

THE NEWS.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, at the request of numerous business organizations of Baltimore and Philadelphia, has arranged for a ten days stop-over at each of those cities under the usual procedure of the passenger depositing the ticket with the ticket agent upon his arrival. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad now grants ten days stop-overs at Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia.

William N. Boggs, the defaulting bank teller of Dover, Del., was sentenced at Wilmington to five years in the penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$5,000. A movement is on foot in the Florida Legislature to provide for a revision of the State constitution.

Stove manufacturers who are meeting in Cincinnati may form a consolidation of their interests.

A dispatch to the Navy Department from Captain Coghlan states that an examination of the Raleigh after she was floated shows that she sustained practically no damage in grounding off Charleston.

George Usher, a farmer, fifty years of age, residing near Mount Hope, Pa., killed his wife with an axe while she was milking a cow. He then hanged himself. The double tragedy was discovered by their son, and is ascribed to religious insanity.

The saw-mill plant of the E. E. Jackson Company, at Hardsville, Ala., was destroyed by fire. Loss, \$75,000. The president of the company is ex-Governor E. E. Jackson, of Maryland.

Alex. Vulliamy, of Sheboygan, and H. D. Eivers, of Baltimore, students of Mission House College, were drowned while boating in a small lake near Franklin, Wis. Their bodies have not been recovered.

A young man named Roderick, of Charlestown, W. Va., shot himself through the leg, between the thigh and the knee, while handling a pistol in the dining parlor of Jones' confectionery at Berryville, Va. The wound is a very painful one, and had the bullet passed a little higher up, it would have severed an artery and death would have resulted.

An equestrian statue of General Hartranft was unveiled at Harrisburg, Pa. Three thousand persons attended a reception and banquet in Washington, D. C., in honor of the National Society of Mechanical Engineers.

The experiments with wireless telegraphy by the United States Signal Corps, General Greely has concluded that it will not supplant the present system of wires.

Secretary Keop, of the Merchants' Exchange, Buffalo, N. Y., telegraphed to the Confederate Veterans reunion at Charleston, S. C., an invitation to hold the reunion in 1901—the Pan-American Exposition year—in Buffalo.

C. E. Littlefield, of Rockland, was nominated by acclamation by the Republicans of the Second Maine Congressional District to succeed the late Nelson Dingley.

June 3 will be observed as Confederate Memorial Day at Lexington, Va. An Alexandria, Va., firm has secured the contract for a Confederate monument to be erected at Edgewood, S. C.

The West Virginia Knights Templar Conclave, in session at Huntington, selected Fairmont as the next place of meeting.

The bodies of Joseph Harby and Mary Viack, daughter of a farmer, were buried in the same grave at Beemer, Neb. The girl killed herself because she was convinced she could not be cured of an ailment from which she was suffering. Harby, to whom the girl was engaged, called at the Viack home and asked permission to see the dead girl's body. He entered the death chamber and shot himself, dying instantly.

A report from Benjamin, Knox county, Tex., states that a terrible storm, with rain approaching a waterfall, swept over the country about thirty miles west of that place and that the family of George Humphrey, composed of four persons, was drowned by the sudden overflow of a branch of the Brazos river. Other disasters are believed to have occurred in the Pan-Handle, but the section is almost without wire communication.

Secretary Long has designated Surgeon J. C. Boyd to represent the medical corps of the navy at the International Medical Congress, which meets at Berlin in June. Dr. Boyd is chief assistant of the Surgeon-General, and is stationed in Washington. He will sail from New York on May 28.

Attorney-General Monnett, of Ohio, has named Charles B. Squires as the man who offered him a bribe in connection with Standard Oil litigation.

Miss John W. and Robert Garrett, of Baltimore, have presented a number of valuable volumes to the library of Princeton University.

COMSET'S KILLED HIM.

Lacing For Feminine Role in Amateur Burlesque Caused Apoplexy.

Passaic, N. J., (Special).—Tight lacing caused the death of Uas, T. Stewart, bank amateur actor, and one of the leading men socially of this place. He was found dead in bed, and the use of corsets, made necessary by his part in a burlesque in which he had participated, it is supposed, brought on an attack of apoplexy.

