Scranton Tribune.

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State Library 1898

RUMORS OF EVACUATION

Spaniards Given Until November to Leave Cuba.

DISORDER AT HAVANA

Thieves and Cut-throats at Work. The Terrible Atrocities Committed By the Spanish General Ignacio Estruch — Innocent Persons Assassinated by Secret Service Police—General Blanco Horrified at the Present of a Bloody Dagger.

Havana, Sept. 25.—On Wednesday last a rumor was put into circulation to the effect that the American commissioners in answer to the Spanish demand that the term of evacuation shall extend until February had delivered a dispatch stating that the Washington government insisted that the evacuation be completed by the end of October. The rumor lacked official confirmation, but the report gained considerable headway the next day and was generally believed to have official foundation. This, however, was flatly contradicted officially by both sides, the commissioners absolutely denying its truth to the Associated Press correspondent. It is the desire of the Cubans, of course, to see the Spaniards go from the island at once, but it can be denied on good authority that any such ultimatum as that referred to has been received. It is believed, however, that the Americans will insist upon the evacuation being completed by the end of November.

A committee has been appointed, consisting of Colonels Solerano, Arguelles, Castillo and Cachaso, to agree upon measures for the disbandment and disarming of the volunteer troops. It is understood that they will propose keeping the volunteers under arms until the Cuban troops shall have been disbanded.

Since Captain General Blanco pardoned 260 prisoners confined on the Isle of Pines, among whom are many nanigos, habitual thieves and desperate characters, Havana, which throughout the blockade hardly recorded a single burglary, theft or other crime, is shown by the police returns to be at present the scene of many assaults, house breakings, thefts and murders, which crimes are of almost daily occurrence.

A lady of Habana, one of whose relatives was undergoing a term of imprisonment, recently visited Admiral Sampson and requested him to use his influence to secure the liberation of her relatives. Admiral Sampson at once forwarded a petition to General Blanco, who ordered that the prisoner be released.

ESTRUCH'S CRUELTIES.

A prominent Spaniard who has just arrived from Santo Espiritu tells of many atrocities committed by the Spanish general, Ignatius Estruch, in that vicinity. As a result many families have fled to the fields and others have died panic stricken, suffering from untold cruelties. General Estruch surrounded himself with advisers who indicated to him persons to be killed or exiled. Estruch made a list of fifty persons, submitting it for approval to General Aguirre, commander of his division, who consulted with Marco Garcia, civil governor of Santa Clara provnce. Garcia said the list was not reliable, as all the persons named therein were loyal autonomists. Aguirre returned the list to Estruch, refusing to approve the latter's proposed action. Estruch, chagrined at his failure, formed a secret police service of 25 gendarmes armed with daggers. The blacklisted persons were arrested by night and slain outside the city walls. When the families of the missing inquired, Estruch replied that they had been arrested and released, and had probably escaped to the fields and joined the rebels. Thus Estruch assassinated about 30 persons. Estruch was arrested for his crimes, but was released and sent to Jaucaro trocha, not being court martialled on account of lack of proof. One of the daggers used by the Estruch police was presented to Captain General Blanoc, who was horrified at the sight. Among the persons assassinated was Candido Spalederon, a newspaper man, and a mulatto named Ventura Castanedal.

THEY SEE LONDON.

American Peace Commissioners View the Sights.

London, Sept. 25.—The peace commissioners devoted the day to sightseeing with the energy and enthusiasm of few tourists. Most of the ladies and several gentlemen of the party attended religious services in Westminster abbey and St. Paul's. Several indulged in a steamboat excursion on the Thames and drove to many places of historic interest.

The Hotel Cecil was filled with Americans all day, many calling on the commissioners or attaches, while others grouped about the lobbies, discussing the commission and its work, gave the gilded English hosteiry the air of entertaining an American political convention.

