

The Big Stone Gap Post

VOLUME VII.

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1899.

NUMBER 7.

HE IS IN A TRAP.

Gen. Aginaldo and His Whole Army Surrounded by Our Troops.

Great Courage Shown by Our Troops During the Battle at Caloocan—List of Killed and Wounded—Troops suffering from heat.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The following official dispatch from Gen. Otis was received at the war department Tuesday morning:

MANILA, Feb. 7.—Adjutant General, Washington: Insurgent army concentrated around Manila from Luzon provinces, numbering over 20,000, possessing several quick-firing and Krupp field guns; good portion of enemy armed with Mausers of the latest pattern. Two Krupp guns and a great many rifles captured. Insurgents fired a great quantity of ammunition. Quite a number of Spanish soldiers in the insurgent service, who served the artillery.

Insurgents constructed strong intrenchments near our lines, mostly in bamboo thickets. These, our men charged, killing or capturing many of the enemy. Our casualties aggregate 25. Full reports to-day. Casualties of insurgents very heavy. Have buried some 500 of their dead and hold 500 prisoners. Their loss killed, wounded and prisoners, probably 4,000. Took waterworks pumping station yesterday, six miles out. Considerable skirmishing with enemy, who made no stand. Pumps damaged. Will be worked in week. Have number of condensers set up in city which furnish good water. Troops in excellent spirits. Quiet prevails. (Signed)

OTIS. MANILA, Feb. 8.—Lieut. A. C. Alford, Company I, 20th Kansas infantry, and a private of that company, were killed and six other members of the regiment were wounded near Caloocan Monday evening while reconnoitering. The party was in a jungle when it was attacked by the enemy.

Gen. Otis finally recalled the troops but the natives misunderstanding the retreat, failed to take advantage of it. The outskirts of the town were burned.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The war department Wednesday received the following dispatch:

MANILA, Feb. 8.—Situation rapidly improving. Reconnoissance yesterday to south several miles to Lagudna bay, to southeast eight miles, driving straggling insurgent troops in various directions, encountering no decided opposition, army disintegrated and natives returning to villages displaying white flags.

Near Caloocan, six miles north, the enemy made a stand behind intrenchments, charged by Kansas troops, led by Col. Funston. Close encounter, resulting in rout of the enemy with heavy loss. Gen. Otis issued flying proclamations charging Americans with initiative and declared war; Sunday issued another calling all to resist foreign invasion; his influence throughout this section destroyed; now applies for a cessation of hostilities for a conference; have declined to answer. Insurgent expectation of rising in city on night of 4th ult. Provost marshal general, with admirable disposition of troops defeated every attempt. City quiet; business resumed; natives respectful and cheerful; fighting qualities of American troops a revelation to all inhabitants.

OTIS. MANILA, Feb. 9.—Important news concerning Iloilo was received at the war department from Gen. Otis Wednesday. There is reason to believe that Gen. Otis has sent reinforcements to Gen. Miller, in command of the detachment there, with instructions to demand the surrender of the place, and if the demand is refused to take it by force. The troops at Iloilo are the 18th regular infantry and one battery of the 6th artillery. They are on transports lying near the entrance to Iloilo bay. The warships Baltimore and Petrel are at Iloilo and the Boston is on her way there to relieve the Baltimore.

MANILA, Feb. 9.—The provost guard is in absolute control of Manila. All fears of a native uprising in the city were dispelled by the promptitude which quelled the outbreak Monday evening. The streets were deserted Tuesday evening by 9 o'clock, and not a light was to be seen in the native quarters. The Filipinos, accustomed to Spanish methods, are constantly acquiring of the American soldiers when the prisoners are to be executed. They seem unable to realize that orders have not already been issued for the execution. Indeed, headquarters is besieged by women anxious to plead for the lives of their relatives and friends.

Gen. Hale's brigade, consisting of 1st South Dakota infantry, 1st Colorado infantry and 1st Nebraska infantry, supported by a battery of Utah light artillery, occupies the most advanced post in the American lines, fully ten miles from the base of supplies. It has an almost perfect position. Four guns of the Utah artillery stationed on a hill behind the water works command the valley to the right and left, and the foothills in front.

and as it is composed in the main of bamboo huts, it will probably be totally destroyed.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The following cablegram was received Thursday from Gen. Otis:

"MANILA, Feb. 9.—Adjutant General, Washington. Additional casualties: Thirtieth Minnesota—Wounded; Company M, Private Alexander M. Burns.