Mr. Stewart was 36 years old and a son of L. C. Stewart, who left him a large fortune. The father died more than a year ago, and the young man became associated with the firm of A. Hathaway & Co., bankers, of New York.

Prominent persons in Passaic some time ago decided to give an entertainment to raise funds for the Grimes Hospital, of that city. An amateur theatrical performance was decided upon and Mr. Stewart was pressed into active service because of his well-known ability in that line.

Mr. Stewart was cast for the transformed part of Little Germany in the "Crimes of Normandy," and also had charge of the ballet. There was a large audience in the theatre on Tuesday night, and the spirited performance was much enjoyed. Little Germany received a full measure of applause, but toward the close of the burlesque seemed distressed, and remarked to a friend:

"This is my last show."

When the "make-up" and costumes had been removed Mr. Stewart walked directly to his home, in High street, and went to bed. At breakfast time he had not arisen and a servant finding that repeated knocks at his door were unanswered, entered and found the young man dead.

FILIPINOS DEMORALIZED.

An Englishman Says Now is the Time to "Strike Hard."

Manila, (By Cable).—Mr. Higgins, the English manager of the Manila-Dagupan Railway, and two of his assistants, who had remained inside the Filipino lines to protect the property of the railway company, arrived at San Fernando.

They had been informed by the natives that the latter would be no longer responsible for their safety if they remained longer within the lines. Mr. Higgins corroborated the stories that have been told of the demoralization of the Filipinos, and says that they are looting all the natives' property.

MILES' NOT SUSTAINED

Report of the Beef Court of Inquiry.

GEN. EAGAN CRITICISED.

Canned Roast Beef as Article of Food—Board Says It Was Not Suitable For Use On Transports or a Long-Continued Field Ration—Has Insured Error In Not Promptly Notifying Secretary.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—By direction of the President, who approved the findings, Acting Secretary of War McKelvie has just made public the report and findings of the military court appointed to investigate the charges made by Major-General Miles, commanding the army, that the beef supplied to the army during the war with Spain was unfit for the use of the troops.

The court finds that General Miles' allegations that the refrigerated beef was treated with chemicals were not established; that his allegations concerning the canned fresh or canned roast beef were sustained as to its unsuitability for food as used on the transports and as a long-continued field ration.

General Miles is censured for "error" in failing to promptly notify the Secretary of War when he first formed the opinion that the food was unfit. General Eagan, formerly commissary general, is censured for too extensive purchases of the canned beef as an untried ration. Colonel Maus, of General Miles' staff, is also censured.

The court finds that the packers were not at fault: that the meats supplied to the army were of the same quality as those supplied to the trade generally, and recommends that no further proceedings be taken in the premises.

Conclusions of the Court.

The conclusion of the court adverse to further proceedings based upon the charges is as follows:

"It has been developed in the course of the inquiry, as recited in this report, that in some instances certain individuals failed to perform the full measure of duty or to observe the proprieties with dignity high military command, but the court is of the opinion that the mere statement in the official report of the facts developed meets the end of discipline, and that the interests of the service will be best subserved if further proceedings be not taken."

There is more or less criticism of General Miles in various parts of the report.

"The court finds that the major-general commanding the army had no sufficient justification for alleging that the refrigerated beef was embalmed or was unfit for issue to troops. It also finds that he committed an error in that, having belief or knowledge as claimed, that the food was unfit, that it caused sickness and distress, that some of it was supplied under the 'pretense of experiment,' that other beef was embalmed, he did not immediately report such knowledge or belief to the Secretary of War to the end that a proper remedy might be promptly applied."

Why Col. Maus is Censured.

The censure of Colonel Maus, inspector-general on General Miles' staff, is based upon his failure to call attention to charges concerning the beef at Chickamauga contained in a report of inspection made by Dr. (or Major) Daily, on October 26 last, in which he stated his belief that the beef was chemically treated. "The silence of Col. Maus," says the court, "on so important a matter as the chemically treated beef reported by Major Daily and personally known to himself is remarkable."

The remark is also made that Gen. Miles' failure to draw special attention to this report is unexplained.

