

THE TRUTH TOLD

By General Wheeler in regard to the Treatment of Soldiers IN THE CAMPS AND HOSPITALS.

A Sample of the Silly Inquiries Received from Friends of Soldiers who Believed the Exaggerated Reports of Sensational Newspapers—The Heroes Themselves Do not Complain, but on the Contrary, are Grateful for Their Kind Treatment—A Manly and Circumstantial Statement from "Fighting Joe" That Ought to Silence Free and Easy Criticism.

CAMP WIKOFF, MONTAUK POINT, L. I., Sept. 2.—Major General Joseph Wheeler gave the following to the Associated Press to-day: "Whisperers United States Forces, Camp Wikoff, L. I., Sept. 1, 1898.—The following is a sample of the letters which are constantly received regarding the soldiers in the camp:

"IN REGARD TO MY STEP-SON, WE FEEL VERY UNEASY ABOUT HIM ON ACCOUNT OF THE NEWS-PAPER REPORTS OF THE PRIVATION AND SUFFERING INFLICTED ON THE PRIVATE SOLDIERS. ALTHOUGH HE HAS NEVER UTTERED A COMPLAINT SINCE HE HAS BEEN IN THE ARMY, WE HEAR FROM OTHER SOURCES OF THE CRUEL AND HORRIBLE TREATMENT INFLICTED ON OUR SOLDIERS UNDER THE PRETENSE OF HUMANITY, FOR OUR NEIGHBORS AND THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS IN A STATE OF TERRIBLE EXCITEMENT. I SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THE FEELING SHOULD LEAD TO A REVOLUTION OF SOME KIND, FOR I ASSURE YOU I HEAR ON ALL SIDES THE MOST VIOLENT AND BITTER DENUNCIATIONS OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT AND THE ADMINISTRATION. IT IS INDEED A GREAT PITY THAT THE GLORY OF OUR TRIUMPHS SHOULD BE DIMMED BY SUCH A SHAMEFUL THING AS THE ILL-TREATMENT AND STARVATION OF OUR OWN BRAVE SOLDIERS WHILE THE SPANISH SOLDIERS HAVE THE BEST TREATMENT THAT THE COUNTRY CAN AFFORD."

General Wheeler's Comments. It will be seen that this letter says that not a word of complaint has been received from this soldier, and, so far as my investigation goes, no complaint has been made by any of the brave soldiers that have added glory to our arms in the Cuban campaign. A great many anxious fathers, mothers, brothers or sisters arrive here from all parts of the United States to look after their relatives whom, they say, the papers tell them, are suffering, and many of them have heard that their relatives are in a condition of starvation. Most of these people are little able to expend the money for such a journey and they are surprised when they come here to find their relatives surrounded with everything to eat which can be procured by money; and if sick in the hospital, they are gratified and surprised to find that they are given every possible care.

In reply to a direct request that I will give the exact facts as I see them, I will state: "Every officer and soldier who went to Cuba regarded that he was given a great and special privilege in being permitted to engage in that campaign. They knew they were to encounter yellow fever and other diseases as well as the torrid heat of the country and they were proud and glad to do so. They knew it was impossible for them to have the advantages of wagon transportation which usually accompanies armies and yet officers and men were glad to go, to carry their blankets, and their rations on their backs and to be subjected without any shelter to the sun and rains by day and the heavy dews by night. They certainly knew that the Spaniards had spent years in erecting defenses, and it was their pleasure to assault and their duty to capture the Spanish works.

Soldiers Didn't Complain. "I have just finished my daily inspection of the hospitals. With rare exceptions the sick are cheerful and improving. "They were more than glad to incur the hardships and these dangers. The brave men who won the victories did not complain of the neglect of the government, but on the contrary they seemed grateful to the President and secretary of war for giving them the opportunity to incur these dangers and hardships. They realized that in the hurried organization of an expedition by a government which had no one with any experience in such matters, it was impossible to have everything arranged to perfection; and they will testify that under the circumstances the conditions were much more perfect than anyone would have reason to expect, and that the President and secretary of war and others who planned and dispatched these expeditions, deserve high commendation.