Much amusement was caused by the action of the hotel proprietor who, intending to pay a graceful compliment to his guests, raised the American and Spanish flag side by side. The combination excited curious comments among the thousands of passers by during the day.

Steamship Arrivals.

New York, Sept. 25.—Arrived: La Gascogne, Havre; Edam, Amsterdam and Bologne; Rotterdam, Rotterdam and Bologne. Queenstown—Sailed: Etruria, Liverpool for New York.

GARCIA'S VERSION OF IT.

Says Shafter Deliberately Went Back on His Agreement.

New York, Sept. 25.—To a Herald representative at Santiago Saturday who asked him why he resigned his command in the Cuban army and what was the nature of his dispute with General Shafter, General Garcia replied:

"I should like it clearly set out that I had no personal quarrel with General Shafter. He had given me a distinct promise that the American and Cuban troops should enter the town together. That promise he has denied, but, nevertheless, it was so. I felt keenly the indignity and neglect of the Cuban troops and still more strongly that the Spanish officials still retain office in Santiago. I could no longer obey instructions to co-operate with the American army, as this feeling was antagonistic to the orders I had received from my commander-in-chief, I resigned my command, writing a letter to General Shafter, which has been published.

"I sent my resignation to General Gomez as my commander in chief. It was accepted by General Gomez in his military capacity. Probably the cause was that it was feared that on the publication of my letter to General Shafter some feeling might be stirred up against me in the United States, and therefore it would be impolitic to continue me in my command, but my letter caused exactly the reverse result. I have received from the United States thousands of letters of congratulation. I do not think it has caused me in any way persona non grata to the American people or the American government.

"I do not recognize any government on this island save that of the United States. From the moment the American troops landed on this soil but one govenment is represented in Cuba. I should have liked to continue in my command until the island was settled, but my work was over. War was ended, and the duty now of the soldiers is to lay down their arms, resume work and to endeavor under the protecting arm of your great and free government, to build up free Cuba."

HORRORS OF THE KLONDIKE REGION.

Fruitless Efforts to Cross the Ashcroft Trail—Members of a Montreal Klondike Syndicate Spend Four Months in Trying to Get Through to the Gold Country.

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 25.—A Vancouver, B. C., special says Brindley Mills and P. Grant, two members of a Montreal Klondike syndicate, arrived here today after spending four months in trying to get through to the gold country over the Ashcroft trail. At Quesnelle they met Sir Arthur Curtis, an English baron, and his party and also ran across them at Mud river, where Sir Arthur mysteriously disappeared and was never seen again by a white man.

Mr. Mills said they joined in the search with Indians for the body and that they are confident that the latter not only knew all about the nobleman's death but where the body might be found. They want $1,000 reward for bringing it out of the woods. The unfortunate nobleman, Mills believes, met with foul play.

Mills and his party were lost four days without food one hundred miles from Telegraph Creek. On one occasion they took the advice of a treacherous Indian guide and went fifty miles out of their way.

They describe the experience as terrible. They declare emphatically that the route is a fraud and that hundreds of poor fellows are actually in danger of starvation on it now. They are stalled for fifty and one hundred miles apart without provision and without hope. Mills and Grant started out with fifty-eight horses and left thirty head on the road. Their outfits are also lost and when they reached Telegraph Creek, they were broken in health and without money.

THE EMPEROR DEAD?

All Evidence Seems to Confirm the Supposition.

London, Sept. 25.—The Daily Telegraph's Hong Kong correspondent, wiring Sunday, says:

"Although there is no positive confirmation, all the evidence tends to the conviction that the emperor is dead.

"A private dispatch says he died on Sept. 21, directly he issued the edict giving the dowager the regency. Nobody doubts that Yang and Chang Yen Hoon, who was minister at Washington in 1885, are both innocent of the charge of poisoning the emperor."

LI'S ENEMY DISHONORED.

Chang Yen Hoon Stripped of All His Offices.

