is the McIntyre gro-
cery store corner, Fort and King
streets. The location is a most elegant
one for a new modern building and the
ground is to be so occupied. There is
contemplated a three-story building.
It will be of artistic architecture and
good material. Mr. McIntyre says that
nothing will be done until next year.