

The whole Philippine question is now in American hands, and this is the best assurance that it will be properly disposed of.

Elsewhere on this page will be found a brief summary of the President's message submitted to the Congress on Monday.

The anti-expansionist gets into trouble the moment he undertakes to exactly define his plan of action in regard to the Philippines.

The year 1898 will be one full of new problems to the American people, but they have settled many heretofore promptly, safely and properly.

"Admit the heart and our wife," is a formula of Artemus Ward that may be of some service to the next Congress in dealing with the Utah delegation.

On November 31 William M. Graham declined to Congress for the full term to succeed Col. W. A. Stone. Tuesday last week he was elected to fill Governor-elect Stone's unexpired term.

The Brooklyn Eagle, a Democratic paper, says "The war was an inevitable result. It was a necessity. Its consequences have become a necessity. Expansion is therefore to be accepted not only as destiny, but as a plain obligation."

Senator Harris, of Kansas attributes the defeat of the Populist party in that State to good crops, good prices, good times, and a good National Administration. A party that depends for perpetuity upon the reverse of these conditions is certainly not entitled to come to life very often.

There are now in Washington the Canadian Commission, the Industrial Commission and the Cuban Commission. The War Investigation Commission, when last heard from, was snowed in Boston. The Government has evidently gone into the commission business very extensively these days.

It is said that Representative Ward R. Bliss, of Delaware, has been agreed upon for Speaker of the next House. This may be only one of the floating rumors, but if Mr. Bliss is selected as Speaker, the House will have a fair-minded presiding officer, and one who is noted for his knowledge of parliamentary law.

EX-GRACIA Lilliburnal wants six millions for her Hawaiian property, and Aginaldo has demanded over a million for the imprisoned Philippine monks. It seems to be the general impression that the United States is unwilling to pay, from a million up, and that it is just as well to come early to avoid the rash.

MEMBERS to the indictments against Senator Quay and others, charging them with conspiracy to use State funds for speculative purposes, were entered and argued by defendants' counsel early last week. Thursday Judge Finley, in a decision, overruled the indictments, and set next Monday for proceeding with the trial.

The short session of the Fifty-fifth Congress, which expires by limitation on the fourth of March, met at noon Monday, and after listening to the reading of the President's message adjourned. It is not probable that any important legislation other than the passage of the necessary appropriation bill and a bill to increase the standing army will be attempted at this session. It is possible that an extra session may be called shortly after the close of this one to treat the grave questions arising out of the late war with Spain.

The seriousness of the Spanish-American crisis will be rejected by the Senate will "grow smaller by degrees a beautiful leaf" when the treaty gets before the Senate. Mr. Carnegie and the other great constitutional authorities who are attacking the President and the peace commissioners for accepting the Philippines will be silenced by the popular command which will give the Senate from all parts of the country to ratify the treaty promptly. The President reflected the sentiment of the majority of the people when he formulated, through the American peace commissioners, the country's demand for the possession of the Philippines. The Senate has occasionally defied public sentiment. It did this several times in its votes in favor of silver. The Senate has never yet rejected a peace treaty, however, and will not reject this one.

The Mozambique of this State went to a great deal of pains and did some tall ying during the last campaign which ended so disastrously for them, to show that Democratic Candidate for Governor James Guffey, of Pittsburgh, to further the interests of Senator Quay, and now these same Mozambique newspapers are in spasms of delight over a story to the effect that Colonel Guffey is in favor of Democrats and kicker Republicans favor of the Legislature to elect a Speaker who will do all in his power to ruin Quay, says the Harrisburg Telegraph. It is safe to say that Colonel Guffey is not working to that end, and if he were it would make very little difference, as the regular Republicans in the Legislature and regular Democrats will be elected to preside over both branches. Mark that. Foston is played out.

The only political Colonel who has returned to his regiment. Bryan has left Nebraska and has gone to Savannah, and now the work of garrisoning Cuba and of settling up the whole Cuban question can be prosecuted effectively. The Colonel is not quite so exuberant as he was when he arrived at home, just before the election, but he knows more. His State has broken away from him in the Legislature, and would have gone from him on the State ticket if the Republicans had taken intelligent advantage of their opportunities. The whole political situation has changed disastrously for him in the past weeks.

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To the Senate and House of Representatives: Notwithstanding the added burdens rendered necessary by the war our people rejoice in a very satisfactory and, as they are increasing day by day, evidenced by the largest volume of business ever recorded. Manufacture has been productive, agricultural pursuits have yielded abundant returns, labor in all fields of industry is better rewarded, revenue legislation passed by the present Congress has increased the treasury's receipts to the amount estimated by its authors; the finances of the government have been successfully administered and its credit advanced to the first rank; the world's highest standard. Military service under a common flag and for a righteous cause has strengthened the national spirit and served to cement more closely than ever the fraternal bonds between every section of the country. A review of the relations of the United States to other powers, always appropriate in this year of primary importance in the annals of the United States, and involving far-reaching consequences which will require the earnest attention of the Congress.

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