London, Sept. 26.—The Times' Pekin correspondent says: "Chang Yen Hoon, the Cantonese enemy and rival of Li Hung Chang, who is charged with harboring Kang Yu Wei, has been arrested. He is now under trial by the board of punishment. He will be stripped of all his offices, his removal giving increased honor to Li Hung Chang.

"The officials generally welcome the empress' return to power, but the people are indifferent. Kang Yu Wei is charged with conspiring against the empress dowager, and has been declared an outlaw and his arrest has been ordered."

Youthful Soldier Dead.

Philadelphia, Sept. 25.—John T. Taylor, a private in Company A, First Maryland volunteers, died today in St. Joseph's hospital from typhoid pneumonia. Taylor was brought to this city two weeks ago from Camp Meade. At the hospital he said he was 16 years of age, and that he had previously given his age as 19 so that he could enlist. The body will be taken to Annapolis for interment.

Spanish Peace Commissioners.

Madrid, Sept. 25.—The Spanish peace commissioners started for Paris this evening.

KHALIFA'S ARMY SUFFERS DEFEAT

THE ONLY ORGANIZED REMNANT IS CRUSHED.

Gedarf, the Last Stronghold, Is Captured After Three Hours' Hard Fighting—1,300 Egyptians Route 3,000 Dervishes—A Steamer Captured—Gen. Kitchener Returns to Omdurman.

Cairo, Sept. 25.—General Kitchener, commanding the Anglo-Egyptian expedition, has returned to Omdurman, having established posts at Fashoda and on the Sobat river. The troops did no fighting except with a Dervish steamer on the way south, which was captured.

Suakim, Sept. 25.—The only organized remnant of the Khalifa's army was defeated and its last stronghold, Gedarf, captured on Sept. 22, after three hours' hard fighting, when an Egyptian force numbering 1,300, under command of Colonel Parsons, routed 3,000 Dervishes, of whom 500 were killed. Three British officers were wounded and thirty-seven Egyptian soldiers killed and fifty-nine wounded.

CLASH AT FASHODA.

General Kitchener Meets French and Orders Them to Retire.

London, Sept. 26.—The Daily Telegraph's Cairo correspondent telegraphing today (Monday), says:

"General Kitchener found the French at Fashoda. He notified Major Marchand that he had express instructions that the territory was British and that the French must retire, and offered them passage to Cairo. Major Marchand absolutely declined to retire unless ordered to do so by his government. No fighting occurred. Major Marchand was given clearly to understand that the British insisted upon their claims, and the rest has been left to be settled by diplomacy between the respective governments.

"General Kitchener sent a long official dispatch to London, hoisted the Union Jack and the Egyptian ensign, and left as a garrison the Eleventh and Thirteenth Soudanese battalions and the Cameron Highlanders to protect the British flag. Colonel Jackson commands the garrison."

SECRETARY ALGER'S TALK

He Responds to a Toast at Jacksonville—Sickness the Fault of Commanders.

Jacksonville, Fla., Sept. 25.—Secretary Alger and party, consisting of General Sternberg, surgeon general; General Ludington, quartermaster general, and others spent the day in Jacksonville, visiting the camp of the Seventh army corp. The distinguished party was met at the station by General Lee and a committee of citizens. General Alger proceeded at once to the camp of the First division and during the day inspected the three division hospitals, going through every ward.

A luncheon was tendered to the secretary and party at noon and in response to a toast he said: "Sickness is largely the fault of the commanders, division, regimental and company commmanders. General Lee is not looking very well and I have granted him a short leave of absence.

"The organizing and equipping of an army of 250,000 men, carrying on a war in two continents in the space of three months has been a tremendous undertaking. The secretary of war has been ably assisted in this undertaking by the surgeon general and the quartermaster's department. They have been criticized but not to the extent the secretary of war has, yet I know the work they have accomplished has been little short of miraculous. When this war began the clothing that the men have worn was on the backs of animals. There was no ammunition, no transportation, there was nothing behind the war department but a great rich nation burning with patriotism. Almost in a night an army was organized and equipped that paralyzed the nation with which we had to deal, and has awakened the admiration of the world. I have no apology to make for what has been done. I am willing to let the record of the campaign stand and speak for itself.

