

RESTING ON THEIR ARMS. AGGRESSIVE ACTION AGAINST THE FILIPINOS SUSPENDED.

AWAITING THE POSSIBLE RETURN OF LUNA'S EMISSARIES TO MANILA—AMERICAN ATTITUDE CONCILIATORY.

Manila, April 30, 8:10 p. m.—While it is the general expectation among Americans that the Filipino emissaries will return with revised proposals from General Luna, Major-General Otis is not letting this prospect interfere with his preparations for pushing the war. Yesterday he ordered Major-General Lawton to return to Angat, a few miles northwest of Norzagaray, and not to advance aggressively while the negotiations are pending.

The possibilities of peace are gratifying to a great majority of the army, who have regarded the war as an unpleasant duty that must be performed according to American traditions. Manila is cheerful over the prospect of a return to normal life, though there are sceptics who remark that a truce would enable the insurgents to rest until the rainy season, upon which they have been depending as an important aid.

The prisoners report that there are 75,000 refugees north of San Fernando. This is not impossible, considering the thickly populated region which the Americans have cleared. It seems also that smallpox is spreading among them.

FILIPINO CONGRESS MEETS TO-DAY.

The so-called Filipino Congress will meet at San Fernando to-morrow. When Dean C. Worcester, of the United States Philippine Commission, who accompanied the Filipino emissaries from Calumpit, said to Colonel Manuel Arguelles that the Americans were under no obligations to refrain from fighting, the Filipino officer replied: "Would you fight while we are discussing terms of peace?" Mr. Worcester responded with the suggestion that an armistice would give the Filipino leaders time to escape. "My God! Where would we escape to?" the Filipino exclaimed, referring in this to the menacing hostile tribes behind the Filipino lines.

Colonel Arguelles told the correspondent of The Associated Press that he was much disappointed in the results of his mission. He said also that Aguinaldo expected Calumpit to be the cemetery of the American Army.

Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace, of the 1st Montana Regiment, Major Adams and Major Shields, who slept on Friday night in General Luna's camp, where they went to inform the Filipinos that their envoys would return in safety, found the Filipino commander cordial, the Filipino troops removing their hats as the Americans passed. The Filipinos complained to them that the Americans used explosive bullets, which is not the fact. The American officers retorted that the copper shells used by the Filipinos are worse than explosive bullets. General Luna said he regretted being obliged to kill Americans, but that was his business.

General Wheaton entertained Colonel Arguelles and Lieutenant José Bernal, and provided them with horses to return to their camp.

HOLDING OUT AN OLIVE BRANCH.

In the course of the conference yesterday, Jacob C. Schurman, chairman of the United States Philippine Commission, told Colonel Arguelles that, if the insurgents would now lay down their arms, he and his colleagues of the Commission would consult them regarding the plan of government to be submitted to President McKinley. He said he could not promise that all their suggestions would be adopted, but he could assure them that there would be a presumption in favor of their suggestions, adding that the Commissioners would be speedily desirous of satisfying the legitimate aspirations of the Filipinos.

When Colonel Arguelles protested that unconditional surrender would be humiliation, Mr. Schurman replied:

"There would be no humiliation in General Otis treating our brother Filipinos as General Grant treated our brother Americans at Appomattox."

Mr. Schurman said to-day to the correspondent of The Associated Press:

"I believe Colonel Arguelles is personally sincere and honest, though I have no means of ascertaining the sentiments and aims of the authorities behind him. The Filipino people, like other Asiatic peoples, have no trust in mere words, without force behind them; but, with force, I consider a conciliatory spirit of the utmost importance."

"I believe that, when peace has been established, governing the Filipinos will not be a difficult matter, provided we show them firmness, justice and kindness. At the present time they distrust and dislike us; but these sentiments, which are perhaps not unnatural, will soon be dispelled by the effects of the good government we have promised to establish here. It will be the foremost duty of American officials to understand and sympathize with the Filipinos themselves."

LAWTON HAS A SMART FIGHT.

