

The president then gives the details of the uprising and slaughter proposed by the insurgents in Manila, the success of which was prevented by General Otis, into whose hands fell a copy of the order of the insurgent government, directing the massacre. This, the president says, was the unhappy condition of affairs which confronted our commissioners on their arrival in Manila. What they actually found can best be set forth in their own words:

"Deplorable as war is, the one in which we are now engaged was unavoidable by us. We were attacked by a bold, adventurous and enthusiastic army. No alternative was left to us except ignominious retreat."

"It is not to be conceived of that any American would have sanctioned the surrender of Manila to the insurgents. Our obligations to other nations and to the friendly Filipinos and to ourselves and our flag demanded that force should be met by force. Whatever the future of the Philippines may be, there is no course open to us now except the prosecution of the war until the insurgents are reduced to submission."

The course thus clearly indicated, says the message, has been unflinchingly pursued. Civil government cannot be thoroughly established until order is restored. Although operations have been somewhat interrupted and checked by a rainy season of unusual violence and duration, our soldiers have gained ground in every direction, and now look forward confidently to a speedy completion of their task. The unfavorable circumstances connected with an active campaign have not been permitted to interfere with the equally important work of reconstruction. Here, again, the president invites attention to the report of the commissioners for the interesting and encouraging details of the work already accomplished in the establishment of peace and order, and the inauguration of self-governing municipal life in many portions of the archipelago. The system of government established in the Island of Negros, which was the first to accept American sovereignty, is given in detail in the message.

The president then says: Everything indicates that with speedy suppression of the Tagalo rebellion, life in the archipelago will soon resume its ordinary course, under the protection of our sovereignty, and the people of those favored islands will enjoy a prosperity and a freedom which they have never before known. Already hundreds of schools are open and filled with children. Religious freedom is sacredly assured and enjoyed. The courts are dispensing justice. Business is beginning to circulate in its accustomed channels.

The future government of the Philippines rests with the congress of the United States. Fewer graver responsibilities have ever been confided to us. If we accept them in a spirit worthy of our race and our traditions, a great opportunity comes with them. The islands lie under the shelter of our flag. They are ours by every title of law and equity. They cannot be abandoned. If we desert them we leave them at once to anarchy and finally to barbarism. We fling them, a golden apple of discord, among the rival powers, no one of which would permit another to seize them unquestioned. The suggestion has been made that we could renounce our authority over the islands, and, giving them independence, could retain a protectorate over them. The proposition will not be found, I am sure, worthy of your serious attention. Such an arrangement would involve at the outset a cruel breach of faith. It would place the peaceable and loyal majority, who ask nothing better than to accept our authority, at the mercy of the minority of armed insurgents. It would make us responsible for the acts of the insurgent leaders, and give us no power to control them. It would charge us with the task of protecting them against each other, and defending them against any foreign power with which they chose to quarrel. In short, it would take from the congress of the United States the power of declaring war and invest that tremendous prerogative in the Tagalo leader of the hour.

It does not seem desirable that I should recommend at this time a specific and final form of government for these islands. When peace shall be restored it will be the duty of congress to construct a plan of government, which shall establish and maintain freedom and order and peace in the Philippines. The insurrection is still existing, and when it terminates further information will be required as to the actual condition of affairs before inaugurating a permanent scheme of civil government. As long as the insurrection continues the military arm must necessarily be supreme. But there is no reason why steps should not be taken from time to time to inaugurate governments, especially popular in their form, as fast as territory is held and controlled by our troops. To this end I am considering the advisability of the return of the commission, or such of the members thereof as can be secured, to aid the existing authorities and facilitate this work throughout the islands. I have believed that reconstruction should not begin by the establishment of one central civil government for all the islands, with its seat at Manila, but rather that the work should be commenced by building up from the bottom, first establishing municipal governments, and then provincial governments, a central government at last to follow.

Until congress shall have made known the formal expression of its will, I shall use the authority vested in me by the constitution and statutes to uphold the sovereignty of the United States in those distant islands, as in all other places where our flag rightfully floats. I shall put at the disposal of the army and navy all the means which the liberality of congress and the people have provided to cause this unprovoked and wasteful insurrection to cease. If any orders of mine were required to insure the merciful conduct of military and naval operations, they would not be lacking, but every step of progress of our troops has been marked by a humanity which has surprised even the misguided insurgents. The truest kindness to them will be a swift and effective defeat of their present leader. The hour of victory will be the hour of clemency and reconstruction.

