THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL.

THE TRANSPORT GRANT ENTERS THE RED SEA WITH UNCLE SAM'S SOLDIERS.

AN INTERESTING AND NOVEL EXPERIENCE IN THE EGYPTIAN TOWNS—WATCHING THE FEAST OF RAMADAN.

On Board United States Transport Grant, In the Red Sea, February 15.

All the predictions concerning the temperature of these waters have come to pass, and, since the color of water, land and sky is normal, the name "Red" must be derived from the good American term "red hot." The wisdom of the ventilating engineers who prepared our boat grows daily upon us. The cooling and freshening draughts pour from registers into the sleeping-decks, and all is clean and sweet.

A tour through the ship late at night convinces all of us that a better transport has never been sent out. One criticism may, however, be made. There should be a steam-laundry plant on a boat of this character. A ten days' trip or even a journey lasting a fortnight is easily managed as to clean clothing, but one of two months' duration, with the men limited as to the size of bundles, makes the problem a serious one. I doubt not that the Grant will in future carry fewer men and a portion of the orlop deck be utilized for a laundry.

Since my last letter we have passed by the great half-way house to the East—Port Said. Here, at the western entrance to the great French undertaking now so firmly held by England, we saw sights and scenes stranger than all before in our journeying. However, to begin with, the general air of the place was of utter indifference and indolence, excepting always the beggars and dragomen. An equal amount of industry in other directions would surely lead the beggars on to comfortable circumstances.

Coming in at reduced speed, with the flag of Egypt hoisted, we saw a town of many-storied wooden buildings, with an occasional one of brick or stone, with streets of sanded asphalt—the whole looking much as does a boom town in one of our Western prairie States. Quick was the cry of the 2d Kansas, "Is that Wichita or Dodge City, Wheeler?" A nearer view as we lay off the custom-house dock did not altogether efface the first impression, though the local color of the wagons on the streets, platforms of reapers or ploughs and the inevitable lumber yard of Kansas town scenes were replaced by the, to us, strangely clad people, the donkeys of absurdly small size, or other bizarre additions to color scheme.

Forewarned by our experience at Gibraltar, our surgeons had devised an isolation ward for our measles cases. This, though of canvas, served to give us pratique, and the commanding officer was most busy granting verbal requests to go ashore so soon as the quarantine flag was lowered. With a rush we made for the small boats already gathered, and in the briefest possible time the invasion of Egypt was on. Counter-raids were begun by the natives, and at nightfall we slept on our memories of mosque and fair, shop and bazaar, while the enemy lay down to rest on not a few of our dollars. Mingled with our memories of the day—for we sailed at midnight—was the cable news of the fight of the 5th at Manila. Meagre as were the Reuter cables, we knew a victory had been won, but who of the 23d, the 18th, the 14th or the artillery, our acquaintances all, had gone down? Lawton's impatience to move on could not be repressed. Five hundred tons of coal were carried onto the Grant in five hours. Cable dispatches to Washington asking for news were sent off, the siren sounded, the electric headlights attached to our bow was turned on, and into the great canal we steered.

We were not so many as in the morning, for twelve of the firemen and four of our men had gone ashore and had not returned—a case of French leave.

THE SIGHTS OF RAMADAN.

Our day at Port Said was given over to the grand tour. Hassan Ali, a Scotch-American (so he asserted), was entirely at our disposal. It being the day before Ramadan, the Mahometan festival, the preparations therefor were everywhere visible. The fairs were already in blast. The dancing bear, poor beast, was doing his pitiful "turn." The squeaky merry-go-round and swings were whirling, while everywhere were hawkers of fruit, of toys—"made in America," many of them—fakirs of all sorts, dancers in rude inclosures of reeds and burlaps. The familiar Punch, done by an Egyptian, squeaked his jokes and woes. The curious double-barrelled musical reeds sounded over the cries of hawkers and showmen. We saw the dancers, the premier being a man at least fifty years of age. We bought Egyptian flags, pith helmets against days of tropical suns, "real, pure, true, genuine Turkish paste," and we bought also the most delicious figs—no little sacks of tan leather stuffed with bird shot, but plump, soft, delicious fruit. We bought postage stamps, too, standing out in the street before the postoffice, whereon the name was displayed in English, French and Egyptian. We bargained in American, English, French and Egyptian coins, and were trebly "done" in all four varieties, but we saw Port Said, with its curious mixed population—motley in color and race—Port Said, with its lepers, its donkeys, its Arabs—we saw it all. And the smells of the Arab quarter, where bread is made in the open and laid on the ground when done; where the ducks, pigs (there are plenty of pigs), children and donkeys wander, the children clad only in nature's garb—the smells abode with us until the shower bath on board cleansed our skins and washed the dust from eyes so soon to turn from the land of the Pharaohs and gaze on "Sinai's awful height" in the wilderness of the children of Israel.