Yesterday before General Otis had issued the order directing General Lawton to return to Angat, the troops of his command encountered the rebels in a circle of hills outside San Rafael, about five miles northwest of Angat, dislodging them after an hour's fighting. The Americans had three wounded. A thousand armed Filipinos fell back as the Americans advanced. The villagers met General Lawton, offering him provisions. They dare not flee into the mountain country on the east, because of the robber tribes there; and on the west are the troops of General MacArthur.

Messrs. Garrick and Holmes, Americans, who had been running a sugar mill at Calumpit and whose fate had caused some anxiety, have sent word to Manila that they are safe with Mr. Higgins, manager of the Manila-Dagupan Railroad, at Boyonbang.

THE SHERMAN AND GRANT ARRIVE. ORDERED INTO A QUARANTINE—SMALLPOX CASE ON ONE OF THE VESSELS.

San Francisco, April 30.—The United States transport Sherman arrived here from Manila, and was followed shortly after by the Grant. Both ships were ordered into quarantine. On the way over one of the crew of the Sherman died of smallpox. How long the ship and passengers will be obliged to remain in quarantine is a problem, but it is possible that the officers may be released to-day.

Those who made the trip across on the Sherman and who are still on board the transport are Brigadier-General H. G. Otis, Los Angeles; Major W. O. Owen, Mr. Eastman, Lieutenant Estes and the sons of Senator Hale, Secretary Hale and Congressman Dalzell, of New York. Detained on the Grant are Major Potter, 14th Infantry; Captain C. F. Mudgett, 1st North Dakota; Captain Alfred J. Kolber, Lieutenant Bowles, Lieutenant Johnson, 1st Tennessee; Second Lieutenant Cooper, Lieutenant Redmond, 1st North Dakota; Lieutenant Henderson, 1st Nebraska; Lieutenant W. H. Spiller and Captain Hodges, formerly of the Boston, who has been in charge of the Navy yard at Cavite.

NO WORD FROM OTIS.

WAR DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THERE WAS NO CHANGE AT MANILA YESTERDAY.

Washington, April 30.—Not a line of official news from Manila was received to-day by either the War or the Navy Department. Since the opening of the campaign against the insurgents scarcely a day has passed without dispatches from General Otis, and the absence of advices to-day is taken by the war officials to mean that, pending further negotiations for peace on the part of the Filipinos, the situation is as General Otis reported it yesterday.

It is known that supplies are being pushed forward from Manila to the troops at the front. In order that they may be prepared for an advance, should such action become necessary. There has been no suspension of hostilities, but it is regarded as likely that General Otis, while not losing any of the advantage he has gained, will afford the Filipinos reasonable time to consider the situation and terms as he presented them to the envoys of General Luna. It is expected confidently by officials of the War Department that, the way to peace now being paved, further negotiations will be opened by the insurgents. It is believed to be probable that the next important news received from Manila will be that the Filipinos have made additional overtures toward a conclusion of hostilities.

The War Department has been informed of the arrival at San Francisco from Manila of the transports Grant and Sherman. The officials are greatly gratified at the rapid run of the Sherman. She made the trip of more than seven thousand miles in twenty-six days.

PEACE PROSPECT PLEASES MADRID.

Madrid, April 30.—The prospect of peace in the Philippines is hailed with satisfaction, as likely to lead to the early liberation of the Spanish prisoners in the hands of the Filipinos.

THE PHILIPPINE INDEMNITY.

London, May 1.—The Madrid correspondent of "The Standard" says: "The Bank of Spain has accepted, in part payment of advances to the Treasury, all bills drawn on the United States for the Philippine indemnity. It takes the bills as equivalent to 115,750,000 pesetas. Though the rate of exchange at the time was over 19, the indebtedness of the Treasury to the bank is thus reduced to 443,000,000."

HIGHER WAGES FOR THOUSANDS.