HAWAII

Concerning Hawaii, the message says: It is manifestly important that an act shall be passed as speedily as possible erecting these islands into a judicial district, providing for the appointment of a judge and other proper officers, and methods of procedure in appellate proceedings, and that the government of this newly acquired territory under the federal constitution shall be fully defined and provided for.

ALASKA

A necessity for immediate legislative relief exists in the territory of Alaska. Substantially the only law providing a civil government for this territory is the act of May 7, 1884. This is meagre in its provisions, and is fitted only for the administration of affairs in a country sparsely inhabited by civilized people and unimportant in trade and production, as was Alaska at the time this act was passed. There is no authority, except in congress, to pass any law, no matter how trivial. I see no reason why a more complete form of territorial organization should not be provided, embodying a system of laws providing for the incorporation and government of towns and cities having a certain population, giving them the power to establish and maintain a system of education to be locally supported, and ordinances providing for police, sanitary and other purposes.

PORTO RICO

I recommend that legislation to the same end be had with reference to the government of Porto Rico. The time is ripe for the adoption of a temporary form of government for this island. The system of civil jurisprudence now adopted by the people of this island is described by competent lawyers, who are familiar with it, as thoroughly modern and scientific, as far as it relates to matters of internal business, trade, production and social and private rights in general. The cities of the island are governed under charters, which probably require little or no change. So, that with relation to matters of local concern and private right, it is not probable that much, if any, legislation is desirable; but with reference to public administration and the relations of the island to the federal government, there are many matters which are of pressing urgency. Since the cession Porto Rico has been denied the principal markets she has long enjoyed, and our tariffs have continued against her products as when she was under Spanish sovereignty.

The markets of the United States should be opened up to her products. Our plain duty is to abolish all customs tariffs between the United States and Porto Rico, and give her products free access to our markets.

It is desirable that the government of the island under the law of belligerent right, now maintained through the department of executive, should be superseded by the administration entirely civil in its nature. For present purposes I recommend that congress pass a law for the organization of a temporary government, which shall provide for the appointment by the president, subject to confirmation by the senate, of a governor and such other officers as the general administration of the island require, and that for legislative purposes, upon subjects of a local nature, not pertaining of a federal character, a legislative council, composed partly of Porto Ricans and partly of citizens of the United States, shall be nominated and appointed by the president, subject to confirmation by the senate, their acts to be subject to the approval of the congress or the president prior to going into effect. In the municipalities and other local subdivisions, I recommend that the principle of local government be applied at once, so as to enable the intelligent citizens of the island to participate in their own government, and to learn by practical experience the duties and requirements of a self-contained and self-governing people. I have not thought it wise to commit the government of the island to officers selected by the people, because I doubt whether in habits, training and experience, there are such as to fit them to exercise at once so large a degree of self-government, but it is my judgment and expectation that they soon will arrive at an attainment of experience and wisdom and self-control that will justify conferring upon them a much larger participation in the choice of their insular officers.

CIVIL SERVICE

Concerning the order of May 29, 1899, amending the civil service laws, the president says: The principal purpose of the order was to exempt from competitive examination certain places involving fiduciary responsibilities or duties of a strictly confidential, scientific or executive character, which it was thought might better be filled by non-competitive examinations, or in the discretion of the appointing officer than by open competition. All of the amendments had for their main object a more efficient and satisfactory administration of the system of appointments established by the civil service law. The results attained show that under their operation the public service has improved. It is believed that the merit system has been greatly strengthened and its permanence assured.

The 14th of December will be the 100th anniversary of the death of Washington. I have been glad to learn that in many parts of the country the people will fittingly observe this historic anniversary.

IN CONCLUSION

Presented to this congress are great opportunities. With them come great responsibilities. The power confided to us increases the weight of our obligations to the people, and we must be profoundly sensible of them as we contemplate the new and grave problems which confront us. Aiming only at the public good, we cannot err. A right interpretation of the people's will and of duty cannot fail to insure wise measures for the welfare of the islands which have come under the authority of the United States and inure to the common interest and lasting honor of our country. Never has this nation had more abundant cause than during the past year for thankfulness to God for manifold blessings and mercies for which we make reverent acknowledgment.

WILLIAM M'KINLEY.
Executive Mansion, Dec. 5, 1899.

NEARBY TOWNS.

TOWNSHEND.

Martin Perry was home from Amaden for Thanksgiving.

Ernest Good has gone to Bellows Falls to work in a grocery store.

