

state verging on insubordination, owing to the lack of food and non-payment of their wages, and that the insurgents hem in the Spaniards on the land side of the city and may be expected soon to make an attack. The Spanish governor general tries to keep up the courage of his army by frequently proclaiming that Spanish warships are coming to their relief. The German consul tried to land provisions, so it was said, from a German ship, but Dewey refused to permit it, whereupon the consul undertook to force a landing under the protection of two German cruisers. Dewey threatened to fire upon the cruisers if the landing were attempted and it was then abandoned. This story, however, is denied from Berlin.

The Charleston, which left Mare Island, California, on the 18th, with ammunition for Admiral Dewey, as reported on page 11 last week, returned on the 19th for repairs. She had suffered from the recent earthquake shock, when she was in dry dock, and although she had been repaired before sailing, her short trip showed that the repairs were not complete. On the 22d she finally passed through Golden Gate, San Francisco, on her voyage to Manila.

The First Regiment, California volunteers, embarked for Manila at San Francisco on the 23d; and on the 24th, four companies of the Fourteenth U. S. infantry, together with the Second Oregon volunteers and a detachment of heavy artillery, joined them. The total number of troops embarked was 2,600. Brig. Gen. Anderson was in command. The vessels for the expedition consist of the City of Peking, the City of Sydney, and the Australia. They sailed on the 25th, carrying supplies to last a year, besides ammunition and naval stores for Dewey. Gen. Merritt is now on his way to the Pacific coast to take command at the Philippines.

At a meeting of the United States cabinet on the 24th, it was decided that no new form of government should be made in the Philippines for the present, but that Gen. Merritt should accept things as he finds them, and enforce the Spanish laws as they exist so far as that may be done without oppression. No republic is to be organized, nor any innovation whatever made until the destiny of the

islands shall have been determined upon.

President McKinley issued a proclamation on the 25th making a second call for volunteers, the number called for being 75,000. This call, when answered, will provide a force of 216,500 volunteers, in addition to 62,000 regulars, making an army of 278,500 men.

The new Spanish ministry, whose names were given on page 12 last week, appeared in the cortes on the 20th—all except the minister for foreign affairs, Leon y Castillo, who has not yet accepted. Sagasta, the premier, addressed both houses, making a bellicose speech in which he said Spain would continue the war to the utmost until an honorable peace is obtainable. Leon's non-acceptance was explained as being due to important negotiations which, as ambassador to France, he was engaged in at Paris. From this explanation two inferences were drawn. He was suspected of negotiating with representatives of the Cuban insurgents at Paris for the submission of the insurgent army, which would remove the American pretext for the war; and also of proposing to the French government the sale or gift to France of the Philippine Islands, so as to prevent them falling into the hands of the United States. On the 25th the Cuban financial agent at Paris publicly stated that a proposition had been made to him from Spanish sources looking to the independence of Cuba on condition of its uniting with Spain to make war upon the United States, and that he had declined to entertain the proposition, first, because he is a financial and not a political agent of Cuba, and second because Cuba owes a debt of gratitude to the United States for making war in behalf of Cuban liberty.

On the 20th Mr. Balfour moved an address to the queen in the house of commons relative to the interment of Gladstone's body at Westminster Abbey. Sir William Vernon Harcourt seconded the address on behalf of the liberals, and John Dillon on behalf of the Irish parliamentary party. The chamber was crowded. In the house of lords the Marquis of Salisbury led the speaking in Gladstone's memory. The names of the pallbearers were announced in the 24th. They are the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York,

the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Kimberly, the Earl of Rosebery, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Mr. A. J. Balfour, and Sir William Vernon Harcourt. On the 26th at one o'clock in the morning the body was laid in state in Westminster hall.

A report was current in London on the 20th that the British government had given France an ultimatum to the effect that she must relinquish her African hinterland claims, and withdraw all representatives and expeditions within a month. Some days before, Lord Salisbury had said in a communication to the bankers that the West African question was the most serious the cabinet had before it, and that a satisfactory solution seemed well-nigh improbable. The Duke of Cambridge, formerly commander in chief of the British army, had also been credited with the remark at a banquet of volunteers that France had been given a month to clear out of the Boussa region, the territory which takes its name from the town of Boussa lying at the head of navigation on the river Niger. The duke denied having said this, but volunteer officers who were present insisted that his words had been distinctly noted. It has for some time been understood that the British ministry were disposed to force France to evacuate the Boussa, even at the risk of war.

To understand the West African controversy between France and Great Britain, find on any map the northern terminus of the eastern boundary line of Dahoméy, in Upper Guinea, at about latitude 9 north, and longitude 2.18 east. From this point draw a line eastwardly to the Niger; then northwestwardly along the Niger upward to the town of Say, and finally southerly from Say to the point of beginning. The triangle thus enclosed will indicate the territory in dispute. France claims it as its particular "sphere of influence," while England claims a protectorate over it. A sphere of influence has been aptly described as neither a sovereignty nor a protectorate over the territory to which it relates, but as marking out, "as between one European state and another, the limits within which each state may establish a measure of sovereignty if it can, and outside which it undertakes to respect any sovereignty the others may succeed in establishing." The English claim the

territory in question on the ground that the line, the northern terminus of which we have in the description above made the point of beginning, and which from the coast to that point is the western boundary of the English "hinterland," should in accordance with well settled principles, be extended to Say. They also claim to have made several treaties with native chiefs within the disputed territory before the French appeared in the region at all, and to have notified the French government of their protectorate without evoking any protest. France admits the general principles and the treaties, and does not deny the notification, but claims the territory on the ground of "effectual occupation" in advance of the English, and of subsequent treaties with stronger chiefs.