REMARKABLE EVIDENCES OF PROSPERITY IN PENNSYLVANIA. Pittsburg, April 30.—Evidences of good times in and around Pittsburg are shown by the following notices of wage increases: The Consolidated Traction Company, of this city, to-day posted notices granting more than one thousand employes an advance in wages of 11 per cent, dating from to-morrow. This advance will give the conductors and motormen 20 cents an hour, which is said to be the highest wages paid by any traction company in the country. To the company's men employed in the power-houses, where the work is hard and exhausting, will be granted a reduction of hours without any decrease of pay.

A dispatch from Sharon says: "Notices of a 10 per cent increase in wages, taking effect May 1, are posted at all the furnaces in Sharon and Sharpville to-day. Nearly twelve hundred men will be benefited by the advance. This is the second voluntary advance at the furnaces within thirty days."

CConnellsville sends this item: "The H. C. Frick Coke Company surprised and delighted its twelve hundred employes by posting notices this morning at all its plants in the Connellsville coke region announcing a general advance in wages, to take effect to-morrow, May 1. Every one of the employes of the Frick and McClure plants, which are also controlled by the Frick company, will receive an advance ranging from 6 to 12 1/2 per cent. The maximum rate of increase will be paid to the employes receiving the lowest wages, and the minimum increase will be paid to employes receiving the highest wages. The new scale will be the highest ever paid in the Connellsville region."

BLAST FURNACES START UP.

Reading, Penn., April 30 (Special).—At a late hour last night, amid the rejoicing of the workmen, officials and others, the match was applied to the largest anthracite blast furnace in Eastern Pennsylvania, which the Reading Iron Company was two years in building. Its cost was over \$250,000, and it is the largest and most modern of its kind ever erected in this country. The weekly capacity of the one placed in operation last night will be 1,300 to 2,000 tons a week. Most furnaces heretofore turn out but 600 to 800 tons in the same time. The officials of the Iron and Steel Company of New York will be in this city to-morrow, when the two Henry Clay anthracite blast furnaces of this city and the Tipton furnaces will be formally transferred to them. Their representatives are already in possession. The three furnaces have a weekly capacity of 2,300 tons, and will be able to produce a large number of tenement-houses. The Empire now owns eight furnaces in Eastern Pennsylvania, and it is rumored that more furnaces in this vicinity which have been idle many years will be placed in operation. One is at Hildersboro, owned by the Brooke Iron Company, and the other at Leesport, recently purchased by Philadelphia parties.

PACIFIC CABLE SUBSIDY.

Ottawa, Ont., April 30.—A cable dispatch has been received from Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, stating that the Imperial Government will not take any share in the Pacific cable, but will contribute a sum not less than £200,000 annually.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT KIEL.

Kiel, Prussia, April 30.—A serious fire broke out to-day in Krupp's Germania dockyard, resulting in the destruction of several large houses and shops, and doing damage to the value of £100,000. Two German men-of-war that are in process of construction in the yard were saved with the utmost difficulty.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS IN THE WEST.

San Francisco, April 30.—Two shocks of earthquake were distinctly felt in this city to-day. The first shock was mild, but the second, which followed immediately afterward, was of much greater severity. It was a matter of general comment that the shocks, which were felt about 2:45 p. m., should have occurred during a mild and with unusually low temperature for this season. So far as known no serious damage resulted.

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S FURNACE.

Madrid, April 30.—The Duke of Arcos, the newly appointed Spanish Minister to the United States, will leave Spain for the United States this week.

CHANGES IN HAVANA.

A DECOROUS AND ANGLO-SAXON SUNDAY IN THE CUBAN CAPITAL.

A MILITARY ELEMENT IN INSULAR POLITICS—A SALUTARY ORDER—POSTOFFICE FACILITIES INCREASED.

