

A BUNDLE OF RAGS IN THE COFFIN.

An Alleged Insurance Swindle Unearthed in Missouri.

Three men have been arrested. The sudden appearance of Thomas Reid, his insurance, followed by his mysterious illness and alleged death in the woods—the smallpox scare used to keep away the Curios.

Portageville, Mo. (Special)—Following a dramatic scene in the village graveyard here, where a dozen men gathered at midnight and dug up a coffin found to contain only some old rags, three prominent residents of this place have been arrested, charged with attempting to perpetrate an insurance fraud.

The accused men are A. T. Smock, a druggist; Dr. Harry H. O'Kelley and John Adams. They had taken a lively interest in Thomas Reid, a stranger who came to this hamlet a few months ago, and soon joined the Modern Woodmen of America, a beneficiary order. Reid presently took out a policy for \$500 in the order, naming a cousin, Francis Marion Reed, as beneficiary. He disappeared in a few weeks and his alleged death was announced by Adams soon afterward.

Murray Phillips, Jr., prosecuting attorney of New Madrid county, makes his principal charge against Smock and O'Kelley, and holds Adams for complicity. A further charge against Adams has just been made, it being alleged that last week he fired two shots into the homes of George McFadden and David Fischer, two farmers living near the graveyard.

Little else has been talked about here than the sudden appearance of Reid in his election to the Modern Woodmen, the issuance of the largest policy the order grants to any member, his subsequent disappearance, and reports that he was seriously ill with pneumonia at a hunters' camp nearby.

Adams announced on April 3 that Reid was dead. Smock bought a coffin, which was charged to the Woodmen, and several members of the order then suggested that they attend the funeral as a mark of respect for the new member who had been taken from them so suddenly.

The strange facts surrounding Reid's insurance and the burial late at night led several men living near the graveyard to make an investigation. McFadden, convinced that the affair was no ordinary one, led a little band of farmers to the graveyard at midnight on Monday. Some began to frown on the undertaking, but McFadden was not discouraged. Taking a shovel he began to throw back the earth over the grave.

A PHYSICIAN'S BIG BILL.

He Calls It the Utterance of a Man Who Has Yielded to Force.

Pittsburg (Special)—The Dispatch says the estate of the late Senator Christopher L. Magee has received a bill from Dr. Walter Browning, of Philadelphia, for \$19,000 for professional services during the illness of Senator Magee. Dr. Browning was in attendance on Senator Magee for 21 months previous to his death, and accompanied him to several places for the recovery of his health. The fee is believed to be one of the largest of its kind ever charged in Pennsylvania or the United States, and has produced widespread comment in professional circles. The bill is understood to be itemized, covers 21 months' treatment, and is charged at the rate of \$80 per month. One charge is \$17,000 for last summer's treatment at Atlantic City and another \$12,000 for accompanying the deceased to Hot Springs, Va.

FAITH CURISTS BARRED.

An Atlanta Court Refuses to Allow Them to Practice There.

Atlanta, Ga. (Special)—Judge Lumpkin of the Superior court, denied the application for a charter for the Atlanta Institute of Christian Science, the effect of his decision being that Christian Scientists cannot practice their treatment of diseases in the State of Georgia without having regularly graduated in medicine or surgery. The decision was before the Medical Examining Board, the same as other physicians.

Killed His Wife and Himself.

Chicago (Special)—J. J. Gillen, an attorney, 25 years old, killed his wife and then fatally shot himself in a hall way at 177 East Lake street. The couple were married only a few months, and soon separated. Shortly after Mrs. Gillen left her husband the latter accused his wife's relatives of dragging her and keeping her as a prisoner. Gillen was arrested for threatening to kill Mrs. Gillen. She was the daughter of Cornelius McGuire, a wealthy manufacturer of this city.

Serious Railroad Wreck.

Philadelphia, Pa. (Special)—A fatal head-on collision occurred on the Plymouth branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad at Tyrol Station, near Conshohocken. John Fallows, engineer of a westbound passenger train, which ran into an eastbound freight train, was instantly killed, and his fireman, Grant Eiale, was seriously injured. The locomotives of both trains were wrecked and many of the cars were damaged. Several passengers were shaken up and bruised, but none was seriously injured.

Captain Ripley Innocent.

Frankfort, Ky. (Special)—The jury in the case of Capt. Garnett D. Ripley, who was charged with being implicated in the conspiracy against Goebel, has returned a verdict of not guilty. Captain Ripley was said to have commanded a company of the militia that was in Frankfort on the day that Goebel was shot. The jury was out but a short time.

