ORDERS SENT MERRITT

TELEGRAPH TO BE OPENED.

Fears That They Have Been Fighting Since the Fourth of August—The Insurgents May Have Looted Manila Before the News of Peace Arrived.

New York, Aug. 16.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says:

Cable communication with Manila will probably be re-established within the next day or two, if the efforts of this government, supported by those of Great Britain and Spain, are successfully directed, in order that further bloodshed may be averted and the suspense relieved.

It is understood that Admiral Dewey has been in possession of the Philippine end of the cable for over two months, although he was unable to secure the legal terminus of the line, which is located within the city of Manila, and, through the strict construction placed upon the rules of neutrality, his operators were unable to secure any response to their signals from the Hong Kong terminal. This restriction made necessary the frequent sending of dispatch boats back and forth to Hong Kong and recently the severed end of the cable has been buoyed and no attention paid to it.

Orders Sent Saturday.

On the vessel that started for Manila Saturday from Hong Kong went orders to restore submarine telegraphic communication at once, and, as the American forces, by the terms of the protocol, are in possession of the Philippines from an international standpoint, whether they actually hold the municipality or not, and as hostilities have been formally terminated and the requirements of neutrality abolished, all obstacles to the free use of the cable have been removed.

Until Manila is in closer touch with the rest of the world than it has been for the last three and one-half months, officials in Washington will be harassed by the gravest anxiety regarding the occurrences in that vicinity. The last news from Manila was dated 10 days ago and described the fierce fighting at Malate on July 31, when the Americans held their position which had been assaulted. August 3 there was cannonading all day. The Monterey arrived August 4 with three transports of the third expedition and at the same time the dispatch vessel left preparations were being made for an immediate assault upon the city. It was known that General Merritt was only waiting these reinforcements to demand the surrender and give formal notice of a naval bombardment. Under these circumstances every precaution was taken last Friday to inform Admiral Dewey and General Merritt with the least possible delay of the formal signing of the protocol and the suspension of hostilities.

May Get Orders Today.

When the protocol was signed, followed immediately by the sending of cable dispatches to Admiral Dewey and General Merritt, it was broad daylight Saturday morning at Manila. It takes fully a minute at the most generous calculation to send a single word to Hong Kong by cable. Acting Secretary Allen and Adjutant General Corbin each sent several hundred words of instructions to the respective commanders under them, including copies of the president's proclamation, and it is therefore unlikely that the vessel was able to start before Saturday afternoon. Manila is 628 miles from Hong Kong and at 18 knots the distance might be made in 36 hours, which would enable the dispatches to reach the American forces Monday morning, or according to Washington, Sunday night.

Unless General Merritt had taken Manila by that time the instructions sent him will prevent any further military operations and a truce will have to be agreed upon similar in all respects to that imposed upon General Miles in Puerto Rico. The official messages relate solely to hostilities and have no bearing upon the third article of the protocol, which provides that the United States hold the city, bay and harbor of Manila until the meeting of the commissioners.

This is an exceedingly peculiar feature of the situation, but it gives the authorities less concern than the fear of further fighting. That article was worded in accordance with the president's original proposition two weeks ago, which in turn had been when there was momentary expectation that the starved out city would surrender at once, and it was evident that the United States forces would remain in power in the Philippines. It was therefore considered unnecessary to stipulate that a commission should be appointed within 10 days to arrange the details of evacuation, as was the case with Cuba and Puerto Rico.

May Have Been Fighting.

Secretary Alger is confident that the Spanish general will welcome the news and cheerfully obey the instructions cabled to him from Madrid to lay down his arms and no serious complication is expected to arise with the insurgents at present, at least, regarding the change of government.

The chief alarm relates to the sacrifice of life which may have taken place since August 4 and to the possibility that Aguinaldo and his soldiers may have entered the city from a point on the north while the Spaniards were engaged with the Americans on the south. In that case it is feared wholesale massacres may have taken place and much valuable property been ruthlessly destroyed.

Skagway Not Laid in Ashes.

Port Townsend, Wash., Aug. 12.—The steamer City of Topeka, which arrived here yesterday from Skagway, reports the fire not so serious as reported. A few hundred dollars will cover the loss.

Italy leads in the number of crematories, having 24. America has 22, Germany four, England three and France two.

