

#### LETTER FROM THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

WRITTEN BY A FORMER SCRAN-TONIAN IN MANILA.

Sergeant Herbert's Impressions of the Filipinos and the Advantages of the Country-Prospects Good for Placer Mining on the Islands. Comparison of Uncle Sam's Warships with the Spanish Fleet. American Soldiers Handicapped Through Lack of Modern Guns.

Esdras Herbert, a sergeant in Company F, First Colorado infantry, United States volunteers, now stationed in the Philippine islands, writes interestingly c? the country and other matters connected with life in Manila, He was for merly a resident of North Scranton, and in a letter to his cousin in this city, speaks in part, as follows,

Mariguina road, Manila, P. I., May 23, 1899. "Dear Cousin: When the war with Spain was declared by the United States, I belonged to Company F. Second regiment, Celerado National Guard, and of course I wasn't going to back out of it, so I enlisted in the United States service for two years to fight Spain, but little did I think I would wind up fighting Filipinos. The regiment was lucky in having a pleasant trip throughout from Denver to Manila. In fact, the regiment is a lucky one. We are the healthlest volunteer regiment on the island and

have lost but very few men. "Just now we are guarding the wat-er supply of Manila. Our company is stationed about a mile above the pumping station on the Mariguina road, and six miles from Manila. We are camped on a ridge overlooking the beautiful valley of Mariguina. Just now everything is dull and monotonous. The Filipinos fire occasionally on our outpost, but they always get more than they send in return. They are whipped, and badly too at that. They haven't won a battle since this thing started on Feb. 4.

FILIPINOS DONE FOR.

"A Filipino can't show himself anywhere around where we are but what he gets fired upon. Our troops up north at San Fernando up to San Isidro have them done for, and it won't be many moons before they will he compelled to surrender. Their army on the south line is all knocked to pieces and are no more. The volunteers expect to be relieved at any time. The majority of them are home sick and want to get home as soon as posible. Some are going to stay here in the volunteer service. and try their fortune in the Philip-

There are eighteen in our company who are going to stay, and I am one of the number. There is about two hundred in the regiment who are going to stay. Of course, I intend to follow placer mining or washing gold. The prespects are very good for good placers and I am going to try my luck. I have two good prespects picked out. There isn't any danger of stranding here for the government offers us free transportation home, and rations, with two months' extra pay.

"If my propositions are failures all I have to do is to get my clothes together and take the first government transport home to the United States. When discharged I will have about \$200 in gold and free transportation home if I wish it. But gold mining is not the only thing to follow. There are other opportunities here and many of them. The chances are much better here if a man has a little money than in the United States.

#### VIRGIN TERRITORY

"Practically, the Philippines is virgin territory-a new country, and the opportunities are many to make The Spaniards are slow and the natives are worse, and between the two of them they have developed the country but very little. The royalties on mining were so high that it did not pay to mine, and anyhow, they did not encourage mining in this coun It is a vast, undeveloped country and there are many tribes that the Spaniard never did subdue, only holding a few cities on the coast.

Manila is fast becoming Americanized. Old Manila, or the old walled of Manila, is the most complete and best preserved in the world today, that is of mediaceval times. Dewey had a snap here when he whipped the Spanish fleet. I have examined all of the old fortifications and paid several visits to the sunken fleet. On all the forts I seen but a few modern guns, the rest were brass muzzle-loading

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"The fleet was no match for any of our second-class cruisers. They were easy to whip. I have been aboard the majority of Admiral Dewey's fleet and two of John Bull's squadron. They are great sights to see. \* \* The people of the United States are under the impression that we are fighting savages with bows and arrows. It is a mistake. We are fighting against modern Mauser rifles and we had to fight them with the old Springfield rifles, so we were the people who was

handicapped. "They could fight us at long range and we could not touch them. In the last few months many regular regican reach a little bit farther than the Mausers. Each company in every volunteer regiment here have been armed with twenty-five Krags. That is in the last six weeks,

#### NOT UNHEALTHY.

"I suppose you have heard that the dimate of the Philippines is unhealthy. Well, it is a mistake, I have been here nearly a year now and I have not been in the hospital once since I came here, or for that matter, since I have been in the rrmy. It is all in knowing how to take care of yourself. If you are careless, of course you will take sick in any country. It is a fine climate. We get all the tropical fruit we can eat. Man-goes, bananas, cherries, guavas and many fruits that I never heard of or seen before. They grow in an uncultivated state. "Esdras Herbert, Sergt, Co. F. First Colorado infantry,

U. S. V., Manila, P. L." Copies of "The American," dated Sunday, May 7, 1899, and "Freedom," special United States edition of May 1, 1399, were also received.

#### MT. GRETNA RIFLE RANGE.

It Is to Be Purchased by the State.

The Mt. Gretna rifle range, which for number of years has been the scene of the anual state rifle contests, is to be purchased for the state from Henry T. Kendall, of Reading, and the Pennsylvania company for insurance on lives and granting of annuities, assignees of Robert H. Coleman. Arrangements for the survey of the ange, which is one of the best in the country, were made yesterday, En-gineer Thomas R. Crowell, of Lebanon, seing employed.