May Willard has gone to Brattleboro to work in the overall factory.

Henry Austin of Bellows Falls has been visiting in town a few days.

George Pratt is at work in Grafton, building an addition to John McGree's house.

Irvin Snow is visiting friends in New Hampshire.

Mrs. Wilson is improving the sidewalk in front of her house in the village.

Prof. Edgecomb is taking a vacation at his home in Maine and Miss Abbot, the assistant teacher, is at her home in Waltham, Mass.

The hotel buildings are fast being finished and it is hoped that they will soon be occupied by some good landlords.

Mrs. M. S. Watson is at home from Westmoreland, N. H., where she has been for a short time caring for the sick.

It takes but a minute to overcome tickling in the throat and to stop a cough by the use of One Minute Cough Cure. This remedy quickly cures all forms of throat and lung troubles. Harmless and pleasant to take. It prevents consumption. A famous specific for grippe and its after effects. Pierce's Pharmacy.

ANDOVER.

Miss Florence Thompson of Chester was the guest of Mrs. Young Monday.

Miss Evelyn Hazeltine was a guest of May Stoddard a part of last week.

Miss Nellie Clarity from North Walpole, N. H., was the guest of May Stoddard last week.

Mrs. and Mrs. L. Lovjoy spent Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Guttererson.

Mrs. and Mrs. Peabody and two children of Lebanon, N. H., spent last Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hazeltine.

Mrs. Frances Rounds took her Thanksgiving dinner with C. S. Leonard and wife at Simonsville.

C. A. Fuller, wife and baby, Mrs. Rosannah Fuller, C. Simmons, wife and children were at William Smith's in Simonsville Thanksgiving.

Mrs. A. P. Thornton had her house full of guests Thursday.

W. W. Ward and wife and C. E. Spaulding spent Thanksgiving with C. S. Leonard and wife at Simonsville.

Eddie Holton came up from Walpole, N. H., on his wheel Saturday and spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. J. W. Hazeltine.

Mrs. J. H. Head is suffering from her bad limb and is unable to step on it at all.

Mrs. W. W. Ward found wild strawberry blossoms November 28.

R. J. Wylie returns to his work in New York the first of this week.

Mrs. M. A. Stoddard came home from her visit in New Hampshire, Maine and Rhode Island Saturday.

"One Minute Cough Cure is the best remedy I ever used for coughs and colds. It is unequalled for whooping cough. Children all like it," writes H. N. Williams, Gentryville, Ind. Never fails. It is the only harmless remedy that gives immediate results. Cures coughs, colds, hoarseness, croup, pneumonia, bronchitis and all throat and lung troubles. Its early use prevents consumption. Pierce's Pharmacy.

NORTH CHESTER.

There will be a district mass meeting of the Y. P. C. U. in the Universalist church on the afternoon and evening of Friday, December 8, to which all interested in young people's work are cordially invited. A most interesting program is prepared for the rally, clergymen and unionists from out of town as well as local members having made ready for this occasion. The sermon in the evening will be delivered by Rev. F. P. Simmons of Woodstock—the subject being "The Child of God." Rev. W. A. Tuttle of Springfield, Rev. Miss Goldthwaite of Felchville and Rev. J. B. Readson of Ludlow are also on the program.

Mrs. Joseph Wilson died of consumption Friday evening after a long period of ill health. The funeral services were held at her late home Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. Lucy A. Milton officiating. The burial was in the family lot in the North Chester cemetery where she has a son and a daughter buried. She left a husband and one son to mourn the loss of a devoted wife and mother.

Mrs. Henry E. Taylor and children of Springfield passed the time from Wednesday until Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richardson.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Stoodley and Master Bennie Ruel returned home Saturday after passing several days in Westminster with Edward Snow and family.

Rev. L. A. Milton was a guest of her friend, Mrs. Warren, in Cavendish two or three days last week.

James J. Richardson passed Thanksgiving and a few days after with friends in Hartland, and Miss Myra Richardson with friends in Bellows Falls.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Robbins of Brattleboro were guests of their father, P. H. Robbins, Thanksgiving day.

WINDHAM.

Roland F. Chapman and Miss Frances Goodell of Westminster were at L. B. Chapman's Sunday.

F. H. Harris and two daughters, Mary and Lucy, were with his mother, Mrs. M. D. Harris, Sunday.

Mrs. Henry Rhodes is visiting friends in Saxtons River.

Miss Harris who has been in ill health for some time, is not much improved.

