

the Americans are expected to advance.

The American casualties in the Philippine war, reported down to the 27th, were 83 killed, and 347 wounded. Of the wounded, 43 were regulars and 304 volunteers; of the killed, 8 were regulars and 75 volunteers.

Since the fire in Manila and its suburbs the Americans maintain a strict curfew system. All the inhabitants are required to be in their houses by 7 o'clock each night, to remain there until daylight.

On the 26th, news was brought to Manila, of the occupation by the Americans of Cebu, a city of 35,000 inhabitants. It is the principal city of the Island of Cebu, which lies to the east of the Island of Panay, with the Island of Negros between. The occupation was effected on the 22d. The commander of the American gunboat Petrel sent an ultimatum ashore declaring the intention of the Americans to take possession, peaceably if possible, but by force if necessary; and the Filipinos vacated without resistance, taking their arms with them into the neighboring hills. Cebu is the third Philippine city to be occupied by the Americans; Manila and Iloilo being the other two.

It was reported from Manila on the 22d that four native commissioners had arrived from the Island of Negros, which lies between Cebu and Panay, to report that the native inhabitants had put that island under the protection of the United States. They informed Gen. Otis that the American flag had already been raised, and asked his advice and help. On the 1st of March they returned to Negros on the St. Paul, accompanied by an American battalion.

A startling dispatch was received at Washington on the 24th from Admiral Dewey, saying that "for political reasons, the Oregon should be sent" to Manila "at once." The Oregon, at that time on her way to Manila, was detained at Honolulu for repairs. She has since resumed her voyage. No explanation of Dewey's dispatch has yet been given. Dewey himself has refused to be interviewed upon the subject. It was guessed that he wished to anticipate some interference by Germany, a German war vessel, the Kaiserin Augusta, having put into Manila bay. But

the German ambassador at Washington, on the 28th, requested the American government to undertake the protection of German subjects in the Philippines, explaining that it might be necessary to withdraw the Kaiserin Augusta. Another guess related to a meeting, on the 24th, of foreign consuls at Manila, from which the British consul—possibly on account of British friendship to the United States—was absent. Dewey's present strength is 22 warships, with 3,359 sailors and 304 marines.

A formal declaration of policy regarding the Philippine question was adopted in caucus on the 27th by the democratic members of the lower house of congress. It was in full as follows:

We hold that the constitution of the United States was ordained and established for an intelligent, liberty-loving and self-governing people, and cannot be successfully applied to a people of different virtues and conditions. We therefore hold that a colonial policy is contrary to the theory of our government and subversive of those principles of civil liberty which we have been taught to cherish. We believe with the declaration of independence that all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, and we are unalterably opposed to the establishment of any government by the United States without the consent of the people to be governed, and in conformity with these principles we instruct the minority members of the foreign affairs committee to introduce and urge the following resolution:

Resolved, That the United States hereby disclaim any disposition or intention to exercise permanent sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over the Philippine islands, and assert their determination, when an independent government shall have been erected therein, to transfer to said government upon terms which shall be reasonable and just all rights secured under the cession by Spain, and thereupon to leave the government and control of the islands to their people.

We, the democratic members of the house of representatives, in caucus assembled, commend the signal loyalty and valor of our soldiers and sailors in the performance of every military duty to which they have been assigned by proper authority, however much we may deplore the policy of the administration now directing their movements; and we pledge to them our hearty support and sympathy under all circumstances wherever engaged.

The American standing army bill has been passed by both houses of congress. Before its passage, however, it had been divested by the senate of the feature of permanency. As the bill originally passed the house it required the president to enlarge

the regular army permanently to 50,000 men, and authorized him in his discretion to increase their number to 100,000. In the senate an amendment was added limiting the duration of the bill to July, 1901, when the army is to be reduced to the old number of about 25,000 men. The amended bill passed the senate by a vote of 55 to 13; and the lower house adopted it on the 1st by a vote of 203 to 32. Democrats very generally supported the bill as amended, on the ground that if this temporary measure were defeated an extra session of congress would be called and a large standing army be established permanently.

Russia's policy of expansion with reference to Finland is apparently about to culminate in the obliteration of the autonomy of that country and its complete absorption by Russia. Finland is now an autonomous dependency of Russia. It extends from the Gulf of Finland almost to the Arctic ocean, and is bounded on the west by Sweden and the Gulf of Bothnia, on the north by Norway, and on the east by Russia proper. In length it exceeds 750 miles, and in breadth 185, its area being 144,255 square miles. The population of Finland in 1897 was 2,483,249. Its factories, which in 1894 numbered 6,963, large and small, employed 58,233 hands, and yielded an annual product of \$33,000,000. There were then in the country 68,670 small farmers. Finland's imports in 1896 amounted to \$43,150,000 and her exports to \$39,750,000. In 1895 there were 694 post offices, the profits of which were \$47,993; and 153 savings banks reported 85,915 depositors with deposits aggregating \$11,143,400. The educational institutions of Finland are a university, a polytechnic school, and a variety of other schools, including places for instruction in navigation, commerce, and agriculture, as well as lyceums and private schools. Out of 470,382 children of school age—7 to 16 years—in 1896, only 21,523 received no education. The university is located at Helsingfors. It was attended in 1896 by 2,010 students, of whom 158 were women; and its diplomas are respected in the educational circles of the world. The people of Finland are of Turanian origin. They are the only Turanian remnant in Europe with a distinct nationality, unless the Magyars and the Turks be excepted—the Lapps having always been nomadic, and the Basques of Spain having long since lost distinct-

ive national character. Swedish is the language of the aristocracy of Finland, but the Finns have a distinct language and literature of their own.