Havana, April 30.—Havana had scarcely a natural aspect to-day with most of the shops closed, and decorous Anglo-Saxon quiet reigned through the retail trade districts which formerly took on an added appearance of animation and gaiety on Sundays. In conformity with the resolution, voted by the City Councils and approved by the Civil Governor, all shopkeepers, except in a few special exempted classes, shut their doors at 10 o'clock this morning, and this evening the business quarter of the city, ordinarily brilliant with electricity, is left deserted and dark. There has been some talk of an appeal to the American military authorities to set aside the Sunday-closing decree of the civil government, on the ground that it injures individual interests on the one hand and will cause much public discomfort on the other, but there is no probability that Governor-General Brooke will throw any obstacles in the way of the Sunday-closing experiment, which has behind it, apparently, a serious popular sentiment. The retail shopkeepers have formed an association to fight the new ordinance—the grocers, bakers and coal dealers being especially prominent in the struggle to retain their former trade privileges.

The early closing regulations for week days, which are also to go into effect shortly, provide that shops shall be shut at 8 o'clock on all evenings but Saturday, when the time limit is extended to midnight. These reforms have been undertaken solely for the benefit of the working classes, and will doubtless justify themselves in public opinion after a brief trial.

A NEW POLITICAL FACTOR.

The decision reached by the committee of generals representing the Cuban Army to give each discharged soldier or officer a certificate fixing the compensation equitably due him when a Cuban republic shall have been established is likely to influence very seriously the future course of Cuban politics. For one thing, it will keep the army intact as a political factor, if each private is adjudged to have a claim on the future insular government for arrears at the rate of \$30 for each month's service, and each major-general at the rate of \$500. The army will naturally endeavor to hasten the organization of a native State, and will struggle to control its policy and its purse-strings. Necessary delays in the substitution of native sovereignty for American military control will, of course, inspire unrest and suspicion in the breasts of those claimants, whom a common interest will spur into strenuous political activity. Whether the non-combatant Cubans can unite sufficiently to check the army's influence and compel it to moderate its demands is still a problem. But the certificate scheme will prove a powerful weapon in the hands of the army leaders, for every holder of such an I O U on the still unorganized Cuban treasury can easily be persuaded that, having lived in the woods and swamps for two years in the cause of freedom, he is fully entitled to all the arrangements a grateful republic can make and pay.

KEEPING OUT FIREARMS.

Yesterday's Custom House order announcing the Government's veto on the further importation of firearms should have a salutary effect in the island's present unsettled state. The excessive use of firearms is a grave menace to public order. Concealed weapons are carried by the thousands in this city, and constant violence is the natural result among a people so excitable and hot-headed.

A NATIVE CUBAN ARCHBISHOP.

Highly favorable comment is made here on the choice by the Vatican of a native Cuban for the vacant post of Archbishop of Santiago. The new incumbent is Francisco de P. Barnada, whose virtues and abilities are declared to fit him eminently for this exalted ecclesiastical office. The former Archbishop, a Spaniard, refused to remain under the American occupation and sailed some time ago for Spain.

POSTOFFICE IN NEW QUARTERS.

The Havana postoffice was transferred to-day to new and more commodious quarters, in the Plaza de los Armas. It is to be hoped that better accommodations will improve the local service, which still smacks of the precariousness habitual under Spanish rule.

RUSSIANS GET PERSIAN CONCESSION.

AN ENTIRE PROVINCE TO BE EXPLOITED FOR METALS AND ORES. Berlin, April 30.—According to a dispatch from St. Petersburg to the "Lokal-Anzeiger," the Shah of Persia, on March 1, signed a concession to a Russian mining company covering the whole province of Oozorbajan, the most northern province of Persia, having an area of 30,300 square miles. The concession is for seventy years.

SPAIN'S ECONOMIC SITUATION.

Imports increase, while exports and customs receipts fall off. Madrid, April 30.—Spain's economic situation, according to "El Liberal," is unfavorable, tested by the official returns for the first quarter of the current year. The imports showed an increase of 45,000,000 pesetas, while the exports fell off \$100,000,000 pesetas. The customs receipts showed a heavy decrease.

TRANSVAAL'S GREAT GOLD OUTPUT.

President Kruger's interesting announcement to the Volksraad. Pretoria, April 30.—In the course of his speech yesterday at the opening of the Volksraad President Kruger announced that the Transvaal was now the largest gold-producing country in the world. He said the output in 1898 was £10,240,030, being an increase of 4,584,905 over the output of the previous year.