Col. A. H. Belo Dead.

Adelphi, N. C. (Special)—Col. A. H. Belo, of the first Texas Cavalry, died here after a three months illness.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS.

Domestic.

Two decisions made by the Circuit Court in New York upon the tariff law will add \$800,000 annually to the customs receipts of the government.

Longshoremen's Unions Nos. 71 and 108, of Newport News, Va., received notice that their strike had been sanctioned by headquarters.

Capt. R. S. Parks was nominated at Luray, Va., to represent Page and Rappahannock counties in the Constitutional Convention.

Four graduates of Union Seminary were denied admission to the ministry because their views were held to be unorthodox.

Negotiations are in progress for a combine of makers of steam engines and for manufacturers of mining machinery.

W. S. Yeatman, a disbarred clerk in the Treasury Department, died suddenly at a hotel in York, Pa.

The Reynolds band of feudists, entrenched at Boone's Fork, Ky., was finally induced to surrender.

The chair factory of James O. Clone, at Madison Court House, Va., was destroyed by fire.

Ex-Gov. Charles C. Stockley, of Delaware, died at his home in Georgetown.

Lizzie Dodson, the woman burglar, who escaped from the Virginia Penitentiary, was recaptured in Fairfax county after a fight with Deputy Constable Pierson.

Dan Murphy, the Richmond (Va.) newsboy who had been missing for some time, was found dying from wounds by the Tredegar Works.

Rev. Wayland F. Dunaway was elected to represent Lancaster and Richmond counties in the Virginia Constitutional Convention.

The hamlet of Biscayne, Fla., was struck by a tornado. John Peters was fatally injured and William Cook seriously hurt.

The strike of the steelworkers at McKeesport was ended by an amicable agreement, which declared that there had been no misunderstandings and mistakes on both sides.

Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese Minister, spoke on America's cotton trade with China at a dinner given by the Southern Manufacturers' Club at Charlotte, N. C.

Postoffice Inspector Bulla and United States Marshal Bendit arrested in Rocky Mount, N. C., Charles Alexander, a member of Frisco Stern's gang.

Two locomotives were struck by a huge snowslide near Boulder, Col., and buried under a mountain in a chasm. Four men were killed.

In a head-on collision on the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad, in the Cleveland yards, one man was killed and a number injured.

John Gombosi was killed in Trenton, N. J., by Detective John J. Clancy, who was trying to arrest him for burglary.

Labor leaders in Virginia have started a campaign to secure the adoption of a ten-hour bill by the next Legislature.

D. Charles W. Hurley, freight agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Alexandria, Va., has disappeared.

Clifford C. Deen, a brakeman, fell from his train at Long Run, W. Va., and sustained fatal injuries.

Dr. Charles W. Dana was burned to death while trying to save his horse from a burning stable.

Gen. Andrew M. Anderson, commander of the Soldiers' Home at Sandusky, Ohio, dropped dead.

Storms did considerable damage in Tennessee, Alabama and Louisiana.

Bishop John J. Keane was invested with the pallium at Dubuque, Iowa. Cardinal Gibbons conferred the pallium. Archbishop Ireland made the principal address.

Over a hundred employees of the Onondaga Pottery, in Syracuse, N. Y., went on a strike in sympathy with the mill strikers.

Minister Loomis arrived at New York from Venezuela. He denies that he is a resident of that country.

Fifty-one Indians and negroes received diplomas and certificates at the Hampton Normal School.

Alexander Agassiz was elected president of the National Academy of Sciences.

Mrs. Anna Sheldon Andrews died at Statersville, N. C., aged 100 years.

Code Denny, a B. & O. brakeman, was killed at Lima, W. Va.

Ex-Congressman Melvin R. Baldwin killed himself at Seattle.

BIG RAIN AND SNOW STORM CAUSES WIDESPREAD RUIN.

It Sweeps From Cleveland, O., on the North to Atlanta, Ga., on the South—The Heaviest Damage Done in Western Pennsylvania.

Eastern Ohio and West Virginia.

Pittsburg, Pa. (Special)—Pittsburg and Allegheny are slowly emerging from the flood. At 8 p. m. the rivers were receding nearly a foot an hour. The highest point reached at Davis Island dam was 25.8 feet at 3 a. m., which means 28 feet at the junction of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers. The water remained stationary until about 3 p. m., when it began to fall.

Conservative estimates of the total loss in this district is between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000.