"I have inquired and doctors to care for the sick, and in all my army tours I have not found a single patient who made the slightest complaint. It is true there has been suffering and great want. The climate of Cuba was very severe upon all of our soldiers, but instead of complaining, the hearts of these brave men are filled with gratitude to the people for the bounteous generosity which has been extended to them. "There is no doubt that there have

BUSINESS BOOMING.

The Smallest Failures Ever Recorded in any Month FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

The Enormous Volume of Business Done in August, USUALLY AN INACTIVE MONTH.

The Transactions the Very Best of all Past Years, and There is Every Prospect of a Much Further Increase.—The Wheat Crop the Largest Ever Harvested.—The Iron and Steel Market in Good Condition.—Gold Reserve Highest in the History of the Country.

NEW YORK, Sept. 2.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade will say to-morrow:

The smallest failures ever recorded in any month for five years were those of August. No other month since the monthly reports were commenced by Dun's review exclusively has shown defaulting liabilities as small within \$100,000, and the ratio of such defaults to solvent business, represented by exchanges through all clearing houses, only \$108 70 in \$100,000, is smaller by 24.5 per cent than in any previous month. The clearings have been the largest ever known in August, and 23 per cent larger than in 1892.

The enormous volume of business in a month usually one of the most inactive of the year demands attention. Postponement during the months of war of some contracts and purchases which have now come forward explain part of the increase and the strong absorption of securities explains part, but there has also been a great decline in the average of prices for all commodities, so that it takes a much larger volume of business to equal the volume of 1892.

There is no room to doubt that the wheat crop, even though it may fall a shade below some estimates, will prove the largest ever harvested, and although Beerboom estimates Europe's crop at 232,000,000 bushels more than the last, that would be only an average yield, while other evidence is less favorable. Foreign buying has been strong so that Atlantic exports for the week have been \$328,878 bushels against 5,534,738 last year, and Pacific exports 458,881 bushels against 283,651 last year. But receipts at the west are increasing, and the price has dropped five cents for spot, though the September option is seven-eighths lower for the week. Corn has fallen a fraction, later reports indicating a less satisfactory yield, and probably not more than should be consumed at home in enlarging the stock of animals. The advance of a sixteen in cotton to 6.51 cents has followed a little better milling demand, with rather less favorable reports of probable yield, but the crop is at the worst likely to exceed the world's needs.

The improvement in the iron industry has not only continued, but becomes more impressive because, after enormous buying of materials has satisfied the needs of great consumers for months to come, the demand for products is so great that both materials and products gradually advance in price. Bessemer pig has risen to \$10 55 at Pittsburgh, local coke at Chicago and anthracite foundry at the east are strong and also bars and plates advance a shade, with most structural and plate mills filled with orders for months to come and 25,000 tons rails sold at Chicago for delivery next year. The advance in tin plates, in spite of production far greater than was thought possible not long ago, is evidence that the consumption of steel in that branch will be heavy. The wire mill works also report a better demand and the output of Connellsville has started up, gaining 10,000 tons for the week.

The woolen mills have rather better orders this week, but not enough as yet to warrant running nearly full force, with the price of wool held at the west much above eastern markets and by these markets about 1 cent higher than the mills are bidding. In cotton manufacture there is better demand with a sixteenth rise in print cloth, though brown sheetings are a shade lower, the demand for other goods being still fairly strong. Failures for the week have been 171 in the United States against 191 last year and 22 in Canada against 25 last year.

The Gold Reserve Record. WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—The gold reserve in the United States treasury reached the highest point in its history to-day with a total reserve of \$219,320,372. The highest previous amount was \$218,000,000, which was recorded in March, 1898. The reserve was established in 1879 with \$116,000,000. It first reached \$200,000,000 in October, 1897, when the figures were \$2,000,000 above that mark. The lowest point reached was \$44,000,000 in January, 1895. In June, 1897, there was \$140,000,000 and one year later the amount was \$167,000,000.