Commenting upon General Miles' testimony that he had formed the opinion last August that the refrigerated beef had been processed, the court remarks: "Whatever the date upon which he formed a belief or a reasonable suspicion that the health of the troops was being impaired by the use of deleterious food, it was his bounden duty, in the opinion of the court, instantly to take the most effective measures within his control to ascertain the actual fact and correct the wrong, if any should be found."

"It would have been practicable to obtain samples of the beef then being supplied to the army by contractors and to have submitted these samples to chemical examination, which would have resulted in the detection of the presence or absence of boric and salicylic acids, or any other chemical agent that may have been used as a preservative agent. Yet no such precaution as that suggested was taken by the Major-General commanding at that time or at any subsequent time so far as has been learned by the court."

General Miles' Allegations.

"The court finds that the allegations of the major-general commanding, to the effect that the refrigerated beef supplied to the troops was treated with chemical preservatives, have not been established. The court finds that so much of the allegations of the major-general commanding in respect to the canned roast beef as relate to its unsuitability for food, as an actual use on the transports, and as to its extensive or long-continued use as a field ration, are sustained. In the opinion of the court none of the other allegations in relation to the canned fresh beef are sustained.

"The evidence shows that Col. John F. Weston, assistant commissary-general of subsistence, recommended the adoption of the canned roast beef as a component of the field ration, and to this extent he is responsible for the error."

The report places the quantity of canned roast beef purchased for the war by the commissary department at 6,847,174 pounds, including 253,000 pounds which was brought from Liverpool and other English ports, and the commissary-general (General Eagan) is severely criticised in several parts of the document on this score. One of the severest rebukes is as follows:

Reckless Purchase by Eagan.

"Considering the little use that had been made of this beef in the regular army, the probability that the volunteers were entirely ignorant of it, that its use as a part of the field ration had never been sanctioned by the President or Secretary of War, the court cannot but characterize the action of the commissary-general of subsistence as unwarranted and reckless—in that he ordered the purchase of such enormous quantities of a food that was practically untried and unknown, and the court so finds."

"The court also finds that there is no ground for any imputation whatever of any other actuating motive on the part of the commissary-general than the earnest desire to procure the best possible food for the troops. The court pronounces this act of the commissary-general of subsistence a colossal error for which there is no palliation."

The court finds that there was neglect in Cuba and, to a less degree, in Porto Rico in delivering the refrigerated beef. "The court," says the report, "does not wish to state the case more strongly than to state that the finding appears that the error of the commissary-general was committed in distributing this perishable article. The fault, if any there was, rested with the brigade and higher commanding officers and their commissaries and quartermasters, but the testimony is not so definite or specific as to warrant the naming by the court of any particular officers."

Canned Roast Beef as Ration.

"The court is of the opinion that the canned roast beef was not suitable as a travel ration on transports, considering the absence of cooking facilities and the absence from that ration of fresh vegetables and condiments. For use on shore as a field ration where the companies had their camp cooking equipment and vegetables were available, canned roast beef is suitable for issue, say, two days in ten, but not for two days in succession. In some organizations it seems to have constituted at least one-half of the meat ration, and until after the surrender the troops had no means for other cooking than was practicable with the individual kit carried. For such extensive use, or any use exceeding one day in five, the court finds this beef unsuitable."

"The refrigerated beef is, in the opinion of the court, a suitable ration for troops when it can be issued to them in good condition."

The opinion is expressed that it would have been impracticable to land beef cattle on the coast of Cuba, the remark of the court being that the following follows: "The commanding general of the expedition characterized as 'absurd' such a proposition, and many of his commanding officers whose opinion is given in the testimony coincided with him in the impracticability or inexpediency of such a project. The court concurs in the opinion of these men, whose experience in active military service dated from 1861."

The Packers Exonerated.

An instruction of President McKinley to the court was that "if the packers of the country are guilty, it must be known." Replying to this direction, the court says: "The court finds that at the outbreak of hostilities, in April, 1898, the packers of canned beef were engaged in the manufacture of an article of standard quality, well known to the trade and the subsistence department under the name of canned roast beef. The methods of packing then in use were the same as those habitually employed in the preparation of the meat as an article of commerce, and the court does not find that they underwent any change during the progress of the war."