"It matters not what may become of me. I may be buried in oblivion or in the grave, but the unbiased historian will give the world the impartial record of what has been accomplished and the record will stand forever as a monument to the greatness of this nation and its boundless resources.

"When this war was begun I issued an order that the north and south should be brigaded together. They have been united and it is proven that the sectional lines of north and south no longer and I thank God that I have lived to see the day when he have a united country."

FIVE MEN DROWNED.

Tragedy of the Foundering of the Lighter Monitor.

Salt Ste. Marie, Mich., Sept. 25.—Five men were drowned in St. Mary's river today by the foundering of the lighter Monitor. They are Joseph Prior, William Corbier, John Robaire, Emanuel Robaire, all of this city, and John Foley, of West Bay City. Their bodies were recovered by a diver and brought here this evening.

The Monitor was in tow of the tug Bruce and was loaded with iron ore, taken from the schooner Carrington, which was stranded in the river. In turning the light on the way to Point Aux Pin, the lighter foundered.

Soldier Killed.

Trenton, N. J., Sept. 25.—An unknown soldier of the Third Pennsylvania regiment was killed at Princeton Junction today by falling from a freight train on which he was riding. His body is now in the Trenton morgue. He is small in stature, about 21 years old, and the letters "A. M. L." are tattoed on his arm.

THE NEW YORK SLATE.

Ticket That Will Probably Be Nominated Tuesday.

Saratoga, N. Y., Sept. 25.—The slate prepared by the leaders claiming to have control of the Republican state convention and given out as that to be named on Tuesday by the convention, is as follows.

For Governor—Theodore Roosevelt, New York.

Lieutenant governor—Timothy L. Woodruff, of Kings.

Secretary of state—John T. McDonough, Albany.

Comptroller—William J. Morgan, of Erie.

State treasurer—John P. Kaegel, of Cayuga.

Attorney general—John E. Davies, of Oneida.

State engineer—Not selected.

It is believed today that the convention will last but one day, it being the general opinion that all differences will be settled on the first ballot for governor. The Black adherents have decided not to make a fight on the organization of the convention, and it will be organized with Sereno E. Payne, of Cayuga, as temporary chairman, and Horace G. White, of Syracuse, permanent chairman.

Chauncey M. Depew will name Mr. Roosevelt and Delegates Culinan, of Oswego; Farnham, of Orange, and Wallace, of Queens, will second it. The Black people have not arrived at a decision as to who will be named as their candidate.

OLGA'S STRANGE VOYAGE

The German Bark Arrives at Delaware Breakwater After an Exciting Experience—Victims of Yellow Fever.

Philadelphia, Sept. 25.—The German bark Olga arrived at the Delaware breakwater tonight for orders, from Samaranga, Java, laden with sugar. She brought to a close a voyage of strange fatalities, having only a few of the original officers on board, Captain Dreyer, her commander, and five others having died of that dread disease, scurvy, which so often breaks out on board vessels from the far east.

The Olga made sail from Sourabaya on April 30, and met with the usual experiences until when about two months out from port. Here the disease made its first appearance, and one by one the men were overtaken, until the ship's crew was decreased to four men able to be about. Captain Dreyer was among the first to be stricken down with the horrible disease. He lasted only a few days, suffering the greatest agony and praying for death. His body was sewed up in a canvas bag and consigned to the deep. It was then that the mate took charge and he, too, was stricken down, leaving in charge of the vessel men with only scant or no knowledge of navigation. A consultation was held on board, and it was decided to bear away for the nearest port, and on investigation her original destination for orders, St. Michaels, was determined to be the one to make for. Here she arrived July 29 with her crew nearly dead. Medical aid was at once summoned and with difficulty the sick men were removed to the hospital. The vessel's owners were communicated with and another captain was sent out to take charge of her.