Advance in Iron and Steel. CHICAGO, Sept. 2.—Iron and Steel will say to-morrow: "The advance of a minor part of the damage was done and those sustained by the rice planters, the growers of cotton, by farmers generally and by railroads and shipping, it will be found that an estimate of \$1,000,000 damage will be reasonably within bounds.

ever. Without exception all branches of the iron and steel industries are in a most satisfactory condition. Mills are declining business because they cannot make deliveries. Railroads are ordering whatever lots of rails they can secure for this season's delivery and are heavy buyers of machinery and tools.

PRESIDENT McKinLEY ARRIVES IN NEW YORK CITY.—He Will Visit Camp Wikoff to-day.

NEW YORK, Sept. 2.—President McKinley, accompanied by Mrs. McKinley, Major Webb C. Hayes, Colonel and Mrs. Myron T. Herrick and George D. Cortelyou, the President's assistant secretary, arrived at Jersey City over the Pennsylvania railroad at noon to-day. He was met at the Pennsylvania railroad station by Vice President and Mrs. Hobart, who will remain with them during their stay in the city. The party were driven to the Manhattan hotel, where they will occupy the state apartments.

It is expected that when the President and Secretary Alger come here to-morrow orders will be issued sending home many more of the volunteer troops. The regular troops will be sent to the forts about New York, Rhode Island and Connecticut to relieve the volunteers who have been on duty there during the summer.

General Shafter is familiarizing himself with the condition of affairs at Camp Wikoff. He has held consultations with General Shafter at the camp and Ames. The last named has been carefully looking into the affairs of the camp and General Wheeler's suggestion, and the condition of the hospitals, the methods of caring for the sick and the sanitary condition of the camp.

The special train having on board the president and his suite will arrive during the forenoon. There will be no formal parade or review of the troops. When the President arrives a salute will be fired in his honor, and General Shafter, the president and General Wheeler and Young will receive the distinguished visitors, who will enter by a detachment of cavalry. The president will be met by the President's desire not much display will be made over his arrival in camp.

President McKinley and his party left the city at 10:15 to-night for Camp Wikoff. After dinner was served at the Manhattan hotel, the President went up to the camp and visited the rooms which occupy the upper floor of the hotel, and for an hour he held an informal reception. Chauncey M. Depew introduced the president to the officers of the Twenty-first regiment. The president will spend Sunday with Vice President Hobart. Mrs. McKinley and Mrs. Hobart, who did not go to Camp Wikoff, will leave for Paterson to-morrow.

The President Arrived. NEW YORK, Sept. 2.—While on its way to the Fifth Avenue hotel this afternoon the carriage containing President McKinley, Vice President Hobart and Private Secretary Porter met a detail of the Seventy-first regiment escorting the remains of Corporal Shield and Immen, who were killed in the charge of San Juan hill, to the cemetery.

The President's head was lowered and he seemed to be deeply affected by the spectacle. The president's head was lowered and he seemed to be deeply affected by the spectacle. The president's head was lowered and he seemed to be deeply affected by the spectacle.

EFFECT OF THE STORM That Swept the Southern Coast.—Savannah and Other Points Suffer.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Sept. 2.—While Savannah has suffered heavily from the cyclone which swept over this section of the coast Wednesday morning, the damage on the coast islands and in the interior as far as the storm reached is probably greater.

The flooded condition of the country renders communication difficult and in many sections it is entirely cut off and no news has been received to indicate what the conditions are. The first news from the Carolina sea islands which were the scene of the great tidal storm of 1893, in which the island of St. John's was completely destroyed, was received to-day. While the storm was nothing like that of five years ago, the loss is heavy. The beaches north of Tybee are lined with wrecks of small craft and the houses and other buildings in settlements, nearly all of the houses were unroofed and many were destroyed.

The bark Noe, in attempting to rescue the crew of the tugboat Morgan and one of his company lost their lives, has also disappeared. Small steamers have patrolled Calabogue Sound all day searching for the bodies of the heroic rescuers, but they have not yet been discovered. The loss to the rice crop on the Savannah river alone is estimated at \$200,000 to \$250,000. Three-fourths of the crop has been destroyed.