NORTHWEST NEWS AND NOTES

ITEMS FROM THREE STATES.

Various Bits of News From Washington, Idaho and Montana—The Effect of the Hot Spell on the Grain Crop—Little Damage Done.

Harvesting is in progress around Cheney. The yield of wheat is unusually large, but not quite so heavy as the yield of last year.

The canneries at Fairhaven are only able to run half the time on account of a scarcity of fish.

Dewberries, of home growth, have been more plentiful in the Ellensburg market this season than ever before. They are large and luscious.

H. B. Williams of Whatcom is the new editor of the Reveille, Parker Ellis having retired to devote his time and talents to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer and San Francisco Examiner agencies.

Surveyors have commenced the work of locating the line of the Port Angeles & Eastern railway, which it is intended to connect with Victoria by a ferry service carrying cars. The survey between Angeles and Discovery Bay will be pushed to completion with all possible speed, and it is the intention to have the road in operation next sumer. The company is composed of New York and Chicago capitalists.

The hot weather for the last week has been the most intense yet experienced in Stevens county. However, the frequency of rain during the past two months has rendered the crops sufficient moisture that they could endure two weeks more of the hot season. The hay harvest is well advanced. The grain crop is safe from any damage. Fruit and vegetables are also in good shape.

The extreme hot weather prevailing in the Big Bend for the past week came on too late to do any material damage to the spring wheat in that portion of the country. Harvesting of fall wheat is now nearly done all about Davenport, and the average yield is placed at 35 bushels per acre. The spring grain harvest has begun and the yield will average 30 bushels.

In consequence of forest fires in the interior districts the atmosphere has become intensely smoky. On the south half of the Colville reservation there is a vast tract of timbered country at the mercy of the flames which are sweeping over the country. Fires are also reported in British Columbia, particularly at Ymir, where much damage is being done to prospectors.

The wild blackberries are so abundant in western Klickitat that Axtel Anderson, with three members of his family went over there and returned with 100 gallons of canned berries as the result of five days' picking.

Mrs. T. I. Peabody, who recently drowned herself in Lake Washington, Seattle, formerly lived at Wallula, where her husband was O. R. & N. station agent. They were ardent spiritualists, and it is said that spiritualist friends induced Mr. Peabody, who had accumulated a comfortable sum, to put all his savings into a wild scheme to tan leather in a single day. He lost his money and position, and later died at Wallula.

IDAHO.

Auditor Anderson has made a rough estimate of the total assessed valuation of the state of Idaho, and he places the increase over last year at $1,000,000. This is outside of any increase in railroad, telegraph and telephone lines. Last year the total assessed valuation was $20,000,000.

Results so far indicate that the yield around Moscow will not be up to what was expected by the farmers. Fields that were expected to yield forty bushels to the acre are only producing a little over thirty. The entire yield, however, will be larger than last year. This county will produce 1,800,000 bushels or more. Grain men figure on about 425,000 bushels being marketed at Moscow next fall.

Threshing is general in the Potlatch, near Kendrick, as the fall-sown grain constitutes about 30 per cent of the grain acreage, which is making on the average of 30 to 40 bushels per acre. It is estimated by the grain men that the damage to the late sown grain is about 15 per cent and that fully 60 per cent of this grain has escaped injury.

The damage on the reservation in the vicinity of Kendrick, where there is a large flax acreage will curtail the yield by at least five bushels per acre. On the basis of curtailment of the grain yield of the Potlatch of 10 per cent as a result of the warm spell, the Potlatch will have at the least 400,000 bushels of export wheat.

The Clearwater river at Lewiston has not approached low water mark this year. The late rains on the mountains have afforded a favorable stage of water for the few raftsmen who have remained on the river. Even big lumber rafts have been run all through the summer, which is altogether unusual.

The first load of the 1898 crop of wheat was marketed at Moscow on August 6, 50 cents per bushel being the price paid. Russell & Rubedew bought the wheat, which is of the Red Russian variety, and was raised on one of the Hypotheekbank ranches, farmed by Mr. Davis. The whole field averages between 35 and 40 bushels to the acre and grades No. 1. This beats all previous records for early threshing in this section about five days.

MONTANA.

Hobo camps by the dozens are strung along between Missoula and Garrison.

The city council of Billings has decided to put in a sewer system on a scale to accomodate 12,000 people.