First Montana—Wounded: Company C, Private Lester Pierstoff.

First Nebraska—Killed: Co. B, Artillery. Gustave E. Edlund; Co. F, Private Wm. Phillipot; Co. M, Private H. C. Livingston. Wounded: Co. A, Charles Keeckey; B, George L. Clether, Robert E. Childers; C, Fred Kuhn; E, Oral F. Gibson; F, Douglas T. Bridges; H, Harry Seabrook; K, Grant Boyd; L, Francis Hanson; M, Moro C. Shipperd, Daniel Campbell.

Third Artillery—Wounded: Battery K, James J. Grate; L, James T. Leahy.

First Colored—Wounded: Company A, Clyde H. McVay.

Fourth Infantry—Wounded: William B. Sh.

Total casualties resulting from all engagements since evening of February 4 aggregate 268, as follows: Killed, 3 officers, 56 enlisted men; wounded, 8 officers, 199 enlisted men; missing, 2 enlisted men.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The navy department Thursday received the following dispatch:

"MANILA, Feb. 9.—After continued interference and intimidation of our women I ordered armed insurgents to leave San Roque by 9 Thursday morning. They left during the night, a few remaining, who burned the village Thursday morning. It is now occupied by our troops. All quiet.

(Signed) "DEWEY."

San Roque is a village on the neck of land connecting Cavite and the mainland of Luzon.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The most important statement received during the day from Manila was that from Gen. Otis that he had sent orders to Brig. Gen. Marcus P. Miller to demand the surrender and evacuation of Iloilo by the Visayan insurgents Friday morning at 9 o'clock, and that he expected a report from Gen. Miller by next Monday of the successful execution of his order.

MANILA, Feb. 11.—The American forces at 3:40 Friday afternoon made a combined attack upon Caloocan and reduced it in short order. At a signal from the tower of the De la Loma church, the United States double turreted monitor Monadnock opened fire from the bay, with the big guns of her fore turret on the earthworks with great effect. Soon afterward the Utah battery bombarded the place from the land side.

The rebels reserved their fire until the bombardment ceased, when they fired volleys of musketry as the Montana regiment advanced on the jungle. The Kansas regiment, on the extreme left, with the 2d artillery deploying to the right, charged across the open and carried the earthworks, cheering under a heavy fire. Supported by the artillery at the church, the troops further advanced, driving the enemy, fighting every foot, right into the town line, and penetrated to the Presidencia, and lowered the Filipino flag at 5:30 p. m.

The enemy's sharpshooters, in the jungle on the right, fired at long range on the Pennsylvania regiment, but the rebels were soon silenced by shrapnel shells and the Pennsylvanians remained in the trenches.

As the Americans advanced they burned the native huts.

The rebels were mowed down like grass, but the American loss was slight.

MANILA, Feb. 11.—The American flag was raised at 5:30 Friday afternoon over the town of Caloocan, where Aginaldo was reported to have gathered the flower of the Philippine army.

At 2:30 p. m. the monitor Monadnock and the gunboat Concord began the attack upon the town, throwing into it a shower of shells, which did a great deal of damage.

regiments entered the town from the south, they set on fire a number of huts in which some natives had concealed themselves for the purpose of firing upon the rear of our troops. The natives fled in a hurry.

Our losses were very slight, but those of the enemy were heavy, their casualties having been chiefly inflicted by shrapnel. Lieut. Col. Bruce Wallace, of the 1st Montana, is among the wounded Americans.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The following dispatch from Gen. Otis was received Friday night:

MANILA, Feb. 10.—Adjutant General, Washington: Insurgents collected considerable force between Manila and Caloocan, where Aginaldo is reported to be, and threatened attack and uprising in the city. Friday afternoon swung left of McArthur's division, which is north of Pasig river, into Caloocan, driving the enemy easy. Our left is now at Caloocan. Our loss is slight; that of the insurgents considerable. Particulars in the morning. Attack was preceded by one-half hour's firing from two of Adm. Dewey's vessels. (Signed) GEN. OTIS.