"The large purchases for the use of the military forces during the months of May and June, 1898, were made not at the solicitation of the packers or in consequence of efforts put forth by them for that purpose, but by the order and upon the initiative of the commissary-general of subsistence, such purchases being made in every case by order of his department in its usual manner."

Replying specifically to other questions set out by the President, the court says: "The canned beef was described as 'fresh' because it was not salted, but the meat was not old or stale. The refrigerated beef furnished the army was not doctored or treated with any other agency than cold air."

Miles Has Nothing to Say.

General Miles, when asked whether he had any comment to make upon the beef report, replied that he had read it. "But I have nothing to say," he added, "either about the report, the method of taking testimony or the conclusions reached."

ARMY IN HIS FRONT.

MacArthur Finds 7,000 Rebels Intrenched at Bacolor.

LAWTON'S DIVISION.

Taking a Short Rest in San Fernando, Where Their Advent Was Heavily Watched by the Natives—Troops Greatly Exhausted by the Campaign and Companies Reduced.

Manila, Philippine Islands, (By Cable).—To clear the Filipinos out of Bacolor, about five miles southwest of San Fernando, will be the next task of the Americans. The rebel General, Mascardo, has a force of 7,000 there, well armed and possessed of plenty of ammunition. His troops have never met American soldiers, and they hold, according to reports carried to San Fernando, that they can "whip the whole lot."

Bacolor is well intrenched, and thousands of natives are working like beavers, digging trenches and carrying the dirt in baskets. The enemy uses his rifles for fighting only, but compels the bolomen and Chinese, and even the women, to labor incessantly.

The rebels have an outpost about a mile beyond San Fernando, with a trench that holds between two and three hundred men. From that point several volleys were fired upon the camp of the Tenth Kansas Regiment.

In the vicinity of La Guina de Bay the rebels are extremely active, but the lines of Gen. Ovenshine and Col. Whalley, who is commanding Gen. King's brigade during the latter's illness, have been materially strengthened, and there is no danger in that direction.

The armed steamers Lacuna de Bay and Cayadonga, under Capt. Grant, have gone to Guagua, about five miles southwest of Bacolor, presumably to establish a base of supplies for the troops engaged on the northern campaign.

It is rumored that Mabini, President of the Cabinet, and Minister of Foreign Affairs in the so-called Filipino government, who is a Radical, is to be succeeded by Paterno, the former of the Spanish treaty of 1898. This change is regarded as significant at the present juncture.

The entrance of the Americans into San Fernando was virtually unopposed. Two battalions of the Fifty-first Iowa Regiment, which swam the river north of the city, were smartly peppered while in the water, but the rebels disappeared as soon as the Americans reached the shore. In the meantime the hospital squad had walked across the bridge into the city, supporting the Americans there. They encountered no natives. The few Spaniards and Filipinos who were left welcomed the Americans and opened their houses to them. Gen. MacArthur accepting entertainment at the house of Senator Hizon, a sugar magnate.

If the inhabitants of the San Fernando region are to be believed, there is little sympathy with the insurrection in that quarter. Before evacuating the city the rebels burned the church and the public buildings, and looted the Chinese quarter. They drove many rich Filipinos, with their families, out of the city before them, as well as hundreds of Chinese, to prevent them helping the Americans.

The country beyond Calumpit is full of all sorts of ingenious trenches and pit-falls in the roads, with sharpened bamboo. Fortunately the Americans escaped the latter. In the swamp near Santo Tomas, where Gen. Wheaton's troops did their hardest fighting—the men sinking to their waists in mud, are many bodies of Filipinos.

The army is really enjoying life at San Fernando, which is the most picturesque and wealthy town the Americans have entered since the occupation of Manila. It is largely built of stone, the river is close at hand, and high hills almost surround it.

Gen. MacArthur's permanent headquarters is established in the best house in town, which is richly decorated with frescoes and carved woods.

