

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1866

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1899.

New Series—Vol. XVIII. No. 45

The Watchman and Southron.

Published Every Wednesday,

—BY—

N. G. Osteen,
SUMTER, S. C.

TERMS:

\$1.50 per annum—in advance.

ADVERTISEMENT:

One Square first insertion.....\$1.00
Every subsequent insertion.....50
Continued for three months, or longer, will be made at a reduced rate.
All communications which subserve private interests will be charged for advertisements.
The management assumes no responsibility for the return of communications or for the consequences of their publication.

Gen. Otis, Full Report.

The Filipino War and How it Began. Aguinaldo Always Insolent.

Washington, May 31.—The secretary of war today made public the report of Gen. Otis, transmitting the reports of his subordinate officers on the operations around Manila up to April 6.

Gen. Otis begins with this statement: "These military operations are fairly well represented in the reports and I have little to add thereto, but desire particularly to call attention to the rise and development of conditions and circumstances which resulted finally in war. This I deem to be essential in order to correct the somewhat prevailing impression that the government of the United States is responsible through deceit or wrongful action for the present existing hostilities."

To this end he gives a short summary of the Philippine insurrection against Spain, laying stress on the fact that a small band of natives of Luzon, leaders of the rebellion of '96 against Spain, were induced for a monetary consideration to leave the island. These men returned to the vicinity of Manila after the destruction of the Spanish fleet, they being as Gen. Otis says, "encouraged without authority to attempt the organization of what they were pleased to denominate an independent government for the Philippine people."

Independence, Gen. Otis says, was proclaimed by Aguinaldo in August and early as July he had warned the United States authorities against the landing of its military forces on Philippine soil without first obtaining his consent, because, as he expressed it, "the Philippine people might consider the occupation of Philippine territory by North American troops a violation of their rights."

Gen. Otis says: "When the United States forces landed from their transports near and to the south of Manila for the purpose of attacking the city the fiction that they were acting as allies of the insurgents and in furtherance of Philippine independence appears to have been conveyed by the insurgent leaders."

Gen. Otis describes Aguinaldo's efforts to strengthen his lines in preparation for hostilities with the United States during this time and explains the growth of the insurgent independent movement.

Describing briefly the high tension that existed at the time, Gen. Otis includes in explanation of his course some highly important correspondence that passed between himself and Aguinaldo.

Early in January Gen. Otis was asked by conservative Filipinos to appoint a committee of army officers to meet an insurgent committee by which peace might be maintained. Gen. Otis refused to recognize an insurgent government but was willing to negotiate with Aguinaldo or a commission appointed by him.

The report sets out in full the correspondence on this subject which passed between Gen. Otis and Aguinaldo. The latter named a commission consisting of three of his leaders to confer with Gen. Otis, with a view to an amicable understanding but expressed surprise that Otis would not receive the commissioners as official representatives of the insurgent government.

In his reply Gen. Otis explained that he was acting merely as the agent of the United States government. As such he had no authority to recognize the Filipino government and could not receive, officially, representatives of that government. He expressed earnest hope that the commissioners named by him and by Aguinaldo would be able through conference to dispel the misunderstanding which existed. He was under strict orders from the president, he said to avoid a conflict if possible, but he admonished Aguinaldo that the American troops were aware of the Filipino efforts to precipitate hostilities. He pointed out that a definite policy with reference to the Philippines would have to be declared by congress and for the action of congress he hoped Aguinaldo would wait.

Gen. Otis says the negotiations were barren of practical results. The insurgent members desired absolute independence, but were unauthorized to present any statement they could maintain. In the latter part of January the insurgents became aggressive, interfering with the American troops, and finally led Gen. Otis to address another letter to Aguinaldo calling attention to the arrest of Filipinos of some American soldiers and a newspaper correspondent and requesting an explanation. Gen. Otis' letter added: "I am doing everything possible to preserve the peace and avoid all friction until the Philippine people can be made fully acquainted with the sentiment and intentions of the American government, when I am confident that they will appreciate the endeavors of the United States and will again look upon that country as their friend and protector. I also fully believe that the present unrest is the result of machination of evil-disposed persons."