The first stock shipment of the season over the Great Northern was made from Malta last week by the Miller Live Stock Company, and consisted of 17 carloads of prime stock.

The calf round-up on the north side of Glendive was finished last week, and the riders report branding a good calf crop. They also report the range in first class condition and beef cattle looking prime.

The Rocky Fork Coal Company near Red Lodge has reported to the board of equalization that its net proceeds of the mines for the past year amounted to $97,017.99, an increase over last year of $27,000.

J. W. Chris, who has a hay ranch on the Boulder road, near Livingston, a few miles east of town, reports the yield of hay better than it has been for years, and says he expects to harvest 75 tons this season from the same acreage that produced but 40 tons last year.

At a meeting of the Deer Lodge trades and labor council it was voted that no one not a member of a labor union of some kind would be engaged as an orator on Labor Day.

Rose Perelson of Butte, whose repeated attempts at suicide have brought her into recent celebrity, has filed application for divorce from her husband, Morris, whose monthly earnings she places at $400. The couple have been married about two months. Cruelty is the ground of complaint.

There have been three deaths from lightning in the state this season, the last being that of A. Armstrong in the northern part of Jefferson county. He was out on horseback and while on top of a knoll received a charge of electricity which killed both himself and horse.

R. M. Marquis of Cameron, Mo., who was last week in Great Falls, holds the record for machine shearing in this part of the state. The other day he cleaned off 240 sheep belonging to the Sage Creek Company, which is the best day's work yet reported.

Haying has been completed nearly all over western Montana, and another week will witness the end of it. The harvesting of the grain crop has been in progress in the Bitter Root and Plains valleys since the first of the month, and is being started now in other parts of this end of the state. There have been no complete reports as to the amount of the hay crop, but it is said it will far exceed the cut of any previous year.

OVER A MILLION EACH DAY.

Statement of the Expenditures of the Government.

Washington, Aug. 15.—Although the war lasted only 114 days it is estimated that the cost to the government so far is $150,000,000, of which $98,000,000 has been actually paid out of the treasury.

Beginning with March 1, when the first increases in expenditures in anticipation of the war became apparent in the daily expenditures of the treasury, the actual disbursements have been, approximately:

March—Army, $600,000; navy, $2,400,000; total, $3,000,000.

April—Army, $1,200,000; navy, $9,800,000; total, $11,000,000.

May—Army, $12,000,000; navy, $6,500,000; total, $19,000,000.

June—Army, $16,500,000; navy, $6,500,000; total, $23,000,000.

July—Army, $29,500,000; navy, $5,500,000; total, $35,000,000.

To August 13—Army, $5,500,000; navy, $1,500,000; total, $7,000,000.

Total, war department, $65,300,000. Total, navy department, $32,700,000. Grand total, $98,000,000.

The appropriations made by congress on account of the war aggregated about $360,000,000, and cover the time to January 1, 1899.

EYES AND MARKMANSHIP.

Superiority of Northern Races Over the Latins in This Particular.

The Saxon and the Celt, the Teuton and the Norseman—which merely is to say the blue-eyed people—possess a capacity for marksmanship none of the Latin races ever may hope to attain. It isn't a Spaniard's fault that he cannot fire a bullet straight. He can't help it. He was born than way. He has a racial defect in far vision. The trouble is seated in his eyes, and against a blue-eyed antagonist he must always be the loser when it comes to scoring at a target at fairly long range. Neither can the Indian or the negro shoot so as to make it good betting that he is going to hit anything. They mean well, but they won't do.

What it is about the blue-eyed man which renders his far-sight superior to that of his dark-eyed cousin oculists are not agreed upon. They have not satisfactorily determined whether his advantage is derived from a pigment which clarifies the vision or whether the shape of his lenses is somewhat different, furnishing him a greater range of sight and a more magnified picture of distant objects, but rjegarding the fact itself they have long since ceased contention.

All the historic marksmen of record—from Natty Bumpo to Captain Bogardus—have blue or hazel eyes. Look over the long list of western "killers" who flourished in the frontier days, now passed away, and you will recall that the invincible ones, those who were quickest on the trigger and who never missed their man, were blue-eyed. Billy the Kid, Wild Bill, Bat Masterson and Jesse James—good men and bad, sheriffs upholding the law and desperadoes defying it—had eyes as blue as the unflecked sky of June. The Tennessee mountaineers who from behind Jackson's cotton bales poured so witherin a fire into Packenham's scarlet-coated veterans that even that intrepid soldiery could not endure it, and fled from its fiery breath as from before the mouth of a furnace were blue-eyed riflemen.