Governor Stone today will head a party of state officials, including Lieuenant Governor Gobin and Adjutant General Stewart, who will visit the range on a trip of inspection with a view of purchasing it at an early date, in all probability before the next annual state contests. These contests will be held in September after two years, no contests being held last year on account of the absence of the guard

hree ranges, two for rifle and one for revolver practice. The rifle ranges are 00 and 500 yards and with the revolver ange are fitted out with Major Rich ardson's new state targets. Although elonging to the Coleman estate, it was aid out and equipped at the state's expense and its ownership by the state s considered necessary.

#### THAT BOND ORDINANCE.

Finance Committee of Councils Will Consider It Tonight.

finance committee of select council will meet tonight to consider the ordinance for the issue of \$30,000 of city bonds for the improving of

Some of the city fathers are in favor of using this \$30,000 for paying for the city's share of some of the sewers that are now under way. The sewers are being built and there is not a dollar to meet the amounts that have een assessed against the city.

The improvement of Nay Aug park s a work that appeals to every person, the objecting city fathers say, but this ought not to blind councils for making provisions for paying bills that have been contracted and thus keep the credit of the city unimpaired.

#### AVOCA.

The Women's Christian Temperance mion are requested to meet at the home of Mrs. Hattle Bell on Lincoln Hill, on Thursday afternoon, All members are requested to attend, Miss Florence Bruning, of Dunmore,

s the guest of Miss Edith Rolls. Dr. E. J. Dougher and brother Robert, left last week to spend a few months with friends in Marquette,

The marriage of Miss Sabina Gorlon, of Avoca, to Michael Judge, of Scranton, is announced to take place

Mrs. Powell, of Nanticoke, is the guest of her daughter, Mrs. James

Misses Kate Cummings and guest. Anna McLaughlin, of Corry, Pa.: Mary Kane and Sadie Hale left yesterday to spend a few weeks at Atlantic City. Misses Annie Dommermuth and fennie Bell, accompanied by Henry Kuschel and Stanley Owens, enjoyed

drive over the boulevard on Mon George Sampson, of Wilkes-Barre, has accepted a position as soliciting agent for the Argus.

Misses Kate Thornton and Mary Mack, of Scranton, are guests of the Misses Dougher, of the West Side. M. J. Dixon, F. S. Clark, A. J. Bar-rett, W. J. Sammon, E. F. Reilly, Thomas Sheehan, Frank Jennings, J. F. Mitchell, Theodore Hogan, J. F. McLaughlin, C. F. Hoban, W. B. Curran attended the Knights of Columbus meeting at Pitteton on Monday evening, where the first and second degrees of the order were exemplified. Mrs. Gillick received a telegram yesterday announcing the death of her son-in-law, George Andrews, of Al-lentown. She, with her daughters Laura and Kute, left to attend the fu-

Harry Webster, of South Main street, is seriously ill. Frank Clark, Attorney M. J. Dixos, and M. F. O'Brien were attending to

#### SOCIAL LIFE AT -LOVELY MONTROSE

FORMAL OPENING OF COUNTRY CLUB AND GOLF LINKS.

Location Is Delightful, Giving a Fine View of a Charming Landscape-Links Laid Out by John Brooks and Consist of a Six-Hole Course-Mrs. S. W. Stewart, President of Club-Judge and Mrs. D. W. Searle Gave a Progressive Euchre Party.

#### From a Staff Correspondent.

Montrose, Aug. 1.-The beautiful vilage on the hills, which is unusually gay in a social way at this time, has been the scene of a society event of unsual interest today on the occasion of the formal opening of the golf links of the Lakeside Country club.

The modest cottage situated upon a hillside overlooking Jones lake, a beautiful sheet of water from which the supply for the village of Montrose is ments have arrived so that brings obtained, has, through the efforts of plenty of Krag-Jorgensen rifles, which transformed into an ideal club house of the rustic class, replete with broad porches that reach under the inviting shade of the branches of a giant hemlock that stands near the house; quaint decorations, and comfortable chairs, and, in fact, all of the accessorles that are necessary for the enjoyment of the member or guest.

The golk links contain six holes and were arranged by Mr. John Brooks, of the Scranton Country club, and are scattered over a broad meadow which is dotted here and there with spreading apple trees, at present bending under the weight of ripening fruit. Situated near the club house is also a fine tennis court, which will be completed in a few days, and near this a fountain drawn from a pure mountain spring will soon be among the attrac-

#### CHARMING SCENE.

The scene that greets the eyes from the porches of the club house is charming beyond description. Nestling like a mirror among the hills the beautiful lake reflects the fringe of emerald green foliage along its banks and the patches of woodland and yelow grain that form the background sloping to blue skies beyond. The merry chatter of the players who are following the little white balls over the broad field; the hum of the locust and the occasional twitter of robin red breast are the only sounds that reach the ear in this most entrancing of nature's beauty spots on a peaceful midsummer day.