To this letter Aguinaldo sent a sarcastic reply, but ordered the release of the prisoners.

Gen. Otis next tells how the American soldiers were openly insulted and how the insurgents had continually labored to strengthen their lines, threatening to drive the Americans out of the island, and how finally on the night of Feb. 4 the demonstration was made, which resulted in the killing of a Filipino by an American sentry and the firing on the Americans by the insurgent troops. Gen. Otis continues as follows:

"The insurgent army had thus succeeded in drawing the fire of a small outpost, which they had evidently labored with all their ingenuity to accomplish in order to justify in some way their premeditated attack. It is not believed that the chief insurgent leaders wished to open hostilities at this time as they were not completely prepared to assume the initiative. They desired two or three days more to perfect their arrangements, but the zeal of their army brought on the crisis which anticipated their action. They could not have delayed long, however, for it was their object to force an issue before American troops then en route could arrive at Manila."

"The movement of troops during the protracted engagement which followed and their success at every point are described in the accompanying reports of the commanding generals of division. I cannot speak too highly of the efficiency displayed by the troops under the most trying ordeals, and where all organizations engaged conducted themselves so courageously it would be difficult to undertake special mention."

"During the night of Feb. 4 and the following day the insurgents of the city were greatly agitated, fearing for their personal safety. A portion to the number of about 8,000, had been enrolled in a secret society for the purpose of attacking our troops within the city and performing incendiary work while the insurgents pressed us from without. This purpose was well known and an attack upon our forces both in front and rear was anticipated. So admirably, however, had Gen. Hughes, the provost marshal general, disposed of 3,000 troops of his command that the rising was suppressed wherever attempted."

In conclusion, Gen. Otis explains in detail his movement on Caloocan and says that it was attended with the accustomed success of American arms.

Ten Thousand Volunteers is Likely the Number.

Washington June 1.—Replying to the inquiries of the secretary of war, Gen. Otis telegraphs "that he is still of the opinion that 30,000 troops will be necessary for the effective control of the Philippines."

Secretary Alger took Gen. Otis' cable to the president, and after a conference with him stated that the text of the dispatch would not be made public. "It reaffirms Gen. Otis' estimate made sometime ago," said the secretary, of his ability to cope with the situation. As I stated yesterday, the regulars now on the way or under orders to go to the Philippines will give Gen. Otis about 24,000 or 25,000 men after the withdrawal of the volunteers."

"Where will the additional 5,000 or 6,000 men for whom Gen. Otis asks come from?" the secretary was asked.

"That has not been definitely determined as yet," he replied.

"We may be able to take the additional troops asked for from the regulars now located in this country, Cuba and Puerto Rico, or it may be found advisable to muster in volunteers."

"In case it is decided to call for volunteers, will the call only be for the 5,000 or 6,000 men necessary to bring Gen. Otis' total up to 30,000?"

"If volunteers are called for," replied the secretary, "the call will probably be for 10,000 men."

Paper covers, new paper novels at H. G. Osteen & Co's.

NO PEACE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

THE INSURGENTS HAVE AGAIN BECOME AGGRESSIVE.

Manila, May 28, 8 p m.—The approach of the wet season finds the insurrection seemingly taking a new lease on life. All along the American lines the rebels are showing more aggressive activity, in their guerrilla style, than at any time since the fall of Malolos.

They keep the United States troops in the trenches, sleeping in their clothes and constantly on the alert against dashes upon our outposts and they make life warm for the American garrisons in the towns.

The bands of Gen. Luna and Gen. Mascardo, which retreated toward Tarlac when they feared they would be caught between Gen. MacArthur and Gen. Lawton, have returned in force to their old trenches around San Fernando where there are daily collisions.

Opposite our lines on the south protecting Manila, all the way around San Pedro Macati, the Filipinos have three rows of trenches most of the distance.

Reports from prisoners indicate that the insurgents construe the peace negotiations to mean that the Americans have had enough of fighting. The Filipinos are also encouraged by the belief that the Americans are preparing for an interval of inactivity during the wet season.