Charles Howard is preparing to go to Brooklyn, N. Y., where he has work with the same firm for which he worked one previous winter.

Mrs. M. A. Farnsworth fell out of the door a few weeks ago, receiving a quite severe injury. She is improving slowly.

Mr. Skinner of Newfane was in town last week surveying on the mountain.

Asahel Upham was called to Springfield Sunday to attend the funeral of his nephew, Mr. Whitney.

Thanksgiving visitors in town were Charles Griffith of Springfield, Edgar Butler and family of Wardsboro at E. H. Jones'; Mr. and Mrs. Orrin Hubbard, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Slate of Andover at Adelbert Edson's; Orrin Rhodes and family of Chester at Mrs. Emma Rhodes'; Dean Williams and wife of Chester with S. C. Woodburn.

Among those who went away to get their turkey were A. H. Mack and E. G. Kddy and family with Z. L. Edson in Andover; H. E. Wood and wife with relatives in Townshend; Frank Stevens and family in Cambridgeport.

WESTMINSTER WEST.

Ed Gorham of Beeton spent Thanksgiving at home.

Eugene Ranney is quite sick with a bilious attack.

Miss Bertha Miller is home from Malden.

Word has been received here, that Miss Jennie Goodell has the diphtheria; she is with her sister, Mrs. Fred Harlan, in Malden.

It is Thomas has finished work for Charles Ranney of Saxtons River and is working for Henry Wilcox of this place.

Prentiss Carr and wife will live with Henry Wilcox. Mrs. Carr will keep house for him as his daughter Lora expects to go south.

Mr. Chapman and Miss Frances Goodell spent Sunday with his people in Windham.

Mrs. Henry Goodhue will entertain the aid society Thursday afternoon.

Another theft in this place. This time a gun was taken from Lemmon Winder's by a Smith boy, who has worked for Jennie Holden the past season. Constable Goodhue returned the gun but let the boy go. Why not punish him and set an example for others?

Mrs. Darling and son of Windsor and Mrs. Myron Edson of Bellows Falls visited relatives in town last Sunday.

Miss Ada Walker is home from Keene and Miss Nora went to Foxboro last Monday.

Those who dined out on Thanksgiving day were Reuben Miller and wife, Miss Wealthy Miller, Rev. H. A. Goodhue and wife, Mrs. Buxton at Deacon Ranney's; Mr. Dinmore and Mrs. Stowell, at B. A. Walker's; George Harlan with his daughter, Mrs. F. G. Campbell; F. R. Chapman at C. C. Goodell's; Bert Houghton and family at F. J. Houghton's.

Among those out of town were C. B. Clark and wife of Boston, Fred Clark of Bellows Falls at J. H. Clark's; Lemmon White and wife of Chester at A. D. Colding's.

J. I. Ormsby and wife spent Thanksgiving in Bellows Falls with their daughter, Mrs. Myron Edson.

Mrs. Chandler and Mabel dined with Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Barnes last Thursday.

Schools commenced last Monday with Miss Lewis as teacher in No. 2 and Miss Whiting in No. 3. Miss May Goodell will teach in Westminster.

The first singing school was held last Monday night.

EAST WESTMORELAND.

The Universalist society will be at Arthur Henderson's December 7.

Edward F. Grimes has moved into the house which he purchased of Mrs. G. D. Parker.

Mrs. L. W. Aldrich spent Thanksgiving at Cold River with her daughter, Mrs. George Wilbur.

School commenced Monday with Miss McKinley of Malden, Mass., as teacher in district No. 1, and Miss Ida Craig teacher in district No. 12.

Mrs. Walter Harvey entertained her father, James G. Hall, four brothers and three sisters Thanksgiving day.

S. B. Gary and wife spent Thanksgiving in Rutland with their son, Frank.

GILSUM.

George Cuthbert of Amesbury, Mass., is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Cuthbert.

The schools in the village will commence this week after a vacation of four weeks.

Misses Mamie and Emma Adams spent last week at home from their schools in Bolton, Mass.

Mrs. S. W. Dart and daughter Christine are visiting in Erving, Mass.

Miss Lena Butters has returned to her home in Bellows Falls.

CAVENDISH.

Mrs. George W. White spent Thanksgiving at her brother's in North Adams.

Mr. and Mrs. Avery of Brandon spent Thanksgiving with William Richardson and family.

F. V. Perkins was in Felchville Wednesday and Thursday.

Mrs. James Seales had the misfortune to slip lately and dislocated her knee.

Several attended the Thanksgiving ball at Felchville.