After remaining in St. Michaels for three weeks the men were pronounced sufficiently recovered to go on board again and the fatal voyage was continued.

The Olga upon her arrival today reported that all on board were well. She is now awaiting orders, and will probably come to this port to discharge her cargo.

REV. M'INTYRE'S CASE.

Specialists on Nervous Diseases Examine the Oregon's Chaplain.

Denver, Colo., Sept. 25.—Drs. T. J. Eskridge and H. T. Pershing, specialists on nervous diseases, yesterday examined Chaplain J. P. McIntyre, of the battleship Oregon, with regard to his nervous and mental condition.

The examination was made at the request of the chaplain's brother and legal advisers, indicating that his defense be for the court-martial by which he is to be tried on charges growing out of his criticism of the conduct of Admiral Sampson and Captain Evans in the battle of July 3, off Santiago, will probably be temporary aberration, due to sickness contracted while in the line of duty.

British Steamer Sinks.

Gibraltar, Sept. 25.—The Spanish steamer Carthagena, from Avilos for Barcelona, proceeded, after being in collision on Sept. 22 off Cape Villano, with the British steamer Rheubina, from Hueiva for Lisbon. The latter vessel was sunk and the crew, with the exception of one seaman and the captain, who were lander at Gibraltar, were drowned.

Soldiers Return.

New York, Sept. 25.—Twenty-five members of the Sixth Massachusetts volunteers arrived here today on the City of Lowell from Boston on their way to Porto Rico. The men have been home on furloughs and they are now returning to their commands. They were sent to Governor's Island to await instructions from Quartermaster Colonel Kimball.

Suicide on a Steamer.

New York, Sept. 25.—A man registered as M. Putzo, who was a passenger on the steamer La Gascogne from Havre, was found dead in his cabin on the morning of Sept. 18, having committed suicide by hanging. He was about 35 years old, and left nothing that would reveal his identity.

Instantly Killed.

New York, Sept. 25.—A man and a woman, both middle aged, were run over and instantly killed today in the Prospect tunnel, of the Brighton Beach railroad in Brooklyn. Their identity had not been learned at a late hour. The couple were walking through the tunnel, which is six hundred feet long and unlighted.

WAR DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATION

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION WILL BEGIN WORK TODAY.

The Committee Effects an Organization by Electing General Greenville M. Dodge President—The Inquiry Will Probably Be Searching and Rigid.

Washington, Sept. 25.—The commission appointed by President McKinley to investigate the administration of the war department in relation to its conduct of the Hispano-American war will begin its labors formally tomorrow. The committee effected an organization yesterday by electing General Greenville M. Dodge, president, Mr. Richard Weigthman, secretary and Major Stephen C. Mills, of the regular army, recorder.

The president is understood to be thoroughly pleased with the personnel of the commission. It was his effort to secure as members of the commission men of the highest character and standing, in whose opinions and judgment the country would have all confidence. He desired also to have represented on the board all phases of public and political feeling, every section of the country and all classes of business, professional, commercial and military. The men whom he has appointed are possessed of varied experience, many of them having served with distinguished honor to themselves either in the Union or Confederate army. The president feels assured that the verdict of the commission, whatever it may be in the inquiry it is about to conduct, will be accepted and approved by all right minded and right thinking American citizens.

That it is the president's desire that the inquiry should be rigid and searching was indicated by his statement to the commission when it assembled in the White House for a conference with him yesterday. No limit is placed by the president upon the course of the investigation. It is to include every department of the army and the president assures the commission in advance that he will afford every facility in his power for the prosecution of the most searching inquiry into every part of the administration of the war.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Addressing the commission the president said, among other things:

Gentlemen, before suggesting the matters which shall come before you for investigation, I desire to express my appreciation to each of you for your willingness to accept the patriotic service to which you have been invited. You are to perform one of the highest public duties that can fall to a citizen, and your unselfishness in undertaking it makes me profoundly grateful.