This period is sure to be followed by much suffering. Thousands of acres that were under cultivation last year have not been plowed this year, and the government will probably be obliged to feed thousands, just as it fed the Cubans. Friendly natives, "amigos," continue to pour into the American lines by land and river routes, coming from the territory of insurrection into the country where the passage of the two armies has left no food, and practically throwing themselves upon the charity of their conquerors. Such able bodied men as are not in the Filipino ranks have been kept by the insurgent leaders to dig trenches, and old men, women and children form the mass of the refugees. These are doing some plowing, but they will be confronted with hunger before they can realize any subsistence from their crops.

The United States army has organized a system of distributing rice at Malolos and some of the smaller towns where Filipino stores were captured, but the latter will soon be exhausted.

The United States transport Morgan City, which arrived here from San Francisco with 600 recruits for the various regiments sailed today for Iloilo with the troops.

As it was impossible to take to Spain the remains of the Spanish Gen. Montero who was fatally wounded in a recent engagement with the Filipinos in the island of Mindanao and who died while being brought here from Zamboanga on the transport Leon XIII, it was decided that the interment should take place in Manila. The funeral was held today, hundreds of Spanish soldiers and civilians attending the cortege to the grave with wreaths and flags.

The Spanish papers declare that Montero was a victim of the Spanish government's neglect.

Insurgents Occupy Zamboanga—Otis Would Enlist Macabebes.

Manila, May 27, 10.15 a m.—The Spanish steamer Leon XIII landed the 23d regiment of United States regulars on the island of Jolo, and took on board the Spanish garrison, the Americans paying the Spaniards the usual honors.

The steamer then proceeded to Zamboanga, island of Mindanao, and the troops there embarked on the Leon XIII, the Puerto Rico, the Uranis and Des Hermanos, the three last named vessels sailing for Spain.

The insurgents agreed not to molest the Spaniards during the evacuation. The Leon XIII entered Manila harbor last evening with flags flying at half mast in honor of Gen. Montero, who died on the passage from Zamboanga to Manila from wounds received in a recent engagement with the Filipinos in Mindanao, and with the garrison, officers and their families on board.

The insurgents, it is reported, were in possession of Zamboanga when the Spaniards left, and it will be necessary for the Americans to recapture that place.

Japan Preparing for War.

Victoria, June 1.—A Pekin correspondent writes that Japan is making war preparations as quietly as she did four years ago, and is taking measures for strengthening her coast defenses, feeling that war with Russia in the near future is unavoidable.

PROGRESS OF CLAIMS.

Volunteer Soldiers Certain of Getting Some Extra Money.

Mr. W. Boyd Evans has received a letter from Judge C. P. Townsend which is of special interest to those having claims against the government yet unadjusted as well as to volunteer soldiers of this State. Following is an extract from a letter dated at Bennettsville and directed to Mr. Evans:

"I returned from Washington last night. When I called on the auditor of the war department I found him examining the claims of South Carolina. He informs me that all are audited except four claims, one of them being of the Coast Line and the others for only small amounts. I have written the parties and informed them that unless they sign the papers and send them and thus perfect the vouchers their claims will be disallowed."

"I asked the auditor to wait three or four days before he sent the check to Gov. Ellerbe. I think you will receive the checks in the course of ten days."

"I exhibited to him the submitted copy of the act you sent me and he said this was all right, and \$1.50 per day would be allowed by the government. He further informed me that when there was no special form, and none would be required for making out claims of officers and men, the rolls must show the names, number of days served between the entry into the service and the muster in, the amount due each with receipt from each man."

"He further said there must be the certificate of some military officer as to correctness of the rolls and also attached to each a copy of the act such as you sent me. I think the form of roll adopted by Capt. Carson, judging from the duplicate of it you sent to me, will do. The auditor said it must appear that the men actually volunteered—that is, that they went to Columbia for this purpose."

"This, I think, embraces all the information I received. If there is anything more you would like me to look into, I will promptly do so."