Mrs. Daniel Edson is in Springfield.

Mrs. Joseph White went to Providence, R. I., last Tuesday.

Miss Jane Spafford is in Boston.

Miss Nellie Adams has returned to her school in Brownsville for the winter term.

Schools opened Monday.

Mrs. Bert Wyman of Bellows Falls is at her father's, H. J. White's.

Miss M. S. Bent was in Ludlow Saturday.

D. C. Sheldon and family were in Chester last week.

The following friends of Mrs. Charles E. Naudico spent Thanksgiving with her at hotel Elliott: James Smith and wife, Sheldahl, Mass.; F. O. Benson, Miss Ida I. Benson and Miss Carrie I. Benson of Troy, N. Y.; Mrs. F. W. Benson of Brattleboro.

LUDLOW.

Saturday, while lighting a fire, May Martin, youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. George Martin, was fearfully burned about the chest and lower part of the face. The child ran to Mrs. Pratt, who lives in the lower tenement of the same house. Mrs. Pratt smothered the flames and her hands were badly burned in doing so. Mrs. Martin works in the Ludlow woolen mill where she was at the time of the accident. The wounds were dressed by Dr. Bryant, and the child is as comfortable as could be expected.

J. F. Ballard and wife spent Sunday with friends in Rutland.

Grant Colton of the 46th U. S. V. infantry is sick with fever in the U. S. general hospital at San Francisco. The regiment sailed for Manila November 14.

Dr. and Mrs. Rufus T. Barton of Altmont, N. Y., have been visiting at Charles Raymond's.

Charles Raymond is home from Schenectady, N. Y., for a short vacation.

Several local Knights Templar went to Middlebury last Friday to attend a meeting of the Mystic Shrine, returning at midnight.

L. G. Fullam has rented the second floor of Brown's new block for a store room until May 1st, after which it is to be made into a public hall.

Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Hill returned from Rutland Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Eben Fullam and Roy Bryant of Springfield spent Thanksgiving at home.

The Thanksgiving ball held in Hammond hall was a great success. Fifty couples were in attendance. Music was furnished by Rielle's orchestra of Rutland. Supper was served at the Ludlow House. The dance orders were furnished with tassels and pencils, and contained the supper menu. The whole affair, music, supper and dancing, was pronounced the best of the season.

Horace Kingsbury is cutting lumber, from which he intends to build a house, framing it here and then taking it to New York to set up.

J. S. Gill is perfecting plans for starting his silk mill in Smithville in the near future. In order to make the industry of local interest he wishes citizens of Ludlow to take some \$2000 of the stock. A meeting of the board of trade to consider the matter was called by President L. G. Hamm and for Tuesday evening at the office of Judge Walker.

Dr. Bates is quite sick at his home on Main street.

Paid Dear for His Leg.

B. D. Blanton of Thackerville, Tex., in two years paid over \$300 to doctors to cure a Running Sore on his leg. Then they wanted to cut it off, but he cured it with one box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve. Guaranteed cure for Piles. 25 cts. a box. Sold at Pierce's Pharmacy.

Washing Willow Furniture and Wicker Chairs.

Wicker chairs soon become soiled, but they can be cleaned to look like new with Gold Dust Washing Powder and warm water. Just use a scrubbing brush and when the water comes the least soiled, get fresh, and follow with a soft, dry cheesecloth and wipe dry.

White linens can also be washed by this method, but you must dry very quickly.

SHEPARDSON'S NEW STORE!

WAS OPENED WED., DEC. 6.

For the first week with every purchase of \$1.00 or more, will give you an opal ware novelty usually retailed at 25c.

Now I shall not give you any prices this week as I am very busy getting ready to open, but will say this, that I think as I don't know much about the dry goods business that I shall mark my dry goods at the same small profits for which I used to sell groceries. My aim will be to sell you the very best goods at the lowest profits possible. Come and see our store, look over our goods and get our prices at the old Blue Store opposite the postoffice.

C. H. SHEPARDSON.

Morris Chairs and Couches

We are showing an entire new line of these goods.

**CHAIRS \$5.50 to \$18.00.
COUCHES \$6.50 to \$25.00.**

What better Christmas present could you make?

GEORGE E. WELCH.

GROCERIES. —+— GROCERIES

EVERYTHING FRESH.

CLARK & DURKEE'S.

PRICES ALL RIGHT.

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**Mrs. L. Gates Hadley,
THE NEWEST THINGS!**

FINE MILLINERY!

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