As our boat has twin screws, we did not break the record for a quick trip through the canal. Here we had opportunity to see something—indeed, a great deal—of the Arabs along the banks. Day had scarcely dawned before we heard cries of "backsheesh" and saw animated bronze figures doing pantomime intended to convey to us their exceeding great desire to receive—anything. The men sailed hardtack, threw potatoes, dropped overboard garments no longer wanted, and the bank of the canal was dotted with little knots of the strange people. Little children joined their elders in the scramble, and the water was beaten by naked youths.

Soon we came to Ismailia, Lord Wolseley's base in the campaign that ended at Tel-el-Kebir, and at 10 o'clock at night, having taken twenty hours for the eighty-seven miles, we reached the eastern entrance. There we lay until the morning. That night three of the longest-legged men in the Army—Major Edwards, of General Lawton's staff; Lieutenant Brown and Lieutenant Gregg, of the 4th—went ashore and made the three-mile trip from Port Tewfik to Suez on the smallest three donkeys in Egypt. They made it not once, but twice. They describe it in various ways, but all agree that Egyptian darkness means something. At 8 o'clock a. m. they returned, bringing with them the firemen left at Port Said and two of the four soldiers. Loud shouts greeted the fifteen sorry-looking men. Those firemen were of a certainty rare birds in their appearance. The two men who yet remain behind will undoubtedly join the next transport.

A BIG TOLL PAID.

It may be of interest to know that the canal charges for the passage of the Grant were over $12,000, a charge based on tonnage and passengers.

While at Port Said we saw the Raleigh, just from Manila; the Princeton, too, that had left Gibraltar two days before us, had only just arrived, and followed us through the canal.

Leaving Suez, we came into the Gulf of Suez and thence into these waters. We expect now to touch at the island of Perim to coal. We shall not go to Aden, said to be the hottest military station in the world. Those of us who have served in the Southwest think, however, that San Carlos, or Fort Yuma, might compare in average temperature.

The general health of the command is as yet good. We shall, of course, have measles all the way through, and mumps have appeared, but the excellent table and enforced cleanliness will keep the men in health.

Drills for exercise—setting-up exercises—are held twice daily, and the men show the good thereof. When night comes on they crowd the spar deck and sing lustily all the songs of the soldiers' repertory. It was a feeling of genuine sadness that spread over us all when "Home, Sweet Home," sung by at least five hundred voices, came aft to the officers' quarters last night.

Home is dear to the soldier of every flag, and we of the Stars and Stripes are a long, long way from ours. May we not be pardoned for hoping and longing so soon for home, sweet home?

We have passed the land that had an antiquity when the curtain of history was raised; we go to the land of newest events. Can the Anglo-Saxon redeem it?

GERMAN ARMY BILL ADOPTED.

A COMPROMISE REACHED BETWEEN THE EMPEROR AND THE REICHSTAG.

Berlin, March 16.—In anticipation of the third reading of the Army bill to-day, both the Reichstag and the public galleries of that house were packed. The various items of the estimates were first discussed, and the proceedings were so turbulent that the president, Count von Ballenstein, was repeatedly compelled to call the house to order.

When the Army bill was taken up Dr. Lieber, the Centrist leader, moved the acceptance of the committee's proposal to reduce the peace effective by seven thousand men, adding that the house declares its willingness, in the event of the figure granted by the committee proving inadequate, to enter into fresh negotiations with the Government. Dr. Lieber also moved that civilian artisans instead of active soldiers be employed in the offices and workshops of the army.