MANILA, Feb. 13.—Early Saturday the Monadnock and the cruiser Charleston began dropping shells into the rebel camp between Caloocan and Malabon.

The enemy's sharpshooters, in the jungle on the American left, had been particularly annoying since daylight, so the 2d artillery drove the rebels out of the jungle at noon. In the meantime a few more of our men were wounded.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The war department Saturday received the following dispatch from Gen. Otis:

MANILA, Feb. 11.—McArthur's division is north of Pasig river. Yesterday his left wing, Otis's brigade, made a partial wheel to right, resting left of the brigade on Caloocan, where the insurgents, who were in considerable force, were sharply driven, leaving a good many dead.

Troops in excellent condition; supplied with all necessities. Hospitals, notwithstanding wounded, have fewer patients than before the engagements of the fourth and fifth instants. Friday's engagement most successful. Relief of old residents that Aginaldo will be unable to gather in future any considerable forces. (Signed) OTIS.

MANILA, Feb. 12.—The heat Saturday knocked out many more of our men than the Filipinos bullets, especially in the marsh lands north of Malabon, where the Kansas regiment was stationed. Fully a score of them were taken to the hospital.

The following additional particulars regarding the capture of Caloocan have been obtained:

The insurgents had been concentrating their forces for days at Caloocan and Maj. Gen. Elwell S. Otis, the American commander here, determined to attack them. He instructed his commanders accordingly, and requested the assistance of the naval forces under the command of Rr. Adm. Dewey. Maj. Gen. MacArthur reported that all was ready and at 3 o'clock he received the following message:

"The commanding general orders you to go ahead with the programme. (Signed) "BARRY."

The attack began immediately. The monitor Monadnock and the cruiser Charleston shelled Caloocan and the country north of it for half an hour. Gen. MacArthur's artillery also did effective work from a hill in the rear.

Brig. Gen. Harrison Gray Otis with his brigade, consisting of the Kansas regiment, the Montana regiment and the 2d artillery, advanced handsomely, pushing forward in the face of the Filipino bullets as cheerfully as if they had been snowballs.

The enemy was utterly routed and fled to the mountains. At 6 o'clock "Cease firing" and "Recall" were sounded. The troops were then well through Caloocan and north of it. Gen. MacArthur established his left at Caloocan and strengthened his lines for the night.

The city is now quiet and business is better than at any time since the outbreak of hostilities.

LOCATED AT POLO.

Aginaldo, Insurgent Leader, Guarded By 3,000 Men North of Caloocan.

FILIPINOS USE GUERRILLA TACTICS.

The Enemy Fired a Few Shots on Our Left Sunday Night, But Did No Damage.

Close Guard is Being Kept and None But Americans and Englishmen Can Pass Our Lines—Insurgents From Iloilo Arrested.

MANILA, Feb. 14.—The Filipinos continue to pursue much the same tactics against the Americans as they employed against the Spaniards, firing from their intrenchments at night and resting during the day unless the Americans prevent them from doing so by keeping them on the defensive during the hours of daylight.

The enemy fired a few shots on our left Sunday night, but did no damage. Their splendid successes throughout last week have not caused the Americans to relax their vigilance in the least. On the contrary, our troops are even more alert than ever, if that were possible.

Guards have been posted on all of the roads leading out of the city to prevent the insurgent sympathizers within from joining the enemy or making an attack upon our rear. The sentries have orders to allow no one to pass except Americans and Englishmen. Even native coachmen have been turned back, and American or English visitors to the scenes of the recent battle have been forced to drive their army carriages.

The city continues quiet, and business has been fully resumed. A Spanish prisoner who escaped from the hands of the insurgents reports that Aginaldo is at Polo, five miles north of Caloocan with 3,000 picked men. One hundred and seventy-four natives who left Iloilo before the news of the fighting around Manila reached that place, were arrested here Sunday while still on board the ships which brought them.

WASHINGTON STORM-BOUND.

The Heaviest Snow in Many Years—Business at the Government Buildings Practically Paralyzed.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The phenomenal weather of the past week culminated Monday in a blizzard-like snow storm which broke all records and left no room for the oldest inhabitant to say the winters were no longer as severe as when he was a boy.

