

ordinary land values, or of any other mere legal power of the owner to exact tribute from others. If we still had slaves they too would be accounted part of the public wealth by these scientific economists of the brush-heap pattern.

It may be that metaphysics is not the best way of approach to the investigation of social problems, but it is more than certain that no better way is proposed by statisticians whose perceptions are so dull that they can't distinguish between things that add to the well-being of the country as a whole, and things that add only to the well-being of some of the inhabitants at the expense of others. A primary course in common sense metaphysics would do such philosophers no harm even if it did them no good.

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## NEWS

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Charges of mismanagement in connection with the war, especially regarding food supplies and medical attention, have accumulated since the time of the battle of San Juan, but until Thursday, September 8th, all reports from Washington were to the effect that they were unfounded and would be disregarded. On the 8th, however, the Associated Press sent out word from Washington that Secretary Alger and Adjutant General Corbin had joined in a request to the president for a searching investigation. According to this report the president had the matter under advisement, not yet having determined whether to grant the request; but special reports of the same date announced that he had decided to appoint an investigating commission. This was confirmed on the 9th, when the president appointed nine commissioners. They were Lieut. Gen. Schofield, former commanding general of the army; ex-Senator John B. Gordon, of Georgia, formerly of the Confederate service; Greenville M. Dodge, of New York, a corps commander in the Federal service during the civil war; D. C. Gilman, president of Johns Hopkins University, of Baltimore; ex-Senator Charles F. Manderson, of Nebraska, a division commander in the Federal service during the civil war; ex-Secretary of War Robert T. Lincoln; ex-Secretary of War Daniel S. Lamont; Dr. W. W. Keene, a leading physician of Philadelphia; and Col. James A.

Sexton, Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R.

The specific object of the investigating commission named above, as stated by the president in his notifications of appointment, is "to examine into the conduct of the commissary, quartermaster and medical bureaus of the war department during the war, and into the extent, causes and treatment of sickness in the field and in the camps." Gen. Gordon promptly declined to serve. So did Gen. Schofield, Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Lamont, as is currently though not authoritatively reported. Gen. Manderson also declined. Col. Sexton accepted. Among the persons subsequently invited by the president to serve in the place of those declining are Charles Denby, of Indiana, formerly American minister to China, and Eben P. Howell, editor of the Atlanta Constitution.

Evidence of the army mismanagement multiplies. In the six days ending the 14th the number of soldiers who have died is 121. Of these, 68 died of typhoid fever. In 15 cases the cause of death was malaria, in 5 it was dysentery, and in 3 yellow fever; while in 22 cases no cause of death was assigned. Of the total number of deaths, 97 occurred in the United States, 17 on board transports and hospital ships, 8 in Puerto Rico and 9 in Cuba. The total sick at Santiago on the 14th was 911.

Chief Surgeon Charles R. Greenleaf has reported as to the health of troops in the Puerto Rican campaign, explaining how large losses of life were avoided, and attributing the good showing in that campaign "to a carefully followed plan, the execution of which was made possible by the strict discipline and personal attention of Gen. Miles," who, as Dr. Greenleaf says, "saw to it that the sanitary regulations were kept and the orders of the surgeons obeyed." But the good health of the troops in Puerto Rico does not seem to have been maintained. Gen. Brooke reported on the 13th from Ponce, that the sick numbered 1,886, about 18 per cent.; and that of these cases 177 were typhoid fever and 447 malaria. All the troops at Ponce have been removed to camps outside.

Regarding the causes of the unsanitary conditions at Chickamauga, a

report was filed by the board appointed to make inquiry, consisting of Gens. Charles F. Roe, J. P. Sanger, and Charles P. Mattocks, but it has been suppressed. From a copy surreptitiously procured it appears that the board reported that the water used was not safe without boiling and that unboiled water had been generally used up to August 1st, for lack of boiling utensils; that there were insufficient facilities for bathing; that tents were over-crowded, the supply being deficient; that the rapid increase of typhoid fever was due mainly to the unsanitary condition of the camps; that much sickness would have been avoided if the tents had been floored, but that lumber was lacking for this purpose; that while the prevalence of typhoid was attributable in some degree to the inexperience of the men and of officers in immediate command, yet there had "also been neglect on the part of the officers largely responsible for the administration of Camp Thomas prior to August 1;" and that but for the reduction of regimental hospitals to mere dispensaries in order to provide for division hospitals the sick would have been more effectively cared for.

Camp Wikoff, at Montauk Point, of which Dr. Senn said some two weeks ago that it would be a typhoid fever pesthole within a month, is being rapidly vacated. One of the infantry volunteer regiments, the 9th Massachusetts, was a mere remnant when it left; company M, which had originally been 77 strong, marched away from the Camp Wikoff with only seven men and no officers.

The first step toward the formal evacuation of Puerto Rico was taken on the 10th, when the American and the Spanish commissions met together in the council chamber of the palace at San Juan. The American commission consists, it will be remembered, of Admiral Schley and Gens. Brooke and Gordon. A similar joint meeting for the evacuation of Cuba was held at Havana on the 11th. The American commission, consisting of Admiral Sampson and Gens. Wade and Butler, had arrived the day before and was received with official ceremony by Gen. Blanco.