FOREIGN CRUISERS AT PANAMA.

Colon, April 30.—The British first-class armored cruiser Imperieuse, flagship on the Pacific station, with Rear-Admiral Henry St. L. B. Palliser, which recently arrived here from Acapulco, Mexico, and which is to be relieved by the first-class armored cruiser Warpite, leaves Panama to-day for the South Pacific, en route for England. The German protected cruiser Geier is now at Panama.

BISHOP WHIPPLE PREACHES IN LONDON.

London, April 30.—The Right Rev. Henry B. Whipple, Bishop of Minnesota, preached this morning at St. Margaret's, Westminster, London, before a large and fashionable congregation, including Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and many other members of the House of Commons and Parliamentary officials.

DUKE OF ARCOS TO SAIL THIS WEEK.

Madrid, April 30.—The Duke of Arcos, the newly appointed Spanish Minister to the United States, will leave Spain for the United States this week.

TRUSTEES OUT IN A BODY.

WHOLESALE RESIGNATIONS IN WEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

CLIMAX OF DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN PASTOR AND OFFICIALS—THE LATTER SAY THEY WILL NOT SERVE AGAIN UNLESS ALL ARE RE-ELECTED.

The trustees of the West Presbyterian Church yesterday resigned in a body. The announcement was read by E. C. Van Glahn, the clerk of the trustees, at the morning service. The following is a copy of the letter of resignation which was submitted to the congregation: To the Congregation of the West Presbyterian Church: The pastor, in his letter of resignation, read from the pulpit of this church, alleged that his labors as your minister in Christ were greatly hindered by the present financial management of the church, and by the influences now at work lessening his usefulness. There are indications that this opinion is also shared by certain members of the congregation. The trustees are unable to understand upon what action of theirs this charge is based; and they cannot consent to remain officers of the church while such a state of confidence exists. The trustees have been unanimous in their financial management; and the responsibility for such management rests equally upon all. They therefore severally resign the office of trustee, to take effect immediately after the annual election in May.

THE CLIMAX OF DISAGREEMENTS.

The statement was signed by the whole of the trustees, nine in number, consisting of E. H. Perkins, Jr., chairman; W. B. Wheeler, Seth E. Thomas, Alfred H. Smith, S. C. T. Dodd, Robert Jaffray, Jr., Henry M. Flagler, S. Newton Smith and Russell Sage. This action on the part of the trustees is the climax of the troubles that have disturbed the church in the last few weeks.

It may be remembered that in the early part of last month the Rev. Dr. Anthony H. Evans, the pastor of the church, surprised his congregation by announcing from the pulpit his intention to give up his charge. Then, for the first time, the great number of the members of the church learned that the pastor was antagonized by the trustees. It appeared that Dr. Evans himself had no idea that he was opposed by the officials of the church until he received a letter from President Stryker of Hamilton College inclosing another from E. H. Perkins, Jr., wherein the latter sought Stryker's aid to induce Dr. Evans to resign. The reason given for this course was that Dr. Evans's ministry was injuring the church financially. In explaining the reasons which led him to resign Dr. Evans drew attention to the letter which Mr. Perkins had written to Dr. Stryker. "It is unnecessary," he said, "for me to speak of the suffering which this letter brought. In due time I consulted with the session. Three meetings were held, and I found that the expressed intention of the letter was not their desire, for when I presented my resignation it was their unanimous will that I should withhold it. Later on I came to know that not all of the trustees were of the same mind. The conviction took possession of me that a great wrong had been committed, and this I felt to the depths of my soul to-day. It is a wrong committed secretly and deliberately—a wrong not against your pastor only, but against the church, against the good name of Presbyterianism, and more serious than all, against the sacred cause of Christ. The financial problem which confronts the Church is not formidable. A considerate and generous policy, animated by devotion to spiritual things, would solve it. The financial problem demands careful attention, but is incidental to the main question, which is: Shall the Church be ruled by the spirit of Christ or by the spirit of the world? I believe with all my heart that spiritual interests are supreme."