The temperature record was smashed last week when thermometer went to 15 degrees below zero, and a snow record was established when the heavy fall of the past week, 13 inches was added from Saturday night up to 10 o'clock Monday morning. At the hour when the weather bureau made this observation the snow was falling as fast and as heavily as at any time since it began and a high wind was piling it in huge drifts. At noon there had been no let up whatever in the snow fall.

Business in the departments was almost at a standstill, less than half the force reporting. At noon the treasury department dismissed the clerks and other employees for the day, and other departments, it was expected, would follow suit. The paralysis to all kinds of business was the worst since the fierce blizzard of March, 1888.

The Potomac is frozen over with six inches and more of ice from headwaters to the bay, and unless broken a flood is quite probable that will inundate the lower sections of the city.

Thousands of Sheep Snowbound. Boise, Ida., Feb. 14.—The storm all over the state is unprecedented. It is reported that over 40,000 sheep are snowbound in the foot hills, with little hope of getting them out.

The mercury ranges from zero at points in the Boise belt to 65 and 70 degrees below zero in the mountains, notably at Florence, which is threatened with a famine.

Earthquake Shocks in Tennessee. KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 14.—An earthquake shock of from five to ten seconds duration passed through east Tennessee Monday morning at 3:30. It was felt mostly in the upper end of the state, not reaching as far west as this city. People were aroused from their sleep but no damage was done.

Many Families Homeless. CHICAGO, Feb. 14.—The old United States hotel was destroyed by fire at 3 o'clock Monday morning. Thirty families were rendered homeless. The building was an historic structure. It was built before the war.

Senate Passes the Admiralty Bill. WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The senate has passed a bill creating the office of admiral of the navy. Rr. Adm. Dewey, it is understood, will be named for the office.

Bickham Ordered to Cuba. WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Capt. Abraham S. Bickham, assistant quartermaster, United States volunteers, has been ordered to Havana. He is a Dayton (O.) boy.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Seventeen Inmates Lose Their Lives at Yankton, South Dakota.

The Thermometer Registered 23 Degrees Below Zero, and Many Inmates Escaped Down a Narrow Passage in Their Night Clothes.

OMAHA, Neb., Feb. 13.—A special from Yankton says: One of the most horrifying fires in the history of Yankton occurred Sunday morning at 2 o'clock at the state insane asylum when one of the cottages took fire in the basement completely gutting the building and causing the loss of lives of 17 inmates confined there.

The cottage was erected of stone and granite walls with wooden interior and intended for laundry purposes, but owing to the crowded condition of the main building 40 of the female patients were placed here with the laundry in the basement. The exact cause of the fire is not known except that it originated in the dry room of the laundry. Here there is a coil of steam pipes, and the theory is that either fine particles similar to lint settled on the pipes, which ignited, or that clothes which were thickly hung here dropped on the pipes and were fired. The fighting of fire was greatly hindered by loss of power. The burned cottage stands some 300 feet in the rear of the main building, the water tank, which is for fire protection, standing 100 feet in the rear of the cottage. The steam pipes used for pumping runs from the boiler room of the main building through the cottage for heating and then to the artesian well or tank. The intense heat in the burning building caused the pipes to burst shortly after the fighting of the fire began, thus leaving them without power and depending entirely upon direct pressure from the tank, which was in no way sufficient to quench the fierce flames. Two streams of water were thrown on the building but did little good. With the thermometer standing at 25 degrees below zero it was a heartrending sight to witness those escaping coming down the narrow flight of stairs in their night clothes and bare feet into the bitter cold, and had it not been for the narrowness of the passage, the probable loss of life from freezing would have been terrible. The building was three stories high with an attic and two entrances, one east and one west. There was one stairway from the second and third floors which led into the main halls to these entrances thus giving but one egress for those in the second and third floors and attic. Fifty-two persons were in the building, 40 patients and 12 female attendants. The attendants escaped, as did the others who were saved, with none of their personal effects, many losing all that they possessed.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—SENATE.—For two hours more the senate Tuesday had the record of the day of the senate. As a result of the passage of a bill for the relief of the Philippine Islands, the senate adjourned at 10 o'clock. The bill for the relief of the Philippine Islands, which was introduced by Mr. Tamm, was passed by a vote of 74 to 16. The bill for the relief of the Philippine Islands, which was introduced by Mr. Tamm, was passed by a vote of 74 to 16.