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A heavy flood is reported in the upper Savannah river and messengers were sent out from here to-night to warn planters of the approaching danger. The cotton crop in the counties adjoining Savannah is practically ruined. The latest reports from the storm indicate that Savannah was the worst off. The loss to the rice crop on the Savannah river alone is estimated at \$200,000 to \$250,000. Three-fourths of the crop has been destroyed.

Four Men Killed. INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 2.—A special to the Sentinel from Bloomington, Ind., says: A horrible accident occurred at Stinesville this afternoon in which four men were instantly killed by a dynamite explosion and many others seriously injured. The men were blasting rock for a new pike, when a terrific explosion of dynamite occurred, instantly killing the following: John W. Williams, John Grubb, Bruce Wampler, Edward Watts. The fatally injured: Ben Fyffe, Milton Hike, Willie Lifford. The injured were brought to Stinesville by the coroner's wagon, and were taken to Bloomington. The men killed and injured were well known citizens of this county. All had families, and were the children of the town. In an area from 40 to 50 years. Hike lost an arm and a leg and he is lying to-night.

Pennsylvania Grangers. WILLIAMS GROVE, Pa., Sept. 2.—The twenty-fifth annual gathering of State Grangers came to a close at this place to-day. The attendance during the week has been the largest in the history of the organization, the management estimating the total number of people present at 75,000. Tomorrow the theme of the orators to-day, the day having been set apart especially for Prohibition. Rev. S. C. Swallow was the principal speaker at the afternoon gathering. He deviated from his topic at one point to touch on Quasim, but in the main confined his remarks to the cause of prohibition. There was but a small audience to hear him, there being less than 1,000 people and in the auditorium hardly one-tenth of the number.

ALLIANCE TREATY

Between Great Britain and Germany an Accomplished Fact.

GERMANY IS TO SUPPORT ENGLAND

In Egyptian Affairs, and for that Accommodation the British will Recognize Germany's Claims to Utilize Syria as an Outlet for Her Surplus Population—A Very Important Movement in European Politics.

LONDON, Sept. 2.—A report was current here to-day that a treaty of alliance between Great Britain and Germany, on the lines of the speech of Mr. Chamberlain, the secretary of state for the colonies, was actually completed yesterday. This is probably an amplification of the gossip relative to the daily visits of Count von Hatzfeldt-Weidenburg, the German ambassador, to the British foreign office during the past fortnight, which have been attributed to a desire upon the part of Germany and Great Britain to formulate a common policy in regard to Russia and China. Another explanation of the German ambassador's visits to the foreign office here is that they relate to the mixed tribunals of Egypt, the international agreement on the subject ending in February. Through French and Russian influence the court has always hampered the British plans for the use of the Egyptian savings and the advancement of Egypt. Now, it is said, an agreement has almost been reached by which Germany will support the British views relative to the future composition and powers of the mixed tribunals.

It is said that as a quid pro quo for Germany's support in Egypt Great Britain will recognize Germany's claims to utilize Syria as an outlet for her surplus population.

Syria is a division of Asiatic Turkey which includes Palestine, estimated to cover an area of about 160,000 square miles. It has a population of about 2,750,000, mostly Mohammedans, but including about 350,000 Greek Christians, 200,000 Maronites and Roman Catholics, 150,000 Jews and 48,000 Bruses.

Emperor William of Germany has for some time past been planning a trip to Palestine, and he is expected to visit Jerusalem this fall, in order to dedicate the German church there and lay the cornerstone of the German school, parsonage and hospital. His majesty has also undertaken to regain for the Roman Catholic the possession of the Coenaculum (in Zion), the "Chamber of the Last Supper," and the sultan of Turkey is said to have intimated his willingness to meet the wish of the emperor in this matter.

The Pall Mall Gazette this afternoon received from a source in which it has every confidence the information that the Anglo-German agreement was signed this week by Mr. Balfour and the German ambassador, in behalf of their respective powers.