In response to the general invitation a large number of Montrose society people in addition to the regular members assembled at the club house and passed the afternoon and evening in contemplation of the beauties of suroundings; the skill of the players, and in tripping the merry dance.

Prominent among the entertainers

was the president of the club, Mrs. S. W. Stewart, formerly of Clarksville, Tennessee, and Mr. Charles R. Sayre, who has been largely instrumental in organizing the club. . Mrs. Stewart was assisted in serving refreshments by Misses Throop, Sayre, Edgar and Mulford.

The membership roll, which includes the volunteer service. many visiting Philadelphians, Wash-The Mt. Gretna range consists of ingtonians and New Yorkers, as well as prominent society people of Montrose and vicinity, is as follows:

LIST OF MEMBERS. Charles H. Ainey, J. H. Amsbry, Mrs. , H. Amsbry, Miss Helen Amsbry, W. . Baker, Harry W. Beach, James R. Beardsley, Miss H. D. Biddle, Miss M. D. Biddle, George C. Burns, A. L. Butler, Miss Lillian Chamberlain, Miss Nellie T. Conklin, Mrs. William S. Edgar, M. LaG. Griffis, George M. Henderson, S. J. Jenckes, D. R. Lathrop, Miss Emily Linderman, Miss Katharine Linderman, Miss Elizabeth D. Lusk, Franklin Lusk, W. S. Maxey, Mrs. Irene R. McCollum, Searle McCollum, Miss A. B. McIntosh, H. Willett Munger, John H. Munger, Selden Munger, Miss Elizabeth Post, Charles R. Sayre, Mr. Daniel Sayre, Mrs. Daniel Sayre, Miss Mary E. Sayre, Barry Scarle, Miss Barry Searle, George Carlton Shafer,

#### "He is Wise Who Talks But Little."

Miss Katharine B. Shafer, Charles F.

This is only a half truth. If wise men had held their tongues, we should know nothing about the circulation of the blood. If it were not for this advertisement you might never know that Hood's Sarsaparilla is the greatest medicine in the world to purify and enrich your blood, create an appetite, give you strength and steady nerves.

Impure Blood-"My complexion was bad. Hood's Sarsaparilla did much good by purifying my blood. My skin is now clear." Annie D. McCoy, Watsontown, Pa.

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for shoe stock. Look at the big cut in prices.

Shaw, Mrs. Bryce Stewart, Norman Titsworth, Miss Frances E. Throop, Miss Katharine Throop, E. H. True, Edgar A. Turell, E. Warner, William H. Warner, George H. Watrous, Stan-

ley Willett, J. H. Williams.
Judge and Mrs. D. W. Searle gave a progressive euchre party last evening at their handsome resi-dence on Maple street, which was attended by about fifty guests and was an enjoyable affair. Delicious refreshments were served. The prizes were won by Mrs. Searle McCollum, of Montrose; Mrs. F. R. Warner, of Chicago; Mrs. E. T. Sweet, of Scranton, and Mrs. D. D. Searle, of New York, and Mr. Will S. Mulford, of Montrose. Mrs. H. W. Beach gave a garder party this afternoon from 4 to 8 o'clock in honor of her guests, Misses Ayers and Losch, of Wilkes-Barre. A large number of guests were present and passed the afternoon pleasantly on the eautiful lawn about the Beach residence on Lake avenue. E. T. S.

#### RICE THE IMPERSONATOR.

He Is a Member of the William H. West Company.

Prominent in William H. West's Big Minstrel Jubilee, which will appear at the Lyceum on Friday, Aug. 4, is William Henry Rice, the distinguished burlesque commedienne. is safe to say that in the impersonation of burlesque female characters, Mr. Rice has no equal on the American stage. Mr. Rice has a rich soprano voice of rare quality and were it not for the fact that the programme furnishes knowledge of his identity it would be difficult to believe that he i

not a female singer. But it is not only by his voice Mr. Rice mystifies his audiences, but also in his grace of manner and the remarkable character of his make up. His dresses are of the richest fabrica and always of the most fashionable style and cut and will compare more than favorably with the most claborate gowns worn by the leading women in the best New York Stock company, or by the foremost female stars.

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At 19c==Of Sheer Lawn, Satin striped border, embroidery and lace trimmed, plain hemmed, extra large and other fancy effects. Value 25c to 35c.

At 33c==Of Fine Lawn, with deep hem and row of insertion, in various styles.

At 4.5c==Of Sheer Lawn, deep hem, pointed bib front, straps over shoulder, plain and finished with embroidery, short and long fancy aprons. Value 60

At 75c==Very Fine Maid's Aprons, deep hem, with rows of insertion and straps over shoulders, embroidery trimmed. Over 200 styles of fine short and long aprons in many designs of lace and embroidery work.

At \$1.00==Over a hundred styles made from the finest lawn and trimmed in an exquisite manner with beautiful embroideries.

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