Whether an ultimatum was in fact given by the English appears now to be of little importance. France has yielded the best part of her claim. On the 22d, the Paris Figaro announced that the question had been settled by an agreement under which England is to have Boussa. The line of demarcation, according to the Figaro, is to start from Ilo on the Niger, instead of Say, and run southwest to the Dahomey boundary, thus leaving Nikki inside the French sphere. A line drawn from Say, which is more than 100 miles north and west of Ilo, would have given Nikki to the English.

Late Asiatic papers received on the 20th at Tacoma, Washington, say that there are many indications of rebellion in the Yangtze-Kiang Valley, China, owing to unsettled industrial conditions. The real ruler of this valley is said to be Cheng Chih-tung, viceroy of Honan and Hoo-Peh, who is disgusted with the weakness of the Peking government and is encouraging preparations for a revolt. Many missionaries in that section are thought to be in danger.

Advices from Samoa received at Vancouver, B. C., on the 20th, say that a native war is believed to be inevitable, the rebels having hoisted their flag in defiance of Malietoa's government. Samoa is that group of islands in the South Pacific ocean, formerly known as the Navigators' Islands, which are under a species of joint protection of Great Britain, Germany and the United States. These three powers while reserving

certain privileges for one another, recognize the independence of Samoa and the rights of the natives to elect their own ruler and choose their own form of government. The agreement between these powers was made at the Berlin conference in 1889, under the protection of which the former king of Samoa, Maliteoa Laupepa, whose authority is now again threatened, was restored to the kingship November 9, 1889.

Edward Bellamy died at Chicopee Falls, Mass., on the 22d, of consumption. He was the author of "Looking Backward," one of the few American books of vast circulation; and of a sequel to it, "Equality." As the author of the former book Mr. Bellamy may be said to have been the founder of the Nationalist movement. He was 49 years old.

#### IN CONGRESS.

Week Ending May 25, 1898.

##### Senate.

The debate on the war revenue measure continues.

##### House.

The house bill for the arbitration of labor disputes between railroads and their employes, as amended by the senate, was finally passed on the 19th by a vote of 219 to 4. No other action of public interest has been taken, but trouble over the question of the annexation of Hawaii is brewing. Unless Speaker Reed allows the matter to come up on the committee's report, it is probable that a caucus will override him. If that were once done it is believed that his autocratic power would be at an end.

#### NEWS NOTES.

—The Columbia left the harbor of New York on the 22d.

—Gen. Fitzhugh Lee arrived at Tampa on the 25th and was to report for duty to Gen. Shafter on the 26th.

—The general assembly of the Presbyterian church in the United States met at Winona Lake, Ind., on the 18th.

—Lieut. Sobral, formerly naval attaché of the Spanish legation at Washington, is in American custody under accusation of being a spy.

—A railroad collision near Chickamauga, Tenn., on the 21st killed one member of the First Missouri volunteers and wounded eight others.

—The mill of the Economical Smokeless Powder company, at Hessville, Ind., was blown up on the 21st, killing one man, seriously injuring three others

and destroying \$10,000 worth of property.

—A railroad collision on the Vandalia, near Collinsville, Ill., on the 21st, caused the death of four persons. Twenty others were wounded, five of them seriously.

—Polo, the ex-minister from Spain to the United States, went on board the Dominion, with his suite, at Montreal on the 20th and sailed for Europe on the 21st.

—On the 19th reports were received that the Spanish loss at Cienfuegos when the cables were cut, as reported on page 10 last week, was 300 killed, besides several hundred wounded.

—A riot, in which 3,000 persons engaged and lasting two hours, occurred at Bhowanipoor, 99 miles west of Dyanaghpoor, India, on the 22d. The rioters were dispersed by the police.

—Ex-President Harrison, of the United States, has been engaged by the Venezuelan government as counsel for Venezuela before the arbitrators in the boundary dispute with Great Britain.

—Jerry Simpson was renominated for congress by acclamation by the populists of the Seventh Kansas district on the 19th. This will be his fifth congressional campaign. He has been beaten once, and elected three times.

—William Astor Chanler, who was raising a company of Cubans, has given over that work to his brother and accepted an appointment as assistant adjutant general, with the rank of captain, on the staff of Gen. Joseph Wheeler.

—While off Cape San Antonio, at the western extremity of Cuba, on the 23d, a part of the American blockading squadron felt the force of a terrific but mysterious explosion. Its cause is unexplained, though it is supposed to have been an earthquake.

—The American cruiser Newark was put in commission at Norfolk, Va., on the 21st. It is a protected twin-screw steel cruiser, having a main battery of 12 six-inch breech-loading rifles, and a secondary battery of four six-pound rapid-fire guns, four Hotchkiss revolving cannon and four Gatlings.

—The number of killed by the cyclone which began by destroying Cunningham, near Wichita, Kan., and passing northeastwardly did great damage in eastern Iowa and western Illinois and Wisconsin, proved much greater than was at first supposed. But for war it would have been the news sensation of the week.

—Fifty thousand people welcomed the Sixth Massachusetts regiment on its way through Baltimore. This is the same regiment which, in 1861, in passing through the same city, was fired upon by a Baltimore mob. One of the legends on a flower design presented to the regiment on the 21st read: "Baltimore welcomes the Sixth