The Minister of War, General von Gossler, said that should the different parties in the Reichstag have come to an understanding on the bill his speech would not affect it; therefore, he would do his duty as a soldier, and defend the measure to the end. He then urged the adoption of the entire Government demands, and closed by declaring that if the whole peace effective was not voted now it must inevitably again come before the House.

Dr. Lieber appealed to the Bundesrath and to the Imperial Chancellor to accept his motion, pointing out that a motion for the dissolution of the Reichstag would occasion all the difficulties attendant on a period without a budget. The motion, he added, had been introduced out of love for the fatherland.

Prince Hohenlohe said that in view of the military importance possessed by the formations approved by the committee, and as their being carried out could not be delayed, the Federal Government accepted Dr. Lieber's motion, with the reservation that, in conformity with the readiness expressed by the Reichstag to enter into fresh negotiations, the Government will introduce fresh proposals before the expiration of the agreed term, and from the willingness with which the Reichstag indorsed Dr. Lieber's resolution the Government confidently deduced the belief that the full demands of the Imperial Government will find acceptance in good time for the accomplishment of the proposed organization.

Herren von Levetzow, Von Kardorff, Bassermann and Rikert accepted Dr. Lieber's resolution in behalf of their respective parties.

Herr Richter declared that the acceptance of the Government's demand in its entirety would have been practically sanctioning military absolutism. He then explained that he defended his own motion for the establishment of two years' service.

Herr Bebel remarked that the Social Democrats would be the only party to profit by a dissolution of the Reichstag.

Herr Liebermann von Sonnenberg, Anti-Semite, asserted that the dissatisfaction at the way in which the compromise between the Government and the Reichstag had been effected was widespread. Personally, he preferred the Government bill; but the Government appeared to have adopted the electoral cry of "Let's go on playing the fool part." Continuing, he said: "The solidity of the Government has been to-day buried with the old Imperial Chancellor."

After further debate the general discussion was closed and the articles of the Army bill were debated. Article I, which the committee did not alter, was adopted. Article II, as drafted by the committee and amended by Dr. Lieber's motion, was adopted. Then the whole bill was adopted by a vote of 222 to 132. The Radicals, German People's Party, Social Democrats, Poles, Alsatians and Reformers opposed Article II. Herr Richter's amendment was rejected.

When the final vote was announced Count von Posadowsky-Wehner shook hands with General von Gossler.

It was learned that Dr. Lieber's motion was the result of negotiations between Dr. Lieber and Count von Posadowsky-Wehner, Secretary of the Imperial Home Office, and Prince Hohenlohe, the Imperial Chancellor, who both agreed to recommend the compromise to the Bundesrath. The latter discussed the matter yesterday evening, which actuated Prince Hohenlohe's statement to-day. General von Gossler was not consulted, which explains his attitude in this afternoon's debate. The Emperor's decision depends on the result of to-day's vote.

The members of the Bundesrath severely criticise Emperor William's hitherto unyielding attitude, because it arrays the Bundesrath against him in the event of a conflict over the bill. Dr. Miquel, the Minister of Finance, has declared privately that the Emperor has said that he will not make a bargain of the military demands, which, he asserts, are the minimum needed. Prince Hohenlohe is greatly averse to a conflict, and it is believed he will resign if one occurs.

Emperor William's consent to the compromise was obtained by Prince Hohenlohe and Count von Posadowsky-Wehner just before the Emperor started for Friedrichsruh in order to be present at the transfer of the bodies of Prince and Princess Bismarck to the mausoleum at that place.

BISMARCK'S BODY LAID TO REST.

PLACED WITH THAT OF THE PRINCESS IN THE NEW MAUSOLEUM AT FRIEDRICHSRUH.

Friedrichsruh, March 16.—Emperor William arrived here at 11:25 o'clock this morning in order to attend the transfer of the bodies of Prince and Princess Bismarck to the new mausoleum. On the Emperor's arrival the procession started for the mausoleum. The coffin containing the body of Princess Bismarck was borne at the head of the procession. It was followed by the coffin of Prince Bismarck, behind which walked Emperor William, with Prince Herbert Bismarck on his left hand. Then came the members of the family. The procession passed between the ranks of fifteen hundred torch-bearers, a military band playing a funeral march. The mausoleum was reached at noon, and the ceremony was solemnly performed.