There has been in many quarters severe criticism of the conduct of the war with Spain. Charges of criminal neglect of the soldiers in camp and in the field and hospital and on transports have been so persistent that, whether true or false, they have made a deep impression upon the country. It is my earnest desire that you shall thoroughly investigate these charges and make the fullest examination of the administration of the war department in all its branches, with the view to establishing the truth or falsity of these accusations. I put upon you no limit to the scope of your investigation. Of all departments connected with the army I invite the closest scrutiny and examination, and shall afford every facility for the most searching inquiry. The records of the war department and the assistance of its officers shall be subject to your call.

I cannot impress upon you too strongly my wish that your investigation shall be so thorough and complete that your report, when made, will fix the responsibility for any failure or fault by reason of neglect, incompetency or maladministration upon the officers and bureau responsible therefore—if it be found that the evils complained of have existed.

The people of the country are entitled to know whether or not the citizens who so promptly responded to the call of duty have been neglected or misused or maltreated by the government to which they so willingly gave their services. If there have been wrongs committed, the wrongdoers must not escape conviction and punishment.

TROOPS IN CUBA.

The Condition of American Soldiers Improving.

Guantanamo, Cuba, Sept. 25.—Two deaths from yellow fever, one from pneumonia, and twenty-five believed to have been caused by malaria, are reported to have occurred since Aug. 20 among Colonel Ray's troops and the companies of the Third volunteers, numbering 640, now here. The condition of the troops is improving. Yesterday the men were given fresh meat, a number of head of cattle having been purchased by Colonel Ray at $75 each.

General Perez and 300 Cuban troops have arrived and are receiving rations. They are waiting instructions from the junta to disband.

The city, it is believed, has less than 1,000 rations and the condition of the residents of the country districts is bad, owing to lack of clothing and supplies. These people are not allowed to enter the city. They are in need of medicines and treatment, and the aid of the Red Cross is wanted.

KILLED THE KLU-KLUX KLAN.

Death of Author of the Bill Rooting out the Terrible Organization.

Lancaster, Wis., Sept. 25.—General John B. Callis, a veteran of the Civil war, died last night. At the close of the war General Callis was sent to Huntsville, Ala., as assistant commissioner of the Freedman's bureau, and latter was elected to congress from that district.

While in congress he introduced the original resolution on which was afterwards based the celebrated Klu-Klux Klan bill, which resulted in rooting out that terrible organization.

CONGRESS OF MOTHERS.

Will Be a Feature of the Omaha Exposition, Oct. 8, 9 and 10.

Washington, Sept. 25.—A congress of mothers, under the auspices of the National organization, will be held in Omaha Oct. 8, 9 and 10, by invitation of the Trans-Mississippi exposition.

All interested in the movement are invited to attend. There will be a meeting in Omaha of the national board of managers at the close of this congress.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today:

Partly Cloudy; East to Southeast Winds.

1 General—Aguinaldo Asks the Forbearance of the Nations.
Evacuation Rumors at Havana.
The Khalifa's Only Organized Army is Crushed.
Investigating the War Department.

2 General—The Tin-Plate Industry.
Financial and Commercial.

3 Local—Sunday in Scranton Churches.
Coal Company Wins in the Springer Case.

4 Editorial.
Comment of the Press.

5 Local—Concert at the Hillside Home.
Reformers for Revenue Only.

6 Local—West Scranton and Suburban.

7 News Round About Scranton.

8 General—Doings at Camp Meade.
Interesting Letters from Porto Rico.

REV. BRADY'S CHARGE

The Archdeacon as Chaplain of the First Regiment Gives Startling Testimony Regarding Care of Sick.