It was quickly learned that the congregation was not in sympathy with the trustees. Petitions urging Dr. Evans to remain in the church were signed by almost every member of the congregation, and at the church meeting called to take action on the resignation an overwhelming majority voted for the retention of the pastor. So decided was the desire that he should continue in the pulpit that Dr. Evans withdrew his resignation.

Until yesterday it was thought that the trustees were content to abide by the result. It is now apparent, however, that they were considerably perturbed by the action of the congregation. Conferences have been held, and, although it was understood at the time that not all of the trustees endorsed the letter written by Mr. Perkins to Dr. Stryker, they decided to resign collectively. This step was entirely unexpected by the congregation, and many caustic criticisms were made regarding it after yesterday morning's sermon. By some it was asserted that it was due to pique, while by others it was maintained that the wholesale resignations were due to a desire to embarrass the pastor.

HOW THE TRUSTEES EXPLAIN IT.

The resignations will be acted on at the annual election, in the second week of May. The trustees explain their attitude as being a necessary development of the meeting at which the congregation urged the pastor to withdraw his resignation. They say that the vote on that occasion was tantamount to an expression of want of confidence. If re-elected as a body the trustees will be willing to resume their offices, but not otherwise. At the coming election should one of the nine be superseded the remainder will refuse to serve.

The trustees contend, in fact, that the only expression of a renewal of confidence which they will accept is the re-election of the whole of them. They have decided among themselves that it must be all or none.

Inasmuch as there is considerable feeling in the church against Mr. Perkins and Russell Sage, it is not improbable that an entire new Board of Trustees will be chosen at the coming meeting. Mr. Perkins is one of the three trustees who retire by rotation this year, and it was said yesterday that it was the knowledge that neither he nor his two colleagues would be re-elected that impelled the trustees to resign in a body.

Dr. Evans, Mr. Perkins, Russell Sage and Robert Jaffray, Jr., were seen yesterday by a Tribune reporter, but none of them would comment in any way on the latest sequel of the variance between the pastor and his trustees.

DEPUTY-CHIEF CROKER ASSIGNED.

HE WILL BE HEAD OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT UNTIL CHIEF BONNER'S SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED. Fire Commissioner Scannell last night assigned Deputy-Chief Edward F. Croker to command the Fire Department, his appointment taking effect at a o'clock this morning, until the selection of a permanent Chief to succeed Chief Bonner. He also assigned Battalion Chief William Duane as Acting Deputy-Chief in Deputy-Chief Croker's place while the latter is Acting Chief. This appointment is regarded by many as an indication of Tammany's policy, but it is said the Civil Service Commission has to be reckoned with.

THE LAKE SHORE, LIMITED.

The New-York Central, leaving New-York for Cleveland and Chicago at 10 o'clock every afternoon, will on and after May 1st take passengers only for points west of Buffalo; this train being exclusively for through business. The passenger-car on this train will be transferred to the Western Express leaving New-York at 6 p. m.—Adv.

EXCURSION TRAIN WRECKED.

TWO PERSONS KILLED IN A SMASH-UP NEAR ROCHESTER.

Rochester, N. Y., April 30.—A disastrous railroad wreck occurred at 2:45 o'clock this afternoon on the Rochester and Lake Ontario Railroad, better known as the Bay Railroad, at Rosenbaum's Corners, about half a mile north of the city line. Two cars on an excursion train filled with passengers left the track while going around a curve. Two persons are dead, and at least a dozen are seriously injured, while about fifty receive more or less severe hurts. The dead were: HILBERG, John, twenty years old. Unknown man, died after being removed from the wreck. Charles Werner and Joseph Zimmer are so badly injured that they may die.

The train, which was crowded with persons bound for different places along the shores of Lake Ontario in the Irondequoit district, left the Bay station in this city at 2:45 o'clock this afternoon, about fifteen minutes late. Every seat in the coaches was filled, and many persons were standing on the platforms. The train was made up of an engine, one closed and two open coaches. There is a grade about one hundred yards from the corner of North-avenue and Ridge road, and when this was reached the speed of the train increased perceptibly. Those standing on the platforms clutched the railing and standards.