After the coffins had been borne into the mausoleum the Emperor, Prince Bismarck and the imperial suite entered, the doors were closed, and a guard of honor fired a volley. The Emperor and the Bismarck family then returned to the castle, where luncheon was served. The Emperor and his suite departed at 1 o'clock, and were accompanied to the imperial saloon-carriage by the family. The Emperor was cordial in his demeanor throughout the ceremonies.

Among the handsomest tributes sent to the mausoleum was a silver wreath from the Independent Schuetzen Corps of New-York. Pittsburg sent an iron Teutonia, and New-York and Savannah societies sent oak wreaths.

THE EXPLOSION ON THE TERRIBLE.

BRITISH CRUISER FREQUENTLY IN PERIL ON HER HOMEWARD VOYAGE.

Portsmouth, England, March 16.—An inquest was opened here to-day into the circumstances of the death of the stoker of the British first-class cruiser Terrible, who was killed by a boiler explosion on board the cruiser while she was on her way from Malta to Devonport.

The evidence showed that on the voyage five steampipes burst, and that at various times the fires had to be drawn from under three of the boilers in order to prevent disaster. The stokers and engineers were almost in a panic, and were afraid to go on duty, not knowing at what moment an explosion might occur.

ALLEGED DEFAULTER CAUGHT IN LONDON.

London, March 16.—G. R. Birt, the missing chairman and managing director of the Millwall Dock Company, who disappeared in February last, resulting in the discovery of a deficit of over $1,000,000 in the accounts of the concern, was arrested here this afternoon. His preliminary trial will take place to-morrow.

TROUBLE AGAIN IN SAMOA.

MORE FIGHTING BETWEEN THE RIVAL FACTIONS FEARED.

BRITISH CONSUL THREATENS TO SHELL MATAAFA VILLAGES—THE PHILADELPHIA AT APIA.

Apia, Samoa, March 10, via Auckland, New-Zealand.—Owing to threats by the Mataafa people that they would burn the Malietoa villages in the island of Savaii unless the taxes levied on them and a contingent of soldiers for the support of Mataafa were sent, the British Consul visited Savaii on the cruiser Porpoise and threatened to shell the villages of Mataafa's followers if peace were disturbed.

The British and American consuls have issued proclamations denying the rumors in circulation to the effect that Mataafa had been recognized as King, and threatening strong action if the Provisional Government interfered with the Loyalists.

The German Consul refused to join with the British and American representatives, and issued a proclamation upholding the Provisional Government and denying that there had been any interference by the Malietoa party. He added to this document an extraordinary paragraph expressing the hope that the Provisional Government "would be able to encounter the danger caused anew to the peace of the country and the safety of the inhabitants by the English and American proclamations." This has put more heart into the rebels, and large numbers of armed warriors are gathering.

The United States cruiser Philadelphia, Admiral Kautz commanding, has arrived here, and the Admiral has held extended consultations with the various consuls, Chief Justice Chambers and Captain Sturdee of the Porpoise.

The Provisional Government has removed the Malietoa prisoners to a stronghold on the mainland, firing volleys over their heads in order to intimidate them.

A friendly feeling is shown by the officers and men of the American and British vessels here. Admiral Kautz has called a meeting of the consuls, the Chief Justice and the captains of the warships now here, including the German, on board the American flagship, and it is probable that the result will be the presentation of an ultimatum. It is generally thought that fighting is likely to occur.

DR. SOLF ABOUT TO START FOR APIA.

Berlin, March 16.—Dr. Solf, who has been named by the German Government to replace Dr. Joannes Raffel as President of the Municipal Council at Apia, is about to start for Samoa, by way of London and Washington, calling on officials in both places.

KINGSHIP NOT YET SETTLED.