Fifty thousand workers are suffering from enforced idleness.

While there have been greater floods at this point, there was never one that caused so much financial loss and discomfort. This was due to the denser population caused by the recent rapid growth of the two cities, and to the fact that all the manufacturing plants on the river banks were in active operation, most of them working night and day, until the rising water put out the fires and drove the workers to higher ground.

The damage to the furniture and buildings in Allegheny is estimated at about \$100,000. It will take two months of hot summer weather to thoroughly dry out these houses. In Pittsburg the loss to residences, stores and goods and the cost of cleaning up will amount to about \$250,000.

At Carnegie borough, six miles from Pittsburg, the loss is estimated at \$400,000, of which the Columbia Bridge Works lose \$50,000. The other losses range from \$75 to \$600. The Westinghouse Electric Company had two carloads of finished material for Toronto, Canada, on the tracks near Turtle Creek. They were caught in the flood, and water got into the cars. The loss may reach \$80,000.

Trains Stalled in Snowdrift.

Eric, Pa. (Special)—The snowstorm of Friday night and Saturday and the sleetstorm of Saturday was the worst known here in 60 years, and surpassed the famous blizzard of March, 1888. There is 12 inches of snow on the level, and during Saturday nearly every trolley line in the city was knocked out. Sunday traffic was resumed irregularly. Wires were down and crossed and telephone companies blocked. Saturday night there were two fires from crossed telephone wires carrying heavy currents.

AGED HUSBAND A MURDERER.

Holds His Wife and Fires Four Bullets into Her Body.

Jackson, Mich. (Special)—David H. Creech, a capitalist, aged 70 years, and for 50 years a resident of this city, shot his wife on the street, firing four bullets into her head, neck and mouth while he held her fast with his left arm about the waist.

Mrs. Creech was 40 years of age and was married to Creech 12 years ago. Previously she had been his housekeeper.

Three years ago Mrs. Creech began divorce proceedings, and after several little attempts to live with her husband she was granted a divorce. Tuesday the Supreme Court affirmed the divorce, and the shooting was the result.

Mr. Creech was arrested, and a second loaded revolver was found on his person. He said he intended to kill himself.

SHORTAGE OF \$81,000.

First National Bank of Vancouver, Wash., Closed by Comptroller.

Washington (Special)—The doors of the First National Bank, Vancouver, Wash., were closed Saturday under instructions from the comptroller of the currency upon recommendation of National Bank Examiner J. W. Maxwell and a report from Mr. J. W. Maxwell on the course of his examination of the bank. He had discovered a shortage of about \$81,000. Examiner Maxwell has been placed in charge as temporary receiver.

The following is a statement of the condition of the bank as shown by its last sworn report to the comptroller of the currency, under date of February 5, 1901: Capital stock, \$50,000; surplus and undivided profits, \$9,274; circulation, \$12,500; deposits, \$230,373; total liabilities, \$303,348; total resources, \$303,348.

Against Compulsory Education.

Jefferson City, Mo. (Special)—Governor Dockery vetoed the compulsory education bill, entitled "An Act to enforce the constitutional right of every child in the State to an education; to provide for truant or parental schools and attendance officers in cities of 10,000 population or more, and to prohibit the employment of children during school hours." Governor Dockery declared that the act interfered with the personal rights of parents and savored

Another Bullion Theft.

Newark (Special)—It has been discovered that forty bars of silver bullion, valued at \$100,000, have been stolen from the Lide, now lying at Balboa Dock. No clue to the thieves has been obtained. The police believe the bars were stolen by river thieves, who operated from a boat and secured the bars while the watchman on the dock was engaged.

Oil Craze Causes a Rush.

New Orleans (Special)—The Louisiana State Land Office has disposed of all the swamp overflow and sea marsh lands in the parishes of Calcasieu, Iberville, Iberia and Vermillion in the last few days. Since the oil boom the Land Office has disposed of 7000 acres of lands in Calcasieu and Vernon, 74,500 acres of sea marsh in Iberia and 53,000 acres in Vermillion. This is the heaviest sales of marsh and overflow lands in the history of Louisiana. The sales are attributed to the oil craze.

Convict Saved From Flames.

Haverhill, Mass. (Special)—Twenty-two Sisters of Charity, under the direction of Sister Mary De Chastel, saved St. James Convent from destruction by flames. In some way the parochial school next to the convent caught fire. The flames spread toward the convent. The Sisters stationed themselves at windows facing the blaze, and armed with buckets of water, watched for flying sparks. Several times the convent caught fire, but the black-robed fire-fighters prevented a spread of the flames. The school was destroyed.