When the curve was reached the train rounded it with startling rapidity. Next to the engine was the closed carriage, divided into two compartments. It veered over to the north and rode on the wheels of the left side until it left the rail and shot straight ahead. There was a crash as the coupling between the engine and the coach was broken. The car ploughed through the earth for several feet and fell on its side in front of the Ridge Road Hotel. One of the other cars was also derailed. The closed carriage, which was overturned, had in it a partition that divided the front part from the rear. The front apartment was for smokers. In it were several men, and standing in the entrance were two women and a little girl. These were thrown into a jumble mass against the roof, and were pinioned under the seats and the partition. John Hilberg was standing on the platform between the second and third cars when the crash came. He was caught between the two cars and crushed to death.

Little Emma Huffel was among the first of the wounded taken from the wreck. Her face was covered with blood, her nose was broken, and there were cuts and bruises all over her face, hands and arms. The work of rescue was carried on energetically, and as each sufferer was taken out he was sent to a hospital.

CORPORATIONS SURPRISED.

THEY TRUSTED TO THE MACHINE TO BEAT THE FORD BILL.

NOW THAT IT IS PASSED, THEY WILL APPEAL TO THE GOVERNOR—THE THIRTY-DAY BILLS AT ALBANY.

Albany, April 30 (Special).—Governor Roosevelt said on Friday that he expected to be busy for the next thirty days, giving hearings on the important bills left with him by the Legislature and examining closely those measures and also less important ones that were passed by the Legislature. Public opinion also had much to do with the success of the Ford measure. Assemblymen saw that the people desired its passage, and they acted accordingly. The Governor has said that he expects to sign the Ford bill early this week. That declaration probably was made without the expectation that any one would apply for a hearing on it. To-morrow's mail will contain the Governor's purpose as to the time of signing the bill. It is believed that if any one desires a hearing it will be granted. The Governor never has believed that the measure was perfect, and he has stood ready for a month to accept it in an amended form, or even a far milder franchise bill, like that of Mr. Rodenbeck. Not until he saw that the corporations interested for hearing in the Ford bill were surprised to most of them. They seem to have trusted in the power of the Republican "organization" to protect them from any measure which might be harmful to them. But the "organization's" power in the Legislature has been decreasing ever since January 1. His bill which his members desired passed, and also the measure before the next Legislature meets. If the Ford bill proves to be ineffective or in any way harmful, many changes will undoubtedly be made to improve it. Some of the ablest corporation lawyers, it is said, will appear before the committee. In the meantime the Governor will probably sign the Ford bill.

The Governor on Tuesday will give a hearing to prominent New-Yorkers who are interested in the new provisions of the Factory Inspection law, designed to suppress the sweatshop. The new regulations for examinations under the White City Service law. The Governor will also examine the examination papers of a strictly practical character.

ALGER MAY BE SENATOR.

SAYS HE DOES NOT THINK McMILLAN WILL RUN AGAIN—WOULD APPRECIATE THE HONOR.

Detroit, April 30.—Secretary Alger, being asked whether he will be a candidate before the next Michigan Legislature for United States Senator to succeed Senator McMillan, replied: "I will say frankly that I did think that if the State should see fit to send me to the Senate I would appreciate the honor, but after all my State has done for me I shall not enter into any scramble for it."

Being informed that it had been reported that Senator McMillan would seek a third term, the Secretary of War replied: "I do not think so. Senator McMillan has assured me himself a long time ago that he probably should not be a candidate again, and that if he was not he would do all he could for me. I think if he had changed his mind and intended to be a candidate he would have heard something about it. Indeed, I think would be one of the first persons that he would have spoken to about it."

FIRE CARRIED BY TORNADO.

HOW FLAMES SWEEPED TWENTY-FIVE MILES OF FARM LAND IN NEBRASKA.