London, March 16.—William St. John Brodrick, the Parliamentary Secretary of the Foreign Office, was asked in the House of Commons to-day if definite results had yet been reached in the deliberations over the Berlin Treaty by the Powers, with reference to Samoa and the Kingship of Mataafa. He replied that the question was still under consideration, and that further reports on the subject were expected.

GOVERNMENT NOT ALARMED.

PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE THREE TREATY POWERS—GERMANY'S ATTITUDE.

Washington, March 16.—The State Department believes that there is little probability of a hostile clash in Samoa, at least not one that will involve the European and American colonies. Rear-Admiral Kautz was specially charged to maintain the peace, and to give protection, not only to American interests, but to those of Great Britain and Germany, and this broad instruction may even warrant him in intervening forcibly to prevent a conflict between the native factions, although our Government is loath to take any such steps except in case of an emergency. Incidentally the Admiral is to make a thorough inquiry into the present conditions on the islands, and as there appears to be an issue of veracity between the various consuls and the Chief Justice respecting the events that led up to the outbreak at Apia last January, the Admiral will be relied upon by our Government to settle this matter definitely.

As negotiations are now in progress between the United States, Great Britain and Germany respecting the kingly succession in Samoa, any action of the so-called provisional government that would tend to force a crisis prematurely would have mischievous effects.

The German Government is regarded as being particularly solicitous that there should be no outbreak at this time, but, unfortunately, seeks to impose conditions in the pursuit of this purpose that, if accepted, would seriously compromise the alleged rights of both the United States and Great Britain. The United States Government prefers to adhere strictly to the lines of the Berlin Treaty so long as that convention remains unchanged.

It is understood here that the provisional government referred to in the news dispatches is nothing more than an assemblage of some of the subchiefs, and that even Mataafa, the candidate for the kingship, has not joined it. Meanwhile the three Governments are somewhat divided over the proposition to undertake a reopening of the controversy over the succession to the throne, the present contention of the United States and Great Britain being that as the Chief Justice was clothed with specific authority to deal with this question, not even the treaty Powers have any power in the matter. This, if supported, would overturn the German proposition that Chief Justice Chambers's decision be disregarded and a new arrangement be effected directly between the Powers.

As already stated, this whole subject is now a matter of negotiation, and with the many side issues involved will probably consume a good deal of time.

Commander Tilley, of the Abarenda, has come to Washington to consult with the authorities of the Navy Department prior to starting for Samoa. His ship is lying at Norfolk, and arrangements for her departure have been completed, so that she should sail in the course of a few days. Commander Tilley goes to open the coaling station at Pago-Pago, which the United States holds under the terms of a special treaty with the Samoan Government. The Abarenda carries on this trip a little more than 400 tons of coal and about 1,500 tons of steel building material. The latter is intended for the construction of a wharf and coal-sheds, which are to be built by private contract.

When the station is established Commander Tilley will assume charge of it as the first commandant. The Abarenda will not return immediately to the United States. Although a collier, she has been thoroughly overhauled and equipped with a good battery of rapid-fire guns, so that she will be really an efficient cruiser, with a large radius of action. The Navy Department has given orders that after landing her stores at Pago-Pago, she take permanent station in the Samoan Islands, to look after the interests of the United States. The treaty obligation that a United States warship should from time to time perform tours of service in these waters has been almost entirely overlooked in late years, and these orders to the Abarenda are an indication that the obligation will no longer be neglected.

Admiral Kautz has reported the arrival at Apia of the cruiser Philadelphia, March 6. He made no mention of political affairs.

PRINCE HENRY STARTS FOR KIAO-CHAU.

TO ASSUME COMMAND OF THE GERMAN SQUADRONS IN FAR EASTERN WATERS.

Berlin, March 16.—Prince Henry of Prussia has started for Kiao-Chau Bay, where all the war vessels composing the two German squadrons in Far Eastern waters will assemble for the formal transfer of the commandership from Admiral von Diedrichs to Prince Henry.

REVOLT IN THE DUTCH INDIES.

REBELS AT SOOMALATA MURDER THE ADMINISTRATOR.

London, March 16.—The Brussels correspondent of "The Daily Mail" says:

"A dispatch from Batavia, Netherlands Indies, reports that a revolt has broken out at Soomalata, on the Celebes coast, and that the Dutch Administrator there has been murdered."