Three Persons Burned.

Seneca Falls, N. Y. (Special)—An old house, the property of Cornelius Holland, supposed to be empty, was discovered in flames. The house was destroyed. In the ruins were found the charred bodies of Patrick Harmon, Alonzo Sanders and Charles Mink. The ruins are being searched for other bodies.

Carnegie Company Now in Trust.

Pittsburg (Special)—A meeting of the directors of the Carnegie Company was held here for the purpose of formally transferring the great Pittsburg company over to the United States Steel Corporation.

into the buildings. Reports from outside the city—west, east and south—show snow three feet deep and great damage to fruit trees from the wet snow.

Firing at River Steamer.

Wheeling, W. Va. (Special)—At 9 p. m. the river is 41 feet 4 inches. This stage shuts Wheeling entirely out of outside communication by rail, and only the big Cincinnati liners are able to run now, and irate residents along the river banks are firing ferociously at the boats because the swell from them is washing the foundations away from their houses. A Wheeling Island man fired at the packet Keystone State and a passing towboat, but without effect. In Wheeling, Bellairs, Bridgeport, Benwood and Martins Ferry about five hundred houses have been entered by water, most of the families moving to upper floors.

Nearly every manufacturing establishment in the Wheeling district is shut down. At Martins Ferry the water destroyed 500,000 bricks at the Belmont Brick Company, entailing a loss of \$20,000 to \$30,000. There are smaller losses at other plants, aggregating probably \$40,000. Taking the loss of business, railroad landslides and industrial losses, the aggregate cost of the flood in this district is at least \$1,000,000, probably more.

Ice-Crusted Trains.

New York (Special)—Owing to the heavy storm raging in the West all traffic east of Cleveland has been delayed from 2 to 7 hours. The Grand Central Depot presented a strange appearance as the belated Western trains lumbered in several hours late at that during the steps encrusted with snow and ice. Friends of the long-overdue passengers hung around the depot all day, and rushed to meet the weary passengers every time a train came in.

Dam Bursts in Massachusetts.

Chester, Mass. (Special)—The Flood Hollow Dam, in Middlesex county, gave way, letting loose the water in the big reservoir, which rushed with terrific force into the west branch of the Westfield River, sweeping everything before it, and submerging the greater part of this town. No lives were lost, but great damage has been done, the extent of which it is impossible now to estimate.

Wind's Terrific Force.

Chicago (Special)—A high wind, which reached Chicago Saturday, loosened a huge iron water tank from its fastenings on the roof of the Galbraith Building, Madison and Franklin streets, causing it to crash through six floors to the ground, injuring five persons and resulting in a damage to the building estimated at \$50,000.

MANY FILIPINOS BURIED ALIVE.

Manila (By Cable)—The trial of the members of the Mando-Ducat secret society, who are charged with burying alive Filipinos who were opposed to the insurrection, and the trial of insurgent agents has elicited the fact that in one locality all the local officers, the parish priest and the president were the chief offenders.

A reign of terror was secretly inaugurated, and persons refusing to contribute to the insurgent cause were buried alive by the direction of the president.

All the details of the conspiracy have been unearthed, many treaties have been made, there is abundant evidence and it is probable that all the ring-leaders will be hanged.

Yellow Jack at Port Royal.

Consul Watts, at Kingston, Jamaica, reports the appearance of several cases of yellow fever at Port Royal. The white troops stationed there have been ordered to the hills.

Capital News in General.

The President appointed Thomas M. Anderson to be chief justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and Ashley M. Gould to be United States attorney for the District of Columbia.

Solicitor General Richards filed in the United States Supreme Court a reply to the petition filed by Captain Carter's committee in the District of Columbia. The commission of the Marine Hospital Service reported that they were convinced that there were cases of the bubonic plague among the Chinese in San Francisco.

Joseph G. Taylor, secretary of the Standard Rope and Twine Company, testified before the Industrial Commission that not a single manufacturer of rope or twine has made money during the past 12 months.

Henry White, secretary of the United States Embassy at London, was introduced to President McKinley by Secretary Hay.

The Navy Department was advised by Commander Charles O. Allibone, commander of the gunboat Wilmington, at Cavite.

Reports to the Marine Hospital service show a steady increase in the ravages of the plague throughout the world.

Gen. John C. Gilmore, colonel in the Adjutant-General's Department, was required on account of age.