Politically, Finland is a grand duchy, the czar of Russia being the grand duke. The country came under the general control of Sweden in the twelfth century, retaining, however, rights of local government. For a long time prior to the early part of the present century it was a battlefield for the wars between Sweden and Russia; but in 1809, by the treaty of Frederickshamn, Sweden ceded to Russia so much of Finland as Russia had not already wrenched from her. Immediately afterward, in 1810, the czar was constrained to make constitutional guarantees to Finland of its ancient autonomous rights, among other things exempting the Finnish army from service outside of Finland, and setting up a local parliament. These constitutional rights have been confirmed from time to time by succeeding czars. The parliament of Finland consists of four chambers—nobles, clergy, burghers and peasants. It is empowered to discuss all schemes of laws proposed by the czar, as grand duke, and no changes can be made in the constitution, nor any new taxes be levied, without the assent of all four chambers. We may see, therefore, that, limited though it be, the self-governing power of Finland is enviable as compared with the absolutism of Russia.

Russia has long been intent upon withdrawing this self-governing power from Finland and wiping out both the form and the substance of Finnish nationality. That intention has been especially marked ever since the parliament, or landtag, of Finland has been convened in its present session. At first Russia's demands were for the assignment of Finnish troops to serve outside of Finland, under Russian generals. This aroused suspicion and intensified the anti-Russian feeling. To allay that, the czar transmitted to the parliament a conciliatory message. He insisted, nevertheless, that the Finnish army be Russianized. Quickly following that message, and in the latter part of January of the present year, the czar made his hostile intentions still more apparent. He transmitted to the parliament propositions for making Russian the official and school language of Finland. The change was to be observed at once by the senate, the administrative author-

ity in Finland, and by the judges within five years. Finally, about the middle of February, an imperial manifesto was published by the czar, depriving the Finnish parliament altogether of its constitutional right to discuss schemes of laws proposed by the czar.

Meantime Russia maintains a strict censorship of the press, all criticisms of the proposed aggressions being forbidden. But reports from Stockholm, Sweden, show that the people of Helsingfors are convulsed by the evident intentions of the czar. And a deputation of the Finnish parliament was sent in February to Petersburg to protest in person to the czar against his manifest abrogation of Finland's constitution. News of the disagreeable reception of this deputation reached Stockholm on the 24th. An audience with the czar was positively refused.

The czar's evident purposes regarding Finland are noticed with great concern in Norway and Sweden. Naturally so, for upon the subjugation of Finland by Russia, the Scandinavian border would be exposed to the Russian frontier. The press of Norway and Sweden, therefore, urges the immediate dropping of all quarrels between the two countries, for the purpose of presenting a united front to Russia. The quarrels between Norway and Sweden grow out of their peculiar union. The two countries are distinct nations, except as to the power of declaring war and making peace. This power is a joint affair and is vested in the one king who is common to both nations. In declaring war and making peace he acts for the two jointly. But in the exercise of all other functions, he acts for each nation separately; for Norway in Norwegian affairs, and for Sweden in Swedish affairs. When the union took place, however, Norway had been obliged to accept if not to seek that relation, and consequently, though the two countries are nominally equal, Sweden has always maintained an attitude of paternal superiority. This has been all the more natural because the common king is primarily the king of Sweden. Still, until 1885 there was no serious difficulty. But in that year Sweden withdrew to a great extent from the king the administration of Swedish foreign affairs, and gave over that function to a Swedish min-

ister responsible only to the Swedish parliament or riksdag. Norway has therefore demanded also a separate minister of foreign affairs, but the king has vetoed the demand. Consequently Norwegian foreign affairs are controlled by the king, while Swedish foreign affairs are controlled by the Swedish parliament. This disturbs the equality of the two countries, and by that disturbance a great deal of friction is caused. Norway complains, for instance, that under existing conditions Sweden monopolizes the whole consular service. A superficial manifestation of the feeling between the two countries is the adoption by the Norwegian parliament, or storting, of a distinct flag for her merchant marine. It eliminates the union symbol of the Norway-Sweden flag. The Norwegian storting had twice before made this change—in 1893 and again in 1896—but the king each time vetoed the bill. Having now been passed for the third time, each time by a newly-elected storting, the bill becomes a law, notwithstanding the king's third veto. At the sessions of the Swedish riksdag during the past winter, speeches against the action of the Norwegian storting, as to the flag, have been very bitter. The difficulty between Norway and Sweden is manifested also in Norway's resisted claim to the right to maintain an army of her own, for which the storting has voted a large sum of money. The two countries have for a considerable time been upon the verge of civil war.

The expectations in Paris, noted in our report of last week, of an outbreak on the occasion of the late President Faure's funeral, were disappointed. The event passed off on the 23d quietly. An attempt to create disturbance was made by three members of the chamber of deputies—Paul Deroulede, Marcel-Habert and Lucien Millevoe. Both were arrested; but the latter was discharged the next day, he having merely opposed the police in preserving order. Deroulede and Marcel-Habert were held, and the chamber of deputies suspended their parliamentary privileges, leaving them to the courts for trial. They were charged with attempting to lead troops into a revolutionary movement for the purpose of replacing a parliamentary republic by a plebiscite republic. Since the Faure funeral a large quantity of documents