ROUTE OF HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINERS.

London, March 16.—The officials of the Hamburg-American Steamship Company say it is not true that all the steamers of their line are to make Plymouth their English port of call this year. They explain that the express steamers of the line will continue running over the old route, by way of Southampton and Cherbourg. Only the steamers of the Pennsylvania class will change their route and call at Plymouth on their way to Hamburg. The company asks that this correction be made, as the officials have received many inquiries on the subject.

WRECK SEEN NEAR CAPE SABLE.

St. John, N. B., March 16.—Captain Frazer, of the Cape Breton coal steamer Coban, from Louisburg, N. S., reports that on March 13, while passing through Mud Island Passage, near Cape Sable, N. S., he sighted the masts of what evidently was a large steamer protruding from the water. About one-third of the masts could be seen, and, judging from the appearance of the sticks, the vessel had not been long in that position. They seemed bright and new. The exact position of the vessel was latitude 43.22, longitude 65.51. The discovery puzzles marine men at this port, as they know of no steamer being lost in that neighborhood. Some express the opinion that it may be the steamer Gerona, lost fourteen months ago, while bound from Portland, Me., for Great Britain, but it has been thought that the Gerona must have been broken up by the heavy storms of last fall. It also has been suggested that the steamer may be the Thompson Line boat Arona, which is long overdue at Liverpool from Portland. Captain Frazer will endeavor to make a further investigation on his return trip to Louisburg.

ACCUSED OF SMUGGLING.

Halifax, N. S., March 16.—The Canadian Government officials have seized the Beaver Line steamship Lake Ontario, now under charter by the Atlantic Steamship Company, on the charge that the steamer was landing drygoods belonging to a woman of Denver, Col., on which the duty had not been paid. The agents of the vessel were required to give bonds, and the ship was released.

SECRETARY ALGER IN MONTREAL.

Montreal, March 16.—Secretary Russell A. Alger arrived here this morning. He is the guest of Sir William Van Horne, president of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Secretary Alger was in this city several hours on Wednesday attending to private business. He arrived early in the morning and left the city late in the afternoon. In the course of conversation he said that he had no thought of resigning from the Cabinet. He declined to talk about the beef investigation, and said that General Otis would be unhampered in the management of affairs in the Philippines.

TO BUILD TRUNK LINES IN CHINA FIRST.

Washington, March 16.—Minister Conger, at Peking, has transmitted to the State Department a copy of a decree issued by the Chinese Government concerning the building of railways. The decree recites the decision of the Government to build trunk lines first and branch lines afterward, and, as it is found to be necessary, in view of the number of lines to be constructed, to make a designation of those to be built first, these roads are named: The Lu-Han and Hankau-Canton first, next in importance the Tien-Tsin-Chinkiang line and Shanhaikuan and beyond, Moukden, Newchwang, etc., strategic points.

The officials are directed to hasten the construction of the lines, and notice is given that all requests for permission to construct branch lines will be refused.

THE NEW ARMY REGISTER.

Washington, March 16.—The new Army Register will be published in a few days. Some advance copies have been received at the War Department, where it has been looked over with considerable interest. This register, while for the Regular Army entirely, will have a list of the general and staff officers appointed during the Spanish war, with their records during the war. It will not show any previous records, such as that General Wheeler was a graduate at West Point, and that General Lee and others of the late Confederacy served in the Confederate army.

An interesting feature of the register is that the volunteer service of the Regular officers is given.

A MECCA FOR FOREIGNERS.

WASHINGTON THE SHRINE WHERE MANY COURT FAVOR AND DISTINCTION.

Washington, March 16 (Special).—Within the last ten years Washington has become the Mecca of a large number and variety of foreigners, of more or less distinction, from nearly all parts of the globe, all of whom have been seeking favors of one sort or another from the Government of the United States. Many of these visitors have come with clear and satisfactory credentials and in a representative capacity, who were not regular diplomatic representatives of their respective governments. Among them were such men as composed the foreign delegations sent here to effect commercial arrangements under the reciprocity provisions of the tariff act of 1890, the members of the Pan-American Congress, of the International Marine Conference and of the Quebec Commission.