"Sincerely,

"C. P. Townsend."

Captains of companies should go to work at once on the basis of this letter and get up the rolls. The men will get \$1.50 per day, except officers, who will get the regular army pay. It is certain that both the accepted and rejected men will be paid for the time between enrollment or rejection from the United States army. But a receipt for each individual man must be had, and the sooner the captains forward the rolls the sooner will the men be paid. An army officer, probably Capt. Fuller, will be detailed to assist in getting up correct rolls.

An effort will be made to secure a months extra pay for the First regiment. But there is some doubt about it being obtained, as the regiment was mustered out before the law allowing extra pay was passed.—Columbia Record, May 31.

RETRIAL OF DREYFUS.

Paris, June 1.—Maitre Mornard, counsel for Mme. Dreyfus, concluded his argument before the court of cassation today on the application for a revision of the Dreyfus case. It was largely rehashing of straw already thoroughly threshed out by Mm. Ballot de Beaupre and Manau. He warmly eulogized the report of M. Ballot de Beaupre and applauded the conclusions arrived at by M. Manau. Counsel for Mme. Dreyfus concluded with protesting against the idea that even for the sake of the honor of the army might should dominate over right. He said the army itself was thirsty for honor and justice to be rendered and he pointed out that the army could not be dishonored by the acknowledgment that a judicial error had been committed.

The decision of the court is expected on Saturday.

Penitentiary Quarantined.

The general anxiety over the outbreak of meningitis at the State penitentiary continues. Yesterday another new case developed, the victim being a colored convict. This makes a total of seven cases and four deaths. It is doubtful if two of those now ill will recover. Everything possible is being done for the sufferers and to prevent the disease from spreading. Yesterday one of the guards resigned his position and left the institution rather than run the risk necessarily encountered.

The city board of health has quarantined the institution in order to prevent the disease getting into the city and for once the quarantine task proves to be an easy one.—The State, June 2

CONDITION OF CROPS IN SOUTHERN STATES

Has Been Too Cool and Several States Still Suffering From Drought.

Washington, May 30.—The weekly crop bulletin of the weather bureau issued today is in part as follows:

"The week ending May 29, 1899, has been much too cool in the Middle and South Atlantic States, but elsewhere east of the Rocky mountains the temperature conditions have been very favorable. The previously reported droughty conditions in the Gulf States have been largely relieved by rains which have been heavy in localities, while in some sections drought continues, especially in southern and eastern Texas, and southern Louisiana. Rains would now prove of much benefit in the Ohio valley and Middle Atlantic States, while portions of Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Arkansas have suffered from excessive rains."

"From the lower Missouri and central Mississippi valleys eastward to the Middle Atlantic coast the week has not been favorable to corn which is generally reported as backward and making slow growth. In Kansas the crop is in fine condition and it is decidedly improved in the east Gulf States while in portions of the Central Gulf States and southern Texas it is suffering for rain. The early planted is maturing in Texas."

"The general condition of winter wheat in the States of the Ohio, central Mississippi and lower Missouri valleys is probably less favorable than in the previous week, considerable damage by rust and insects being reported. Harvesting is in progress in some of the Southern States, with better yield in Texas, in some localities, than was expected."

"Oat harvesting is in progress in the Southern States with generally light yields. The crop is making slow growth in the Middle Atlantic States and upper Ohio valley, and has suffered from too much rain in Missouri."

"The condition of cotton has improved over the eastern portion of the cotton belt, except in the Carolinas, where the weather has been cool. The crop has made slow growth and is suffering from rain in portions of Louisiana and Mississippi, while too much rain has injured the stand in Arkansas."

"In Texas cotton is growing rapidly and the corn crop is well cultivated, except in some localities of the northern portion, where the fields are foul."

"The week has been unfavorable for transplanting tobacco owing to the absence of rain. Much ground is prepared, however, and with a favorable season the work will make rapid progress."

Plan to Break Wall Street.