Continuing, the Pall Mall Gazette says that while the agreement is restricted, it embraces an offensive and defensive alliance in certain eventualities.

The Pall Mall Gazette adds: "This new and momentous departure in our foreign policy comes as a natural development of the European situation." The Pall Mall Gazette then quotes the speech which Mr. Chamberlain made at Birmingham on May 13 last bidding for a German alliance and continues: "Literally it has been evident, from the tone of the semi-official German press that the two governments have been drawing up the terms of the agreement for some time past. There were protracted conferences between Count Hatzfeldt and Mr. Balfour. The departure of Count Hatzfeldt proves that the object of the consultations has been achieved. Besides Mr. Chamberlain has gone to America, Lord Salisbury is prolonging his absence and Mr. Balfour leaves for his holidays on Saturday. Evidently the ministers do not expect to have to deal with crucial questions of foreign policy."

LONDON, Sept. 2.—Mr. Balfour when questioned on the subject this afternoon absolutely declined to discuss the details in circulation regarding an Anglo-German alliance.

Count von Hatzfeldt, who was believed to have left London, was again at the foreign office here this afternoon. It is reported on the stock exchange that the Anglo-German alliance or understanding, relating to British purchases in Delagoa Bay with Germany assistance, as a result of a Kaffir and Portuguese securities are booming.

England Pals the Czar's Back. LONDON, Sept. 2.—The Westminster Gazette this afternoon announces that through the absence of the Marquis of Salisbury, Great Britain has not replied to the czar's peace note, the British ambassador at St. Petersburg has already communicated in cordial terms the hearty sympathy with which the minister for foreign affairs, Mr. Balfour, the first lord of the treasury. When the Marquis of Salisbury replies to the note, the Westminster Gazette continues, he will hail with satisfaction and delight the czar's initiative, assuring him of the determination of her majesty's advisers to co-operate heartily in promoting his great aim.

Frightful Railroad Accident. LONDON, Sept. 2.—A terrible accident has taken place at Wellingtonborough railway station, on the London & Northwestern railway, near Manchester. Two boys pushed a loaded baggage trolley on the track just as the express train was approaching at a speed of fifty miles an hour. The train was derailed and fearful scenes ensued. The wreckage of the railway carriage was caught fire, the engineer, fireman and two passengers were killed and many others were seriously wounded.

Weather Forecast for To-day. For West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, threatening weather; lightning storms in the afternoon; showers and probably cold Sunday afternoon; light southerly winds.

Local Temperatures. The temperature yesterday as observed by C. Schepert, druggist, corner Market and Fourth streets, was as follows: 7 a. m. 75 7 p. m. 80 9 a. m. 78 5 p. m. 82 12 m. 85 Weather Fair.

PHILIPPINE INSURGENTS

Taking Everything in Right Pending Peace Settlement. MANILA, Philippine Islands, Sept. 2.—Several ship loads of insurgent troops have invaded the southern islands with the view of settling everything possible prior to the settlement of peace conditions. General Rios, the Spanish commander, with a bottle of gunboats, is lining generally, but the insurgents have captured the outlying islands of Romblon and Palawan, where they found treasure to the amount of \$45,000, prisoners captured have arrived here.

Delegates from the Hong Kong insurgent junta are to have an interview with United States Consul William H. Murray to-night, and it is thought this possibly may result in a settlement of the insurgent question.

BERLIN, Sept. 2.—A semi-official note issued to-day says: A state of peace having been established between Germany and Spain, the German naval force at Manila is reduced to one or two ships, which, pending the complete restoration of order in the Philippine Islands, will suffice for the protection of German subjects and interests in that region.