Coleridge, Neb., April 30 (Special).—A prairie fire burning in the hay flats along the northern tier of counties of Nebraska, ten miles from here, yesterday afternoon, passed into the track of a tornado and was swept with the speed of the wind diagonally across the county for twenty-five miles, destroying everything in its path. The property damage is known to be large.

The only lives known to have been lost were those of Mrs. Rolla Livingston and her five-year-old boy. The woman saw the fire coming and ran to a pasture to release the stock, and the boy followed her. Both were knocked down by the terrified animals. The fire passed over them before they could get out of the way.

A number of large bunches of cattle were overtaken and killed. A large number of farmhouses were destroyed, and the families escaped only by racing beyond the track of the storm. The path of the fire was nearly one mile wide. The farmers beyond the fire belt managed to put out the flames along the bottoms after the tornado had passed over.

WASTING PUBLIC MONEY.

BLUNDERS IN STAFF BUREAUS OF ARMY PROVE COSTLY.

EXPENSES FOR WESTCHESTER LIMESTONE—METHODS OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF IMPROVEMENTS—THE ANTIETAM COMMISSION.

Washington, April 30.—Occasionally something happens to shake public confidence in the infallibility of the man in a staff bureau of the Army as an administrator of miscellaneous National concerns. When discharging functions foreign to the military profession, his blunders are numerous and sometimes very costly. But they are generally kept from public observation by the enforced "official reticence" peculiar to the War Department, or, if incidentally uncovered, pass unnoticed in the vast sea of Governmental affairs. The administrative shortcomings of these men probably fall under the category of "secrets," of which General Egan said that it was "criminal" to "put into the hands of the Government. One of these secrets, now twelve years old, was indirectly revealed by a local item in a New-York newspaper the other day under the heading, "White Elephant That Has Cost the Government \$2,000 a Year in Rent Since 1887," from which it appeared that when the Harlem River improvements were under way in 1887, some 235,000 cubic feet of limestone, locally known as Westchester marble, was excavated. The officer in charge of the work stored this rock on leased ground at Dyckman's Meadows, near Spuyten Duyvil, presumptuously on the expectation that the Government would itself have use for the material in some of its future operations, or, at all events, be able to sell it. For the twelve years at \$2,000 a year this rock has cost the Government in the item of ground rental alone \$24,000.

The War Department had no use for this Westchester marble at the time it was "stored," nor has it since been able to utilize it. It was a mere business guess on the part of the officer that it might have a commercial value or be made available. That one guess of an Army officer, inexperienced in commercial affairs, cost to the United States \$24,000. In 1880 the stone was advertised for sale, but there were no bidders for the "marble." In 1890 a firm offered to haul away part of it as a gift, but eventually defaulted upon its contract.

PLANS FOR STONE REMOVAL.

Now, after the lapse of twelve years, the War Department is making a desperate effort to relieve itself of this costly burden. The recent Congress made an appropriation to pay for its removal. Major H. M. Adams, the engineer officer at present in charge of the Harlem River improvements, made this statement about the matter:

"We are going to get rid of the stone at once; sell it if possible; if not, give it away, or, as a last resort, pay to have it removed." Under this cautious announcement of the Government's ultimatum, it is hardly likely to have many offers from cash purchasers, or, indeed, from those who would accept it as a gift. Customers will, of course, prefer to have the Government not only give it to them, but they will insist on having the marble delivered f. o. b. But the Government will be saving money to do even this to the rid of this vast pile of Westchester limestone.

Now, \$24,000 is not a large sum to a country whose annual expenditures are from \$500,000,000 to \$750,000,000 a year, but this small incident is significant because it is characteristic of a system of War Department operations by which in some measure the financial outgo is swelled to such unexampled proportions. It is permitted to thrive and expand unchecked because "what's everybody's business is nobody's business." This is not an isolated case. Similar instances of official ignorance and heedlessness in War Department expenditures, to call it nothing worse, are seen on every hand by any one who cares to investigate.

FIND FAULT WITH PREDECESSORS.