Every regimental officer of experience and every gun club man knows that the records of target practice will show the blue-eyed man well in the lead over their dark-eyed fellows, and the longer the distance the more marked become the disparity.

When General Shafter has fully disembarked his forces upon Cuban soil; when the ping of the Mauser gives answer to the hiss of the long bullet of the Krag-Jorgensen the world will no doubt be afforded another object lesson of the inability of the Latin to shoot straight. The Spaniards have the arms, but not the main—their "Aeneid" would perforce begin differently from Virgil's.

The Spaniard—and the Cuban as well, for the same reason—is a cutter and a slasher. He favors cold steel in battle, and with cutlass or machete becomes at close range a formidable foe. It is to Spain that the world owes the invention of fencing, an art not yet 300 years old, which transformed the mediaeval sword into a shield and buckler as well as spear and dagger. The Italian, who also cannot shoot, perfected the system, and is today the master fencer of the world. It would seem that the dark eye has indeed its own superiority of vision, as close range. Take note that the master billiard players—those whose excelling delicacy of touch is at once a joy and a marvel to look upon—are dark-eyed men, as are the fencers.

But the battles on Cuban or Puerto Rican soil are not to be fought with steel. There the blue-eyed troops who sprang from the northern races will make war against their swarthy foes at rifle range, and they should have the better of it by inalienable birthright.

HAY AS SECRETARY OF STATE.

Ambassador to England to Succeed Day When He Resigns.

Washington, Aug. 15.—It seems to be settled that Ambassador Hay is to succeed Secretary Day when the latter becomes chairman of the peace commission. The authority for this statement is unofficial, but from a source which shows that such is the determination of the president at present.

The indications are that Secretary Day's resignation from the state department will be in and accepted within a week. It is understood that the president contemplates the appointment of Secretary Day to a circuit judgeship after the work of the peace commission has been finished.

Twice a year the Caspian overflows and strands millions of fish—sufficient to feed the whole of Central Asia, if advantage could be taken of these immense resources given by nature.

In proportion to population, Texas has furnished more troops for the war than any other state. Texas pays each enlisted man $7 a month in addition to his government pay.

The whistle of a locomotive can be heard 3,800 yards, the noise of a train 3,300 yards, the report of a musket and the bark of a dog 1,800 yards, the roll of a drum 600 yards, a dinner bell two miles.

Russia is said to have 3,000,000 horses—nearly one-half of the whole number in existence.

Police court statistics show that Cornwall is the best behaved county in England.

Young Japanese girls gild their lips.

N. N. U. No. 34, '98

The streets of Pekin, China, are unlighted save by two gaslights and three kerosene lamps. The first two are before the Russian embassy and the kerosene lamps illuminate the front of the Russo-Chinese bank.

Safes outwardly resembling iron ones, but which are really made of thin boards, are now supplied by various firms, and are sold to people starting in business who want to make a big show.

The natives of some tropical countries chew the fibers of green cocoanuts as a remedy for fever. They contain much tannic acid, and are reputed as effective as quinine.

The advertising of Schilling's Best in this paper met with such success that a few months ago Messrs. A. Schilling & Co. started the advertising of their money-back baking powder. They are evidently well pleased with the results, for we have again received an order for advertising of their tea and baking powder—this time for an increased space. There is nothing that sells so well as a good article—advertised in the town where it is to be sold.

Two parishes in Berkshire have four inhabitants each; in Buckingham there is a parish with seven inhabitants; Oxford has one with eight, and other counties have parishes with less than twenty.

Last year there were only 18 deaths from smallpox in the 33 great cities of England, as compared with 732, 450, 120 and 25, respectively, in the four preceding years.

Copenhagen's Round Tower, built in the eleventh century and 150 feet high, is to be moved bodily a distance of 150 feet to widen a business street.

No person in Norway may spend more than threepence at one visit to a public house.

During a recent hail storm at Chicago window glass and skylights worth $150,000 were smashed.

Japan takes 40 per cent of the export of American nails.