After Bacolor has been cleared, water communication with Manila may be established. Along the roads to Calumpit the fuel wagons and bull teams dragging provisions have to be ferried one by one across two rivers, but the Filipinos have several launches in the river delta.

The American troops are much exhausted by the campaign, except the Iowa troops, which are comparatively fresh. The regiment of the division averages less than fifty men to a company, and all have a weather-worn appearance.

DEWEY IN "PERFECT HEALTH."

This Is the Report From the Olympia's Surgeon.

San Francisco, Cal., (Special).—On the steamship City of Peking which has just arrived from China and Japan with Dr. Epage, passed assistant surgeon United States Navy, and surgeon on the flagship Olympia for last year and a half. He makes the following statement regarding Admiral Dewey's health:

"Admiral Dewey is in perfect health. He has not been more than twenty miles from Manila since the first day of last May and he has not felt the necessity of a physician's aid in that time. The climate of Manila is enervating, of course, but the commander of the fleet has been no more affected by it than any one else."

"The people of California will be disappointed at not seeing Admiral Dewey, for he is determined to return to the United States in the Olympia by way of the Suez Canal."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

It is believed in Berlin that a substantial increase in the German navy is almost sure to be an outcome of the Coghlan incident.

Mataala, the rebel chief in Samos, has accepted an armistice.

The Italian cabinet has resigned as a result of strong opposition to the government's policy in China.

All Dinar has dethroned the Sultan of Darfur and taken the power in his own hands.

The site on the Quai D'Orsay, Paris, on which the American building for the exposition of 1900 will be erected, was formally transferred.

Sir Herbert S. Naylor-Leyland, who married Miss Jennie Chamberlain of Cleveland, Ohio, died in London.

An indemnity for the murder of a missionary France demands that China shall give mining concessions valued at \$700,000.

M. Camille Krantz has been appointed French minister of war to succeed M. de Freycinet, who resigns.

Mademoiselle Waterer, daughter of a French army officer, offers to produce letters from Dreyfus to Emperor William.

FRENCH MAIL STOLEN.

Ambassador Cambon Complains That the Embassy Bag Was Cut Open.

LAWTON'S DIVISION.

Taking a Short Rest in San Fernando, Where Their Advent Was Heavily Watched by the Natives—Troops Greatly Exhausted by the Campaign and Companies Reduced.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—Ambassador Cambon called on Secretary Hay and made formal complaint about the Embassy mail bag, which, when received, was still open, so that a man's hand could enter and the contents could be examined. Mr. Hay said the matter had already been referred to the Postoffice Department.

Officially, the French Embassy minimizes the importance of the incident. Unofficially, the deepest concern is felt. It is the belief of diplomatic circles that the mutilator of the bag was after a state secret. The mail received by the Embassy was not distributed so far as outward inspection would show.

The French Embassy and State Department have reached the conclusion that no money theft was contemplated by the person who cut the bag. They are also convinced that the motive was nothing else than to obtain some papers. The Embassy's mail of necessity concerns international questions.

A baffling feature is the inability of the French Embassy to determine what was in the bag originally. Some letter or paper might have been abstracted, and without a list of the bag's contents it is impossible to say if anything is missing. It is understood that Ambassador Cambon has cabled to the Paris Foreign Office for a description of everything looked for in the bag.

The Postoffice authorities will trace the bag from the time it was posted and was received in Washington. Every man who handled the bag will be cross-examined with a view of ascertaining when the cut was first noticed. Was it found when received on board ship on the European side? If not, the criminal will necessarily be sought in Europe. If not when received on board at the European port and Postoffice, the incision must have been made on board ship. If the bag was whole when it left New York and ripped open when delivered at the Embassy, the cut must have occurred on the way to Washington, or in this city.

FOUR KILLED IN STREET DUEL.

A Disputed Doctor's Bill the Cause of a Dolorous Tragedy.

Okolona, Miss., (Special).—A terrific four-handed street battle occurred here. The participants were Dr. J. Murfee and his son, Howard Murfee, on the one side, and C. D. and W. F. Clark on the other. Knives and pistols were used, and Dr. Murfee, his son, and C. D. Clark were killed on the spot, and W. F. Clark was mortally wounded.

