

NEARING THE END

Disintegration of the Filipino Government.

Officials in American Hands

Aginaldo and Untaken Cabinet Members in Hiding.

AN IMPORTANT SURRENDER

"MANILA, November 24, 1899." "Adjutant General, War Department, Washington." "The claim to a government by the insurgents can be made no longer under any fiction. Its treasurer, secretary of the interior and president of congress are in our hands. Its president and remaining cabinet officers are in hiding, evidently in the different central Luzon provinces. Its generals and troops are in small bands scattered through these provinces acting as banditti or dispersed playing the role of 'Amigos,' with their arms concealed.

"The indications are that Aginaldo did not escape through the lines of Lawton or Wheaton, but fled westward from Bayambang railway station.

"Telegraphic communication to Dagupan established, probably to San Fabian, today by relaying nine miles of track with the material at hand. Railway communication to that point is re-established. Labor of the troops must attend to its maintenance.

"OTIS." "Adjutant General Corbin received this morning the above significant message from General Otis, indicating the disintegration and demoralization of the insurgent forces."

Recent Fighting in Panay.

General Otis has made the following report of the latest operations on the island of Panay:

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"In Panay, 21st instant, when Dickman drove the enemy from the vicinity of Jaro, Carpenter, with two battalions of the 18th Infantry and Brinkman Battery, had a severe engagement at Pavia, north of Iloilo. His casualties were five killed, twenty wounded, now in Iloilo Hospital. Others slightly wounded are with the command. The enemy was driven north with a reported very heavy loss, particulars not received. Carpenter passed on to the insurgents' stronghold, Santa Barbara, which he captured, 23d instant, without loss. Nothing has been received from the column under the immediate command of Hughes, which is moving rapidly and operating very heavily. Captures of prisoners, recently the Visayans are friendly, not taking an active part. The enemy consists of 200 Tagalogs.

"OTIS." "Later General Otis made the following additional report on the same subject:

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"Hughes, at Iloilo, reports the enemy driven back into the mountains; the insurgent capital, Cebuana, captured. The only serious action was that of Carpenter at Pavia. The total casualties were five killed or since dead of wounds, twenty-seven wounded, captured prisoners, eighteen cannon, six rifles, quantities of munition. Enemy's casualties not stated.

"OTIS." "Gen. Otis has furnished the following list of casualties not previously reported: Killed in advance on Pavia, P. L. November 21, Howard Lode, sergeant, G. 6th Artillery; William S. Addy, P. 18th Infantry.

"In action near Barrio, Tenabang, 11th, Thomas E. Gardner, L. 17th Infantry. Wounded, Charles E. Hopper, 17th, right thigh, moderate; 10th, John E. Miller, A. 17th, right chest and abdomen, severe.

"In action near Jaro, Panay, Richard Corbett, C. 26th Infantry, neck, severe; 18th, James E. Roogey, A. head, severe.

"In action at Knabo, Luzon, Paul P. Phelan, P. 14th Cavalry, left thigh, moderate; Edward Johnson, head, moderate; William W. Homan, corporal, right leg, moderate.

Gratification at the Department.

The dispatch of Gen. Otis concerning the situation in Luzon as received at the War Department with great satisfaction. The impression prevails that the end is not far distant. Secretary Root took the dispatch over to the White House to be read at the cabinet meeting. If Aginaldo is in the western provinces, as Gen. Otis supposes, it is believed that he will be captured. He can escape only by way of the sea, but he might attempt to cross the railroad between Manila and Dagupan, which is entirely in the hands of the American forces.

The dispatch today corrects the previous impression that Aginaldo had gone north of Dagupan and was making for the Province of Ilocos. There are two provinces of the south. They both lie along the western coast, the town of Vigan being about midway between them. It was at Vigan that Wheaton was ordered to intercept the fugitive if he attempted to escape to the north. At one time it was supposed that Aginaldo would try to escape across the mountains and reach Bayambang, but the discovery was abandoned when it became known that the savage tribes of the mountains are hostile to him, and it has been concluded that he and his followers would not dare risk themselves in that region.

Departure of Troopships.

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The Legality of His Election Beyond Question.

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"I have no doubt of retaining my seat. The legality of my election beyond any question. I possess all the constitutional qualifications and I am unconvicted of any crime. I am not even charged with any offense against the laws of my state which would constitute a sufficient offense for my expulsion.

ITALIAN BUREAU DISCONTINUED.

Other Nations Wanted the Privilege of Looking After Immigrants.

Upon the recommendation of the commissioner general of immigration the Secretary of the Treasury has ordered the discontinuance of the Italian bureau at the immigration station, New York. This bureau, so called, consists of Italian officials assigned by the government of King Humbert for the purpose of looking after the interests of Italian immigrants arriving at said port, and more particularly for the purpose of protecting such immigrants from the impositions of the padroni, by whom, it is alleged, they were victimized of one or two representatives of the Italian government who were authorized, as an experiment, to have charge of the Italian immigrants at the immigration station after the 1st day of January, 1890.

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The President will ask the incoming Congress to pass an act retaining General Shafter with the rank of major general in the regular army. He has already been retired with the rank of brigadier general, but that is more than is given to most of the veteran colonels of the army, and the President desires to give him a more substantial reward like that proposed is due the leader of the veteran United States forces at Santiago. This purpose was expressed to the President by the retention of Gen. Shafter in the volunteer service up to this time, it being felt that the promotion of General Shafter to major general in the active army in some manner until Congress has an opportunity to act.

WILSON, LEE AND WHEELER.

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The proposed plan is for the appointment of these volunteer officers as brigadier generals in the regular establishment and their immediate retirement. Such action is clearly within the prerogative of the President, and the retirement of any one of the three officers in question will undoubtedly insure the prompt confirmation of the others. The President is certainly in a position to bestow recognition of this character upon Brigadier Generals Lee and Wheeler, and it is believed that the President will do so. The retirement of these officers will leave vacancies in the grade of brigadier general, which, it is said, the President will fill by the promotion of General Arthur, and possibly General Young, now serving valiantly in the Philippines.

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