Chief Justice Bingham, of the District of Columbia Supreme Court, ordered that John H. Walter, Aaron Bradshaw and Greenville Shaw, of Washington, be delivered to the Maryland authorities on a requisition from the Governor of Maryland. The men are charged with "statutory burning" of a dwelling in Montgomery county.

The salaries of the clerks in the post-office in all the large cities and towns in the country have been ordered to be increased, owing to the growth of business. Postmaster Warfield, at Baltimore, has been authorized to appoint six more clerks on July 1, and six more on October 1.

Ambassador Cambon has purchased a house on East Spring street, where he will erect an embassy. Plans have been arranged to be presented to Congress for an extension of the Capitol.

Our New Possessions.

Aguineldo has been removed from the Malacanang Palace in Manila to a private residence, and the guard over him has been modified.

Ex-Senator Towne says Aguineldo's illumination is clearly the utterance of a man who has been insane.

The insurgent prisoners at Olongapo will be returned to Manila. Many prisoners are released daily in exchange for guns surrendered.

General Trias, who surrendered on March 15 at San Francisco de Malabon, is accomplishing much in securing the surrender of outstanding insurgents.

Lucian, in Samar; Alvarez, in Batangas, and Minio, in Abra province, are still heading bands large enough to be troublesome, but it is almost certain that these three leaders will surrender within a month.

The transport Garonne arrived at San Francisco from Manila via Nagasaki and Honolulu. On board are 1000 men of the Twenty-sixth Volunteer Infantry. Most of the men are from New York and Massachusetts.

Rustan, Fabella, Cosmo, Ortonex and Webb, who are implicated with Garman in trading operations with the insurgents of Laguna, were released on \$1000 bail.

Aguineldo composed his address without assistance. The original draft was in Tagalog. It was afterward translated into Spanish.

Judge Taft says that Monsignor Chapelle told him that the friars would not return to the Philippine provinces, and that only a sufficient number of them would remain in Manila to act as instructors in the schools.

LIVE NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Pensioners—Postmasters.

The following pensions were granted: Maryland—Increase—Saml. Spriggs, Odenton, Md. Original widow—Mary E. Stottlemeyer, Hancock, Md. Mexican war—Ellen Garrett, Baltimore, Md. Virginia—Increase—Henry Ford, Stevens City, Md. War with Spain, original—Thomas J. Jordan, Norfolk, Md. War with Spain—Susan E. Hardwick, mother, Blackburg, Md.

West Virginia—Additional—Joseph Gardner, Raven Rock, Md. Renewal—William J. Shreve, Bowman, Md. Increase—James E. Huntington, Md. Postmasters appointed: Maryland—John Anderson, vice W. C. Henderson, resigned, Appleton, Cecil county; W. W. Reynolds, vice Dixon Connelly, Jr., resigned, Manor, Baltimore county.

Virginia—J. D. Rorden, vice W. C. Bowman, resigned, Toms Brooks, Shenandoah county.

Has Completed His Work.

Mr. John A. Kasson has severed his official connection with the State Department, and is returning to the beginning of McKinley's administration, engaged as special plenipotentiary to conduct the negotiations which resulted in the drafting of a number of reciprocity treaties and arrangements under the terms of the Dingley Act. Although the highly trained expert force may be of service at short notice whenever the Secretary of State decides to resume reciprocity negotiations.

Exchange of Crop Reports.

The Department of Agriculture has under way negotiations for an exchange of crop reports with European and other grain raising countries. The arrangement with Hungary has already been completed, and the first bulletin respecting crop conditions in that country will be issued May 1. The reports are to be issued monthly, and as soon as received in this country will be given to the public. The proposed system will give official government reports, and it is expected to have a steady effect on the market and to be of great value in deciding upon the planting and marketing of the crops. The grains to be covered by the reports are wheat, corn, oats, barley and rye.

Nearly 1,000,000 Pensioners.

Commissioner Evans is authority for the statement that there are more pensioners on the roll to-day than ever before. They number 995,000, an excess of about 1500 over the next previous highest number.

Divorces Are Now Invalid.

Supreme Court Decision as to Dakota Cases Causes Much Anxiety.

Fargo, S. D. (Special)—As a result of the U. S. Supreme Court decision declaring invalid divorces granted in this State in which residence was not bona fide, there came a flood of telegrams from those likely to be affected. It is believed that the Board of Trade is rushing home immediately after the decrees were granted, less than 10 per cent. of the divorces allowed during the recent divorce period would be found valid if contested.