An old one-gallus farmer of Richland county, S. C., so Mr. Patton, of Columbia, tells me, has an original idea about our cotton growers breaking Wall street, and all getting rich in one year. He proposes that next spring every acre of farming land in the South be planted in cotton. Then let the farmers mortgage their property, go into Wall street and buy cotton futures at the low figures the big crop prospect will warrant. When they have bought these futures, let the farmer go to work and plow up every bill of cotton on his place and all hands rest for the balance of the year.

This would be a most excellent idea if we farmers dealt with honest and solvent men; but the result would be that those Wall street gamblers would declare themselves bankrupt and secrete their money, and then buy up the lands of us bankrupt southern farmers at their own price.—Columbia Record.

Disaster in Japan.

Victoria, B. C., May 31.—The steamer Kinship Marau brings news from the Orient of a large fire at Yamagata, Japan. Six hundred houses and eleven shrines and temples were destroyed. A number of lives were lost.

Thirty houses were burned in the Aobahira fire at Kobe, April 30. One man perished.

THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

Dr. Evans Replies to Certain Adverse Criticisms.

The appearance of several cases of smallpox in Newberry, which was noted yesterday, together with a statement that the State board of health had been tardy in attending to them, recalls a complaint on similar lines made by the Savannah Morning News.

Dr. Evans, of Florence, is the chief officer of the board and he has always been most prompt and energetic in stamping out the disease wherever it has been reported in the State. If there has really been any delay in attending to the Newberry cases, it may be certain that there was some sufficient reason for it.

As to the complaint of the Georgians, they seem to have no cause whatever. Dr. Evans has had something to say about this in an interview in the Florence Times.

He said that the health authorities of Savannah had been making many complaints about the spread of the epidemic in this State and had gone so far as to report the matter to the national authorities, that they claimed that the smallpox had been carried into Savannah from this State and that the authorities on this side of the river had done nothing to prevent the spread of the disease. He had replied to the surgeon general and convinced him that the Savannah men were altogether wrong, and reported the work being done by the State board of health. Recently he had received a very discourteous letter.

Now, as a matter of fact, said the doctor, in nearly if not quite every one of the instances of the breaking out of the pestilence, the infecting case came to South Carolina from Georgia, and that if any further proof of this claim was wanted he could easily produce it. Dr. Bacot's letter, an extract from which is published in this article, will show the origin of the latest infection beyond a doubt, and those from Edgefield and Barnwell are unquestionably from the same country.

Georgia, he said, had no state board of health and the authorities of that state could not possibly say where the smallpox existed in Georgia. They have done nothing to eradicate the disease from the state and the efforts of local boards of health in the different towns and cities were clearly unable to attack the task of handling the disease and preventing its spread.

Thus it is clear that the boot is on the other leg and that instead of South Carolina being a menace to Georgia, Georgia is the worst kind of a menace to the health of South Carolina. That instead of the Georgia authorities making a kick against our board, we have every reason to kick against them, but that the characteristic of the two people were shown in this matter as in every case where a comparison is to be made (these are not the doctor's words). We are willing to do what we could to help our friends on the other side of the river and to treat them with a decent courtesy in a very different way from the treatment they accorded us, which would, even if their charges were correct, have been discourteous.

Referring to the cases of smallpox in the state since the report of the board was made last year, Dr. Evans said:

Since the publication of that report last winter there have been cases reported from Mayesville, 350, now clear of the faintest trace; from Packsville, 250 cases, now free, or nearly so; from Conway, 20 cases, now free from plague; from Barnwell, a number of cases now well in hand and taken care of by the local physicians; lately he has received notice of the appearance of the plague in Newberry of five cases, at Bluffton, five and Hilton Head five. The board has taken charge of these cases at once and will stop the spread if no more infection comes over the river. Columbia Record June 2

London, June 2.—The Rome correspondent of the Daily Mail says: Lieut. Col. Panizzardi (military attaché of the Italian embassy in Paris when Dreyfus was condemned) informs me that the Italian embassy always knew that Esterhazy wrote the bordereau."

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
ABSOLUTELY PURE
Makes the food more delicious and wholesome
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.