

he said it was quite equaled by that suffered by the Spanish.

On the 5th also the investigating committee examined Gen. H. V. Boynton, who spoke in warm praise of the management of Camp Thomas at Chickamauga. Replies in writing were received, too, to the six questions propounded to Secretary Alger. Secretary Alger replied that the campaign ought to have been against Havana instead of Santiago; that the Santiago campaign was substituted upon Admiral Sampson's call for troops; that the Florida camps were selected upon the recommendations of the boards appointed to examine sites; that the campaign in Puerto Rico was decided upon after the successful conclusion of the Santiago campaign; and that the troops were held back on the transports in Florida waters just prior to the Santiago campaign, in order to avoid destruction by what has since been known as "the phantom" Spanish fleet. In their general tenor, Secretary Alger's replies cast the responsibility for delays and mistakes, upon the navy.

Formal sessions of the Spanish-American peace commission have begun at Paris. The two bodies met for the first time on the 29th, at a luncheon given by the French foreign minister. On the 1st, the first formal session was held. The proceedings on that occasion were perfunctory. On the 3d, the next session was held, after which an adjournment was taken till the 7th. It is rumored that at the second meeting the American commissioners made a demand for the surrender by Spain of her sovereignty over the entire Philippine archipelago; but all meetings are secret, and no reports as to the proceedings are trustworthy unless made by the authority of the American commissioners. They have as yet authorized no report. The American commissioners meet daily. Much of their time thus far has been given over to conferences with Gen. Merritt.

Upon good authority it was reported on the 1st, that Agoncello, the Philippine envoy whose arrival in this country we told about last week, had on that day had an interview with President McKinley. According to this report Agoncello, with his secretary and accompanied by Gen. Greene, was received by the president, not as an envoy but as a private citizen. But on the 4th, the Asso-

ciated Press gave currency to a different report, to the effect that the president had refused to recognize Agoncello at all. The probability is that the latter report was erroneous, and originated in the fact that the president refused to receive the envoy officially. Agoncello and his secretary left Washington on the 4th, to go to Paris with the object of laying the claims of the Philippine republic before the Peace commission.

The independence of the Philippine republic was celebrated by the natives at Malolos, near Manila, on the 29th. The festivities included a review of the troops, and the delivery of speeches and recitations. The principal speech was delivered by President Aguinaldo. He spoke with friendly feeling of the Americans as having generously come to assist in releasing the Philippine people from slavery without annexing the islands, thus setting a good example; and, describing the Monroe doctrine as meaning "America for the Americans," he said that justice would infer a further meaning—"The Philippines for the Filipinos." The republican officials expressed their disappointment at the non-attendance of Americans, though invitations had been given them.

The process of Hawaiian annexation has advanced a step. On the 30th the annexation commissioners on behalf of the United States arrived at San Francisco, and the rough draft of their report is now in Washington. As to its contents, however, the commissioners refuse to make any revelation beyond the statement of Senator Cullom that the report will recommend a territorial government entirely different from what any of the territories in this country ever had.

It is feared, as we write, that an Indian massacre has occurred in Minnesota. A collision with Indians has certainly occurred. The trouble began early last spring, when a deputy United States marshal tried to arrest Chief Bush Ear and nine other Chippewas at Bear Island, which is in Lake Leech, about 70 miles west of Duluth. The charge against the Indians was illicit distilling. They resisted the marshal, but all except the chief afterwards gave themselves up and were sentenced some to 30 and others to 60 days' imprisonment. Two weeks ago the chief was arrested by another deputy, but was rescued by a band of

Indians. Then on the 30th a small military force was sent out to arrest the chief and those concerned in rescuing him; but ugly threats were made by the Indians, and a company of the Third United States infantry was sent to Bear Island under Gen. Bacon. This was on the 4th. On the 5th the troops had a skirmish with the Indians, repulsing them; but since then, nothing has been heard of Gen. Bacon or his command, except through a press dispatch from Brainerd by way of Duluth, which states that all were ambushed at Bear Island and killed. Until this arrest for illicit distilling the Bear Indians are reputed to have been peaceable and friendly.

The labor situation at Pana, Ill., of which we have given accounts from time to time as it developed, is at the present writing more threatening than ever. As we reported last week, the negro miners who had been imported from Alabama by the Pana operators, in order to defeat a local strike, were being marched armed through the streets of Pana on the 28th, when a collision with strikers occurred, during which shots were exchanged but no one was hurt. The excitement growing out of this disturbance was made the foundation for a call for troops. Troops were accordingly sent to Pana on the 30th, with instructions from the governor to arrest all persons carrying arms and to protect citizens and their property and maintain order, but to lend no assistance in operating mines with imported labor. On that night the militia took possession of the town, and according to the press dispatches the utmost quiet prevailed. This condition continued until the 4th, when the town became excited by the action of Capt. Craig, in command of the troops. Saying that "the best way to put down a riot is to prevent it," he sent a detachment of 50 soldiers along the Illinois Central railroad to a switch of one of the coal companies north of the city, to serve as a guard for two carloads of Alabama negroes whom the operators had just imported and were unloading. This action was regarded by the strikers as being intended not to preserve the peace but to assist the operators in importing labor, and the press reports at the time indicated that public opinion in Pana was in harmony with that view of the matter.

In the Dominion of Canada a vote