Philadelphia, Sept. 25.—Rev. Cyrus T. Brady, archdeacon of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania, and chaplain of the First regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, in a sermon tonight severely criticised the management of the volunteer camps which came under his supervision at Chickamauga, where his regiment was stationed for a long time. He said the medical commissary, quartermaster and ordnance departments were all to blame, and continued thus: "I personally saw men left in the hospitals in camps for thirty-six hours without any medical attendance whatever.

"I saw men in those hospitals suffering from fever with the rain beating down upon them.

"I saw men committed to the care of unskilled attendants when it was absolutely impossible for them to receive anything like the attention they deserved.

"I saw men, suffering from fever, lying with their mouths open and their mouths filled with flies."

In conclusion the archdeacon said: "I wonder if I dare, being still in the government service, say more. There is much more that might be told if it were proper for me to tell it, but perhaps this will suffice. I had not intended to touch upon this phase of our experiences at all, but when I think that these things have taken place in this, the richest, greatest and presumably, the most advanced nation on the face of the earth, I cannot hold my peace."

The reverend speaker also said that the officers of the First regiment had done everything possible to alleviate the condition of the men.

DREYFUS CASE AGAIN.

A Meeting Held to Protest Against a Revision.

Paris, Sept. 25.—Paul Deroulede presided at a meeting held today for the purpose of protesting against a revision of the Dreyfus proceedings, at which he made a speech violently denouncing M. Brisson, and all the prominent supporters of revision and declared that if a revolution broke out and the scaffold was erected in Paris the first head to fall ought to be that of M. Clemenceau. If Dreyfus ever returned to France, M. Deroulede asserted, he would be lynched. In conclusion he announced the intention to reconstitute the league of patriots, which the government formerly dissolved, and a resolution to this effect was carried by acclaim.

Slight demonstrations were made late this afternoon but the crowds which gathered were quickly dispersed by the police.

London, Sept. 26.—The Daily News this morning publishes a report of an interview with Comte Esterhazy, in the course of which the comte admitted having had a conversation with Mrs. Rachel Beer, wife of the editor of the Observer, on the 16th inst., but denied energetically that he had made the avowals credited to him. He then produced a long letter which he had addressed to Mrs. Beer last week, giving a general denial in advance to anything which might be published without his signature, and protesting that he had been deceived by lying demonstrations of friendship on the part of the managers of the Observer, "when far from foreseeing the scandalous manoeuvre of which I was the intended object."

Incidentally, Comte Esterhazy declared that the pretended witness to the revelation was utterly ignorant of the French language.

"The above mentioned letter, dated September 21, "is" the paper says "apparently all that Count Esterhazy is able to submit in proof of admissions which are now everywhere in London accepted as facts."

Count Esterhazy made not the slightest attempt to deny the Observor's categorical statement as to Mrs. Beers, the enterprising editress of the Sunday Times and the actual directress of the Observor.

The Daily News observes editorially: "If the Observor's statements are untrue Count Esterhazy should immediately seek a remedy in the proper quarter and retire with a substantial addition to his fortune."

COLOMBIA RELENTS.

British Minister Represents Italian Interests.

Colon, Colombia, Sept. 25.—A special dispatch from Bogota says the Colombia government has reconsidered the decree recently issued severing diplomatic relations with Italy; and the British minister is now recognized as representing Italian interests in the absence of the Italian minister.

Permission, moreover, has been granted to consular officers of friendly nations to act in a similar manner throughout the republic.

Bryan at Washington.

Washington, Sept. 25.—Colonel W. J. Bryan, of the Third Nebraska, is still in Washington awaiting an answer from the war department regarding his request for the discharge of the sick men of his regiment. He will leave probably tomorrow for Jacksonville.

AGUINALDO'S GREAT TASK

Insurgent Leader Begins to Realize His Large Contract.

