

stock and without much monopoly power, will go first to their fate. They will be followed by the monopoly trusts that fail to secure fundamental privileges. In the end, no trusts will be left to rule in the economic field but those which have their feet upon the earth. The trust question leads directly to the land question.

NEWS

At the close of our account last week of the American war for the subjugation of the Philippines, the Filipinos, after being driven on the 7th from a position near the water pipes that supply Manila, had forced their way back on the 8th, and at other points along the American line their sharpshooters were still annoying the American troops. No change in this situation was reported for the 9th; but on the 10th additional American reinforcements began to arrive at Manila, and immediately thereafter, Gen. Otis advised President McKinley of his plan to bring the war to a speedy close, by a vigorous aggressive campaign for the complete subjection of the island of Luzon.

This campaign began on the morning of the 13th, when Gen. Wheaton advanced from San Pedro Macati, eastward along the Pasig river, upon the town of Pasig, then held by the Filipinos. He was supported by an American gunboat which shelled the jungle along the banks of the river in advance of the American troops. In his advance Gen. Wheaton was reported as having captured three towns—Guadalupe, Pateros and Pasig. The Filipinos had retreated as far as Pasig, where they made a stand; but the Americans shelled the town, finally driving them out and taking possession. On the 14th, however, the Filipinos recaptured Pateros and Pasig, and threw up intrenchments, but only to be driven out again on the 15th, when the hardest fighting since the 5th of February occurred. The Americans now have complete possession of Pasig river to its source, Laguanda bay, a lake about 100 miles in circumference, some eight miles east of Manila. The Filipino army is therefore cut in two, with no opportunities for communication except around the lake.

During the fighting the heat was oppressive. Many soldiers were prostrated by it, both upon the firing line and in Manila. James H. Creelman, the well-known correspondent, cables that "the fight against exhaustion from this cause became as keen as that against the rebels."

Mail advices from Manila show that the conferences between Gen. Otis and Aguinaldo, preceding the outbreak of hostilities, were formal and official. Following is Gen. Otis's order pursuant to which they were conducted:

Brig. Gen. B. P. Hughes, United States volunteers; Col. James F. Smith, First California volunteers; Col. E. H. Crowder, J. A., United States volunteers, are hereby appointed a commission to meet a commission of like number appointed by Gen. Aguinaldo, and to confer with regard to the situation of affairs, and to arrive at a mutual understanding of the intent, purposes, aim and desires of the Philippine people and the people of the United States, that peace and harmonious relations between these respective peoples may be continued.

At the meetings of these commissions the Filipinos required independence under an American protectorate. They also insisted upon an arrangement meanwhile between the American and the Filipino armies for the prevention of disturbances. No mail advices have yet been received which relate to the beginning of hostilities; but it is clear from such as have so far arrived that a collision was daily expected long before it actually occurred.

A strong appeal has been made in the United States during the week, to "all lovers of freedom," to unite in an attempt to induce the American government to

take immediate steps toward a suspension of hostilities in the Philippines and a conference with the Philippine leaders, with a view to preventing further bloodshed, upon the basis of a recognition of their freedom and independence as soon as proper guarantees can be had of order and protection to property.

It is urged in this appeal that the United States

tender an official assurance to the inhabitants of the Philippine islands that they will encourage and assist in the organization of such a government in the islands as the people thereof shall prefer, and that upon its organization in stable manner the United States, in accordance with their tra-

ditional and prescriptive policy in such cases, will recognize the independence of the Philippines and their equality among nations and gradually withdraw all naval and military forces.

The appeal is signed by 29 men among the most representative in this country. Included in the number are ex-Governor Boutwell of Massachusetts, ex-Senator Edmunds of Vermont, John Sherman, Henry U. Johnson of Indiana, Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor; Felix Adler, David Starr Jordan, president of Stanford university; Leonard Woolsey Bacon, Charles Francis Adams, Samuel Bowles, Edward Atkinson, Carl Schurz, Hermann Von Holst of Chicago university, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, ex-Senator John G. Carlisle, Charles Elliot Norton of Harvard university, W. G. Sumner of Yale college, and Rev. Dr. C. H. Parkhurst of New York.

American colonial difficulties are not confined to the Philippines. The situation in Porto Rico, also, is embarrassing. Affairs in that island were generally supposed to be in a satisfactory condition on all hands, until Col. Hubbell, of the 47th New York volunteers, which returned from Porto Rico on the 10th, publicly expressed his belief, based upon his experience as a soldier, that an insurrection of the natives of Porto Rico is bound to come sooner or later. Col. Hubbell explained:

We found that there is a latent determination among a large class to gain independence. There is no longer any use in trying to conceal the fact. Our troubles and annoyances increased toward the last. The demonstrations made at our departure convinced us that the majority of the natives were glad to get rid of us.

Col. Hubbell's opinion is reinforced by that of Gen. Henry, the American military governor of Porto Rico. Referring to the easy victory of our troops in the island and the apparent friendliness of the natives, as having given currency to a notion in the states that there is little necessity of a strong military force in Porto Rico, he declares the idea to be erroneous. "The conditions are alarming," he says, and adds:

These people have been given every opportunity, but they have thrown them aside. They are clamoring now for local self-government. They are no more fit for local self-government than I am to run a locomotive. More troops are needed in the island. The