WHEELER'S REPORT Of the Condition of Soldiers at Camp Wikoff.—Shafter Looks Well. WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 2.—The war department to-day received the following report from Major General Wheeler regarding the arrival of General Shafter and additional deaths in camp:

CAMP WIKOFF, MONTAUK POINT, N. Y., September 2. City of Mexico arrived this morning, having on board Major General Shafter and sixty-two men, Company F, First Infantry. Three sick, no deaths. Quarantine physician made no report as to contagion. Minnewaska sailed for Annapolis this afternoon. Signal headquarters sighted three transports. No names discernible. Deaths since last report, 5.

Total number in general hospital, 100. General Shafter looks well. He said he would not take command until he had been through the detention camp. The only troops sighted from Camp Wikoff were the four companies, two companies of the First Infantry, about three hundred of Ninth Massachusetts and about 1,850 of various companies, most of whom are sick or convalescents. (Signed) WHEELER. Lawton, Health Bulletin.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 2.—The following is General Lawton's daily report of health conditions at Santiago: SANTIAGO, Sept. 2. Total sick, 220; total fever, 139; total new cases fever, 7; total returned to duty, 22; no deaths.

A LAKE TRAGEDY. Four Young Ladies Drowned Near Erie, Pennsylvania.

ERIE, Pa., Sept. 2.—By the accidental jilbing of the sail of a pleasure yacht on Presque Isle Bay this evening four young women were swept off into the water and drowned before assistance could be rendered. Their names are: Mary, Della and Ella Paradine, daughters of William Paradine, an Erie machinist, and Jessie Moore, daughter of John H. Moore, an engineer on the Erie & Pittsburgh railroad.

The unfortunate girls formed a portion of a party of pleasure seekers who were enjoying a boat on the yacht Carmichael. The sail had but a few moments before departed from the head of the bay, sailing from a light but struck the four girls named were seated upon the roof of the yacht's cabin, when a sudden puff of wind coming down from the wooded shore, an unexpected direction, the sail blew across the four off into the water. As quickly as possible the yacht was put about, but with the headway obtained and the light wind, it was impossible to reach the spot in time to recover the girls. The bodies have not yet been recovered.

A Mysteriously Cleared Up. STEUBENVILLE, O., Sept. 2.—Two weeks ago to-day near Hopedale, Mary Wesley, aged thirteen, carried lunch to her father, who was a coal miner, and failed to return. All search for her was in vain until last Friday, when she was found in a lonely ravine, her skull crushed and her body covered with stones. To-day John Casson Dubbs, aged seventeen, a degenerate half-witted tramp, when arrested, said: "Yes, I killed her with a stone when she got scared at me and ran away and then I piled stones on her where she fell. Now I feel better after telling it."

St. Louis, Sept. 2.—A special to the Post-Dispatch from Panama, Ill., says that State President Hunter of the United Mine Workers' Association of Illinois returned to-day from the south, where he had gone for the purpose of preventing any more negro miners coming north to work during the present strike. He was unopposed for an hour and a half by the miners, but he expected at Panama this afternoon. The union miners make dire threats against them, even going so far as to say that they will ditch the railroad and cut off the coal supply to the mines.

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SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Sept. 2.—Governor Tanner to-night revoked the leave of absence of the third regiment Illinois volunteers. A regiment of Sons of Veterans will temporarily be mustered into the national guard. The action is in anticipation of labor troubles at Pana and Irden. The third, as volunteers in the United States army, are away from the state, on leave of absence.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Sept. 2.—Battery B, Illinois national guard, left Galeburg to-night for this city with about two hundred men. They will go into camp here and will be ready to proceed to Pana on short notice. All is quiet there to-night.

OBVIOUSLY, O., Sept. 2.—In an interview to-day Manager Young, of the M. A. Hanna Coal company, is quoted as saying: "In the early part of next year we will have one of the greatest coal strikes this country has ever seen. All indications are that the strike will last many months. The miners stand at all times ready to fight against a reduction of wages. When the Chicago contract expires, or possibly before that time they will be obliged to accept a reduction of 10 or 15 cents a ton of coal. I think they will fight, and will fight harder than they ever have before."

The West Virginia miners are working cheaper than they ever have before. All efforts on the part of the other miners to organize them have been in vain. There is no hope that they will be brought into line."

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