FILIPINOS UNREASONABLE

Many of the Natives Refuse to Pay Taxes to Support the Insurgent Army—Spanish Intriguers Are Actively at Work Endeavoring to Create Disturbance and Distrust. Aguinaldo Still Has Hope.

Manila, Sept. 25.—The Filipino congress is engaged in the consideration of the question of raising funds to defray the heavy expenses of the maintenance of the army, pending a decision by the Paris conference. Hitherto the army of the Filipinos had been chiefly supported by pubic subscription, but now the native government contemplates the imposition of various taxes. The inhabitants of the northern provinces, however, especially of Pampang and Ilocos, flatly refuse to pay land or poll taxes, because it was the popular impression that the revolutionists would abolish taxation entirely.

The natives of Pampang and Pangasinan, the two richest agricultural provinces of the island, and those of Ilocos and Zambales, who are the sturdiest mountaineers, distrust the Tagals and insist upon the establishment of an American protectorate.

Yesterday the assembly debated the question of a land tax. A majority of the members were opposed to the maintenance of a burden unequally distributed and unduly favoring the Tagals, and demanded that a statement of expenditures be submitted before the matter was decided. The statement was not forthcoming, and the question was shelved.

Aguinaldo realizes the difficulty of reconciling the conflicting interests, but hopes that the nations will allow the Filipinos a fair chance to show that they are capable of self-government.

INTRIGUERS AT WORK.

Aguinaldo desires the Associated Press to inform the world that "there is conclusive evidence that many Spaniards and priests are intriguing with a faction of the natives to foment disturbances so that Americans will believe the whole population to be irreconcilable."

He asserts that the intriguers pay money and provide uniforms to persons to impersonate rebel officers and enter the town, and accuses Eugene Blanco of being the chief paid agent of these intriguers.

In the course of an interview with the Associated Press correspondent, Aguinaldo said that the Filipino fleet comprises eight steamers which are now engaged in conveying troops for a grand campaign against the Spanish garrisons in the southern islands. These vessels are practically unarmed.

The Spanish gunboat El Cano, he says, recently entered Masbate and caught and sank the Filipino troopship Burisan, which was lying at anchor there.

He admitted the recent purchase of the steamer Abbey, formerly the Pasig, but denied that she had landed rifles and ammunition at Batangas though he admitted that she carried two Maxims and a ship load of stores.

The United States steamer Hugh McCulloch captured the Abbey sixty miles south of Manila. It is believed that the Abbey had landed 7,000 rifles.

MARIA TERESA FLOATS.

The Spanish War Ships Raised by the Air Bags.

Playa del Este, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Sept. 25.—The wrecking company engaged under Lieutenant Hobson in the work of saving the wrecked Spanish warships has succeeded in floating the cruiser Infanta Maria Teresa. The cruiser after being got afloat was taken in tow by the Potomac and convoyed by the cruiser Newark, the Scorpion and the Alvarado, proceeded for Guantanamo bay, where she arrived last night. The successful issue of the attempt to float her was greeted with the blowing of whistles, the firing of national salutes and by cheers, in which the Cubans joined, disturbing the noon siesta.

Off Siboney the barometer and the wind indicated the approach of a hurricane, and the towing power was increased.

The Newark, under Captain Goodrich, rendered valuable assistance in the work of saving the Maria Teresa. The cruiser is being put in condition for her trip north by the repair ship Vulcan.

SPANIARDS OBJECT.

They Will Not Live Under the American Flag.

Madrid, Sept. 25.—It is announced here that 13,000 Spaniards, residing in the island of Porto Rico, have refused to live in the island under the American flag and have demanded that they be returned to Spain at the expense of the government.

The question of the repatriation of the discontented Spaniards has been referred to the state council.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Sept. 25.—Forecast for Monday: For Eastern Pennsylvania, partly cloudy weather; light east to southeast winds. For Western Pennsylvania, partly cloudy weather; light variable winds.