Others have had a less definite official status when they first came, like Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Charlton, of Canada, and others who might be mentioned. The last Administration of President Cleveland witnessed the coming of representatives of Spanish royalty and nobility in the persons of Princess Eulaite and the Duke of Veragua, the titled decendant of Christopher Columbus.

But there have been still others, and the cry is "still they come." Dethroned Hawaiian royalty has been represented here for months at a time by Mrs. Dominis and her retinue, who craved but never obtained official recognition. For many months the flag of the "Republic of Cuba" waved in the breeze over a downtown hotel in which its "Minister Plenipotentiary" had his "official" headquarters. Later there came another Cuban "embassy," headed by the only Cuban general who had led any considerable number of organized Cuban troops at Santiago, or anywhere else, in the war between the United States and Spain. The untimely death of General Garcia resulted in the disorganization and failure of that "embassy."

A deputation of Porto Ricans also appeared to inform the United States Government that the people of the island wanted to throw off the yoke of Spanish tyranny and corruption and enjoy the blessings of American institutions.

There also came Agoncillo, a Filipino lawyer, the personal representative of Aguinaldo (a Filipino agitator and adventurer with a Spanish bank account), bearing lofty and high-sounding credentials issued in "the bush." Mr. Agoncillo and his retinue occupied sumptuous quarters in an uptown hotel, from the windows of which they could see the White House and the official headquarters of the Secretary of State, in neither of which were they recognized as official representatives of the "Philippine Republic." That, indeed, has never been "recognized" by anybody except a few credulous statesmen or malignant partisans in Congress. The hasty flight of the head of this "embassy" from Washington caused considerable amusement, but no excitement or dismay in Washington official circles, and the hotelkeeper was satisfied, because his bills had been promptly rendered and punctually paid.

When President McKinley returns from his well-earned vacation he will probably find the population of the National Capital increased by the addition of a committee of the rump of the so-called "Cuban Assembly."

The late George William Curtis in a trenchant sentence once described the Democratic party as "very hungry and very thirsty," a description that would fit Mr. Sanguily's "Assembly" of clamorous "soldiers" like a glove. Mr. Rivera, of Porto Rico, will also be here, richly endowed with ideas concerning the proper, honest and efficient administration of affairs in that island, and pregnant with warnings against American, or anything except the Spanish methods, with which he is thoroughly familiar.

Mr. Rivera will not bring credentials from anybody, but his sufferings on account of the displacement of superfluous, dishonest and inefficient officials, the curtailment of enormous and oppressive fees, etc., are so acute that he will probably make a solemn and deep impression in Washington, at least pending the return and report of the Commissioners who have been sent by President McKinley to look into Porto Rican affairs.

TWO AMERICANS HELD UP IN MEXICO.

ONE OF THE MINERS KILLED BY THE BANDITS, THE OTHER ESCAPES AFTER BEING ROBBED.

Washington, March 16.—The State Department has received the following report, dated Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, February 28, from Consul Kindrick, of that place:

"I have the honor to make the following report upon an unfortunate occurrence in my consular district:

"On the evening of the 21st inst., George Wilson and Forest Smith, two American citizens, employed at the San Pedro mining camp, were held up and robbed by three Mexicans. Wilson was shot and instantly killed for resisting the bandits. Smith escaped back to the camp. The robbers secured about $50.

"The murderers have all been captured, and will be punished according to the law for their crime. I inclose herewith a newspaper account of the incident.

"Wilson came to Mexico from Colorado, but no one seems to know the particular place, nor anything of his family and relatives."

MGR. STEPHAN HONORED BY POPE.

HE IS MADE PROTHONOTARY APOSTOLIC IN RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICES.

Washington, March 16.—By Papal brief just received by the Apostolic Delegate, Monsignor Joseph Stephan has been raised to the dignity of Prothonotary Apostolic. This is the highest honor which is ever conferred on Catholic clergymen outside the city of Rome. A few years ago Monsignor Stephan was made private chamberlain of the Pope, with the title of monsignor. That honor, however, raised him but one grade above priests in general, and did not constitute him a prelate. By this new act of the Pope Monsignor Stephan is made a prelate, and that of the highest rank outside the episcopacy.