The governing council of the provisional government of the republic of Cuba has issued a manifesto to the

Cuban people, giving the history of the movement for Cuban independence, and taking initial steps for the establishment of a permanent government. The document, which is signed by President Maso and Vice President Capote, is a dignified state paper. It declares in behalf of the council that "we should not dissolve, and that the powers we have received from an assembly elected by the people under arms should not vanish," but that the council "should remain as a nucleus and guide for those who have vested such power in us." The manifesto, therefore, calls another assembly to be elected by the people of Cuba, for the purpose of determining the political future of the island. Incidentally, the manifesto expresses fervent gratitude to the United States and supreme confidence in her good faith. The council has also officially declared the war at an end and granted amnesty to all persons guilty of political crimes against the republic.

From the Philippines news reports have suggested difficulties between the Americans and Aguinaldo, but the facts are cabled vaguely. On the 8th it was said that Gen. Merritt had advised Aguinaldo that he must vacate the suburbs of Manila, and that though the time for doing so had not yet expired it was expected that a satisfactory arrangement would be made. On the same date reports from Washington had it that the order to Aguinaldo to vacate the Manila suburbs had been made by Gen. Otis, and that it was in direct obedience to orders from the war department. The latter report added that Aguinaldo, instead of leaving, had taken possession of the works controlling the city's water supply, and was otherwise strengthening his position, conduct which had resulted in orders from Washington for the shipment of 7,000 more troops to the Philippines. On the following day it was predicted by a reliable correspondent with Dewey's fleet, that unless better relations were soon established between Aguinaldo and the Americans serious results would follow. From other Manila sources on the same date, the 9th, the American newspaper-reading public were informed that representatives from all the principal provinces of the Philippines, men who at the same time represented the financial backing of the insurrection, were at Manila endeavoring to influence Aguinaldo to dissolve the Phil-

ippine republic and support the policy of American possession of the islands. Further news of the same character came on the 10th. Aguinaldo was said to have demanded the right to occupy a portion of Manila and to have been refused, the refusal being accompanied with an ultimatum that he withdraw his forces from the suburbs "by a given day, in order to avoid friction." It was explained in this report, that the disaffection of the natives was due to representations by Spaniards that the United States intended to return the islands to Spain. Then on the 11th, the story of Gen. Otis's ultimatum was repeated with the date for compliance again omitted; but on the 12th the Associated Press reported that on that day the ultimatum had been given fixing the 15th as the outside limit for compliance. On the following day, the 13th, the Associated Press announced that Aguinaldo was then maintaining a role of extreme friendship toward the United States; and on the 14th it appeared that all difficulties had been smoothed over. On that day Aguinaldo sent an officer to ask permission to move a detachment of troops from Lodo, one of the suburbs of Manila. The request was promptly granted and a large detachment of insurgents evacuated Lodo that afternoon, marching through the American lines in the direction of the waterworks and receiving proper military honors en route. The evacuation of the Manila suburbs was completed on the same day by the withdrawal of 13,000 Philippine troops, in a grand march. They were given full military honors by the Americans, and as they marched with arms, colors and bands, they shouted: "Viva Americanos!" "Viva Filipinos Libres!"

Aguinaldo has forced the surrender of the last Spanish garrison on the island of Luzon, and the whole of that island except Manila, which is held by the Americans, is now in his hands. He claims that the republican provisional government is operating in 28 provinces, that 67,000 armed troops are under his command, that he can raise 100,000, and that he holds 5,000 military prisoners. When asked whether his policy would be absolute independence, he declined to answer, asking instead what America intended to do. He remarked, however, that he considered the Americans as brothers, and that "the two sovereign republics were allied

against a common enemy." Aguinaldo has sent a commission of three of his adherents to Washington to confer with President McKinley upon the future of the Philippine islands. They sailed from Hong-Kong on the 6th.

Spain's attitude toward the Philippines is indicated by an argument received this week from the Spanish ministry by the French ambassador at Washington. In this argument Spain protests against the capitulation of Manila because made two days after the protocol was signed. She also urges that the United States compel Aguinaldo to liberate 1,000 prisoners, most of whom were placed in his custody by Admiral Dewey.

The Spanish cortes have granted the requisite legislative authority to the ministry to carry out the terms of the peace protocol. The authority is in this language: "The government is authorized to renounce rights of sovereignty and to cede territory in the Spanish colonies in accordance with the peace preliminaries agreed upon with the government of the United States of America." This sanction passed the senate on the 12th, and the chamber of deputies on the 13th. The sessions of both houses were held behind closed doors, but accounts of the proceedings gleaned from members show that a stormy time was experienced. Bitter charges were made against the ministry; and the Spanish generals in Cuba, including Weyler, were unsparingly scored. One senator said of them that they should have sashes tied around their necks instead of their waists. The violent scenes were in the senate. A body composed of republicans, Carlists, and dissenting conservatives joined in a protesting manifesto, and absented themselves from the chamber of deputies, refusing to participate in the proceedings because the sessions for the discussion of the protocol were held in secret. It was expected that a ministerial crisis would come after the sanction of the protocol had been adopted, but as soon as that work had been done the government suspended the session of the cortes. This took place on the 13th, in the midst of an acrimonious debate in the senate. The cortes must be again convoked to ratify the final treaty of peace.

England has a new problem to confront in connection with her expedi-