The tragedy was enacted at noon in front of the residence of Dr. Murfee and Charles Clark, an attorney. Clark had called on Dr. Murfee over a disputed doctor's bill, and they quarrelled, going into the street to fight it out, according to G. W. Fisher, who lives opposite Dr. Murfee's unnumbered.

Clark drew a knife and cut Dr. Murfee's throat, severing the jugular. At that moment Walter Clark, a brother of Charles, rushed from his yard and fired four shots into the prostrate body of Dr. Murfee, any one of which would have proved fatal.

Then Dr. Murfee's son, Howard, appeared, firing first at Charles Clark, shooting him through the head. Then he fired three times at Walter Clark, one bullet entering the forehead. Walter Clark fired again, a scolding Howard Murfee through the heart. Escaping Walter Clark, all died instantly.

Dr. Murfee was sixty years of age, and leaves a widow and four children. His son was aged twenty-one. Charles Clark was forty and unmarried. Walter Clark was thirty-two, and leaves a widow and one child.

TRIED TO BURN THE WHOLE CITY.

The Filipinos Were Anxious to Wipe Out Manila.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—The Adjutant General has received the report of General R. P. Hughes, provost marshal general of Manila, giving an account of the fires which occurred in Manila in the early days of the Filipino rebellion. The report is endorsed by General Otis, who says that it should be stated that General Hughes was present in person during the period covered, and directed all the operations, and that his tact and vigilance saved the city from conflagration. General Hughes' report shows that the fires were clearly incendiary, and that even after they started, the Filipinos tried in every way to prevent their extinguishment. The firemen were shot at by persons concealed in houses, and efforts were made to puncture the hose. General Hughes commends the troops for the services they performed, and also speaks in high terms of the English volunteer fire brigade. The troops were detachments of the Twenty-third Infantry, Second Oregon, Tenth Minnesota and Tenth Pennsylvania.

CRUCIAL TEST OF GUN-COTTON.

A Fifteen-inch Gun Hurst to Show the Safety of Handling Explosives.

Sandy Hook, N. J., (Special).—A fifteen-inch Rodman gun was exploded by a charge of 100 pounds of smokeless powder. The gun was buried in the proving ground eighteen feet in the sand, and the discharge was made by electricity. The men are now digging to find out what has become of the shell that was inside the gun, containing 100 pounds of gun-cotton, to which a German society had been attached. The German people claim that the gun-cotton would be recovered in perfect condition even if the gun and shell were exploded. The test was to show the safety in handling gun-cotton in guns fired by powder charges.

MRS. GEORGE AS A LECTURER.

Only Fourteen Persons Had Enough Curiosity to Pay to Hear Her.

St. Louis, Mo., (Special).—Mrs. Anna George delivered her first lecture at the Olympia in this city. The house seats 1,300 but there were only fourteen people who paid in admission to hear. She delivered, however, the lecture, which was practically a sketch of her life.

All Burned to Death.

Delton, Ga., (Special).—The residence of Dr. L. G. Bagwell, 10 miles east of here was burned. Dr. Bagwell, his three children and their negro housekeeper were burned to death. It is supposed a lamp which Dr. Bagwell had on a table near his bed exploded.

DEATH FOR HER FIRST.

Girl Going to Summon Doctor for Dying Brother Killed by Train.

Huntington, W. Va., (Special).—Homer Kelley, a prominent young business man of this city, who was suffering with typhoid fever, became suddenly worse.

His sister Mattie ran to call a doctor, and to make the route short ran alongside the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad tracks. Just as she was about to enter the yard of the doctor's house a train struck her, killing her instantly. The brother had rallied in the meantime, but died within a few minutes after learning of his sister's accident.

BROOKE IS SUPREME.

Difference With Gen. Wood in Regard to Decree Issued.

A NEW SUPREME COURT.

A Letter is Addressed to Gen. Wood Pointing Out the "Undesirability" of Attempting to Handle the Affairs of His Province Without Regard to Other Sections.