The dignity carries with it many privileges, even that of using many of the pontifical vestments in the celebration of solemn functions. During the ceremonies of a solemn mass he can wear the long stockings, the slippers, the gloves, the tunic, the dalmatic and the plain white mitre. He can even during the celebration of the same function wear the pectoral cross and the ring. In solemn processions and other similar functions he appears clad the same as a bishop in like circumstances.

This distinguished honor has been conferred by the Pope on Monsignor Stephan in recognition of his zealous service in promoting Catholic interests among the Indians of the United States. Monsignor Stephan has for many years been the head of the Catholic Indian Bureau in this city, and is himself a practical Indian missionary, having labored among the Indian tribes for a long time. He was a chaplain in the Civil War. The favor of the Pope comes to him at this special time in order to honor the occasion of his golden jubilee in the priesthood. On the 21st of this month Monsignor Stephan will have completed fifty years of the sacred ministry.

THE SALE OF CIGAR LEAF TOBACCO.

ANY QUALIFIED DEALER MAY SELL IN SMALLER QUANTITIES THAN FORMERLY.

Washington, March 16.—Commissioner Wilson, of the Internal Revenue Department, has issued the following important circular letter of instructions respecting the sale of cigar leaf tobacco:

Existing regulations, relating to the sale of leaf tobacco by a qualified dealer in leaf tobacco in quantities less than a hogshead, case or bale, are hereby modified with respect to cigar leaf, which may be purchased by any qualified manufacturer of cigars from any qualified dealer in leaf tobacco, in quantities less than the original package, for use in his own manufactory exclusively.

Such sales shall be entered by the leaf dealer in the Government book, Record 59, which shall show the date of sale, actual quantity of tobacco sold, name of purchaser, his business, district and State. No permit shall be required for the sale of cigar leaf tobacco as herein authorized.

The commercial usage of billing the tobacco at the marked instead of the actual weight will be permitted when the bill of sale also discloses the actual weight of the tobacco at the time of sale.

NEW RELATIONS WITH JAPAN.

TO BE BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE TREATY, WHICH GOES INTO EFFECT IN JULY.

Washington, March 16.—Extensive changes in the relations between the United States and Japan will be brought about on July 17 next, when the new treaty between the two nations goes into effect. It was negotiated several years ago, but its actual operation was deferred so as to give time for adjusting affairs to the changed conditions. Similar treaties have been made by Japan with most of the other first-class Powers. Their essential feature is to give Japan a status as a modern nation, instead of imposing the restrictions which she was under, along with China and other Eastern countries, before her advance to modern methods. The entire extra-territorial system is swept away by the new treaties. This gave to foreign Powers, including the United States, a right to try civil and criminal cases relating to their own citizens in consular courts, instead of in the Japanese courts. Hereafter these foreign courts will be abolished, and Japanese courts will try all cases alike.

Another feature is in opening up the entire interior of Japan to the capital and enterprise of foreign merchants. At present the restrictions on aliens are exceedingly severe, except at Yokohama and a few large places, the interior being practically in the exclusive occupancy of the natives. Now, however, foreign settlement and trade are invited, and the richness of the interior promises large commercial returns. The rates of duty between the two countries will not be much changed, as this branch of the new relation already has gone into operation.

SAMPSON'S SQUADRON TO DRILL.

Washington, March 16.—Admiral Sampson reported by cable dispatch from Puerto Cortez, Honduras, that he had sailed last night with the flagship New-York and the Brooklyn for Caimanera, where they will be joined by the Texas, the Indiana, the Detroit and the Marblehead, making up a full squadron, and will go southward for drill.

The Raleigh has sailed from Algiers for Gibraltar, en route to Hampton Roads, where she is to be put out of commission.

Disease Attacks

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FERRATIN "FEED THE BLOOD" TABLETS

They fill the blood with iron, the vital constituent which carries nourishment to every tissue of the body. Their effect is promptly apparent in better appetite, ruddy cheeks, increased strength, and general restoration of good health.

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