But of those secured a large percentage were agreed to where appearance was made by both parties. Comparatively few had bitter contests, and only in those cases the question of residence was raised. Many of the latter class, however, included distinguished Easterners and foreigners. A majority of these have remained, and the decision of the court not only affects their present status, but the legitimacy of many children born subsequently; to second marriage. This makes the court's finding far-reaching and creates great anxiety.

UNITED STATES NOW PROSPEROUS.

Exports Reach a Total Unheard in Nation's History.

Washington (Special)—The fiscal year 1901 seems likely to exceed any preceding year in its record of exports from the United States.

The March import and export figures, as completed by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics, show a total exportation from this country in the nine months ended March, 1901, of \$1,140,170,728, or \$86,540,032 in excess of last year, which held the highest record in the history of our export trade.

The figures for the corresponding months of last year and for beyond the figures of any preceding year.

KILLED A CHIEF OF POLICE.

Frank Major Pays Penalty of Crime in Meadville, Pa.

Meadville, Pa. (Special)—Frank Major was hanged at 2:00 in the afternoon. Major's crime was the murder of Chief of Police Daniel McGrath, of Titusville, Pa., on November 11, 1899. He was a member of a gang that blew open the safe and robbed the Titusville Railroad ticket office and later went to a house on East Spring street, where they intimidated and robbed the inmates. They were tracked to this place by Chief McGrath and Policeman Sheehy. The gang opened fire at once and Sheehy fell dangerously wounded. McGrath was killed with the man at the door, and after he had received his own death wound shot and killed one of the burglars.

Commission Coming.

Havana (Special)—The commission appointed by the Cuban Constitutional Convention to go to Washington and before President McKinley, to discuss the future relations between Cuba and the United States will leave here Saturday. General Wood will present the commission to the President. He will leave here Friday and go to Washington by way of Tampa, Fla. The Cuban commission consists of Senors Diego, Tamayo, Capote, Berriel, Portuondo and Llorente.

Jealousy Causes a Double Tragedy.

Milton Cal. (Special)—John H. Gorham, foreman of a copper mine, shot and instantly killed George B. McCarthy, a prominent young man of Copperopolis, and then blew himself to pieces with giant powder. Jealousy is supposed to have been the cause.

Killed by Wood Alcohol.

Corry, Pa. (Special)—Five young lads, ranging in age from 8 to 12 years, were found a bottle of crude wood alcohol in the woods near Sheffield, and drank freely of it. One of them, Sworak, is dead, and the others are not expected to live.

LET THE WAR CEASE, SO SAYS AGUINALDO.

There Has Been Enough Blood, Enough Tears and Desolation.

BELIEVES HE IS SERVING COUNTRY.

Aguineldo Urges Those Still in Arms to Respect the Wishes of the Majority of Their Countrymen "Who Have Already United Around the Glorious Sovereign Banner of the United States."

Manila (By Cable)—The following is Aguineldo's address to the Filipino people, just made public:

"I believe I am not in error in presuming the unhappy fate to which my adverse fortune has led me is not a surprise to those who have been familiar with the progress of the war. The lessons taught with a full meaning, and which have recently come to my knowledge, suggest with irresistible force that a complete termination of hostilities and lasting peace are not only desirable, but highly essential to the welfare of the Philippine Islands.

"The Filipinos have never been dismayed in following the path pointed out by their fortitude and courage. The time has come, however, in which they find their course along this path to be impeded by an irresistible force, which, while it restrains them, yet enlightens their minds and opens to them another course, presenting them the cause of peace.

"This cause has been joyfully embraced by the majority of my fellow countrymen, who have already united around the glorious sovereign banner of the United States. In this banner they repose their trust, and believe that under its protection the Filipino people will attain all those promised liberties which they are beginning to enjoy. The country has declared unmistakably in favor of peace. So be it. There has been enough blood, enough tears and enough desolation. This wish cannot be ignored by the men left in arms if they are animated by a desire to serve our noble people, which has thus clearly manifested its will. So do I respect this will, now that it is made known to me.

"After mature deliberation, I resolutely proclaim to the world that I cannot refuse to heed the voice of a people longing for peace, nor the lamentations of thousands of families yearning to see their dear ones enjoying the liberty and the promised generosity of the great American nation.

"By acknowledging and accepting the sovereignty of the United States throughout the Philippine archipelago, as I now do, and without any reservation whatsoever, I believe that I am serving this, my beloved country. My happiness be thine."

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