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AN ASYLUM FIRE.

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NEWS ITEMS.

Fire at 6 o'clock Sunday morning destroyed business property on South Pearl street, New Albany, N. Y., valued at \$250,000.

The mercury made a record at Palmer, Col., of falling 50 degrees in two and a half hours. The high point was 42 above and the drop carried it to 8 below.

The Cunarder Aurania, from New York, February 4, for Queenstown and Liverpool, arrived at Queenstown at 11:35 Sunday morning. She reports heavy gales throughout the voyage.

It was understood in London Sunday night that the Hamburg-American liner Bulgaria, which is reported drifting helpless 800 miles from the Azores, carried 90 passengers.

Prince Napoleon Charles Greoire Jacques Philippa Bonaparte, third son of Prince Lucien Bonaparte, prince of Canino, and chief of the older branch of the Bonaparte family, is dead in Rome.

Both Texas houses have passed a resolution inviting Commodore Phillips, U. S. N., now in command of the Brooklyn navy yard, and Capt. Sigbee, of the battleship Texas, to visit the legislature.

The peach and apricot crops of Vernon and Cedar counties, Mo., were reported killed Friday. The loss is estimated at more than \$100,000. The weather is the coldest known here in 30 years.

"Aunt Dicy" Dibbs, aged 80 years, was found frozen to death in her home at Shawnee, Kan., where she had lived alone for years. She had apparently hurt herself by a fall and was unable to call for help.

In a snow slide at Silver Plume, Col., Sunday 24 lives are believed to have been lost. The dead are Italian miners with their families. Eleven bodies have been recovered, only two of which have been identified.

One of the attaches of the Chinese legation in Paris, believing that he was being persecuted by the secretary of legation, Lien-Yung, Friday killed the latter by shooting him with a revolver and then committed suicide.

The house commerce committee has determined to report favorably the bill "to promote the efficiency of the revenue cutter service." It provides for the retirement of officers on three-quarters pay, similar to the army and navy.

The thermometer at the weather bureau, New Haven, Ct., recorded the lowest temperature at five degrees below zero. So far as reported, Danbury is the coldest place in Connecticut, with a temperature of 19 degrees below zero.

A consolidation of all the outlying street car companies connected with the Yurkes system in Chicago has been quietly formed and articles of incorporation of the Chicago Consolidated Traction Co., with a capital stock of \$15,000,000 filed at Springfield.

Fire early Sunday morning did \$40,000 damage to Nilsson hall, East 15th street, New York, and eight firemen had a narrow escape from death. The men were working on the roof when it collapsed, precipitating them to the floor inside, a distance of 30 feet.

At Fort Bragg, Cal., John Boyle, a section foreman, during a fit of delirium tremens, dropped a lighted lamp upon the floor of his cottage near town and burned to death his two grandsons, aged five and three years respectively, who, with their mother, resided with him.

The factory building of the Manhattan Brass Co., on East 25th street, New York, was destroyed by fire Sunday together with a large quantity of valuable stock of finished material and machinery. The estimated loss is \$250,000. There was almost a panic in several big tenement houses adjoining.

The United States transport Grant, which sailed from New York for Manila on January 19, having on board Maj. Gen. Lawton and staff, the 4th United States regular infantry, under Brig. Gen. of Volunteers R. H. Hall, and a battalion of the 17th infantry, Maj. Rogers, arrived at Port Said, Saturday.

THE MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 15.	
LIVE STOCK—Cattle comm.	43 1/2 @ 44
Do. Choice	45 1/2 @ 46
CALVES—Fair to good light	6 1/2 @ 7 1/2
HOGS—Common and heavy	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4
Light packers	3 3/4 @ 4
Lard	27 1/2 @ 28
SHEEP—Common	10 @ 10 1/2
LAMB	10 @ 10 1/2
FLOUR—Winter family	2 5/8 @ 2 7/8
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2 red, new	67 1/2
No. 3 red	65 1/2
Do. No. 2 mixed	65 1/2
Do. No. 3 mixed	63 1/2
Do. No. 4 mixed	61 1/2
Do. No. 5 mixed	59 1/2