Havana, Cuba, (By Cable).—The decree legalizing civil marriages which was recently issued in the province of Santiago differs from the one on the same subject in course of preparation at headquarters here. The military governor of Santiago province, Gen. Leonard Wood, acted without consultation with Governor-General Brooke and his decree was first heard of here through the local newspapers. Probably it will not be annulled specifically, but it will be rendered nugatory by a general paragraph in General Brooke's decree covering the entire island.

General Wood's action in this particular is one of a series of incidents in line with the theory held by some that the province are not so many departments in a military division, but rather so many states, loosely connected and semi-independent. A letter has been addressed to General Wood pointing out to him the undesirability of an attempt to handle the affairs of one province without regard to similar conditions in others and alleging the necessity of a uniform system in order to make the people homogeneous.

Senator Federico Mora, formerly civil Governor of Havana, who was recently appointed Supreme Court fiscal, said in an interview:

"Although I would not oppose annexation after native incapacity for government had been shown, I do not think it should be forced upon the people, who after half a century of fighting, have earned independence. My knowledge of American history compels me to believe that the government of the United States is acting in good faith toward Cuba and with the intention to keep the promises which President McKinley has made. To violate these promises would disgrace the President and the nation in the eyes of the world. The establishment of a supreme court in Cuba is, in my opinion, the first actual step toward recognition of Cuban independence. If that were not the intention, the highest courts of Cuba would not be final, but those of the United States being higher, cases would be subject to appeal there. On this subject a majority of those who have been selected for the Supreme Court bench hold the same opinion as myself."

GOMEZ NOT FIT TO RULE?

This Opinion is Expressed by Gen. Ernst, Who Has Just Returned From Cuba.

New York, N. Y., (Special).—Among the passengers on the steamer Havana, which was released from quarantine, was Gen. O. H. Ernst, who has been in Cuba since January.

General Ernst said that in his opinion there was no man in Cuba who he thought was qualified to be re-elected president. He did not think Gomez would ever fill that position.

"Gomez is a good man, but he has many faults," said General Ernst. "Then, again, I do not believe he is qualified to hold that office. Should the sentiment for annexation increase I believe Gomez would cause trouble. He keeps quiet as long as they dangle 'Cuba libre' before him."

FAMILY OF FIVE MURDERED.

Husband Shoots Wife as She Watches at Her Mother's Burial.

Howard City, Mich., (Special).—Joseph Harvey killed his wife, his uncle, Robert Pierson, and his grandmother. He also fatally wounded his three-month-old baby, and his father-in-law, John Loganslayer, and finally shot himself, inflicting a serious though not fatal wound. Harvey's uncle and grandmother lived a mile north of town. The murderer went there. He asserts that Pierson, his uncle, was quarrelling with his grand mother, and that he interfered; that thereupon Pierson stabbed and killed the old lady, aged seventy, and that he (Harvey) retaliated, shooting his uncle dead. After shooting Pierson, Harvey stabbed him three times.

Harvey then returned to his home, two miles southwest of town. Arrived there, he shot his wife twice, killing her. He then fired at his three-month-old baby, the ball going into its arm. Next Harvey entered his father-in-law's room and shot him twice, inflicting, however, no fatal injury. He then turned the revolver on himself, shooting himself in the neck. Harvey's wife, when attacked, was sitting up with the remains of her mother.

The Pierson home presents a horrible appearance. Pierson's body was found in a chair and that of the old lady on the floor clad in night dress. There are signs of a desperate struggle between Harvey and his grandmother, but no indication of a fight between the two men.

Harvey himself informed the Sheriff of the murders at Pierson's house. He was then arrested for murdering his wife. He has nothing to say about the tragedies at his own home. There are strong threats of lynching.

It transpires that Harvey on reaching the home of his late mother-in-law said nothing about his terrible acts at Pierson's house. He offered to sit up by the corpse of his wife's mother. Accordingly the others retired. It was 4 o'clock in the morning when Harvey went to his wife's room and killed her and attempted to slay his baby and his father-in-law. He also fired at Miss Labar, a teacher, who boarded in the house, but without effect. Harvey's wound is serious, but he is certain to recover. He was employed in a furniture factory, and is only twenty years of age. The cause of his terrible acts has not been determined.

MCKINLEY TAKING IT EASY.