

publican government are regularly administered. In testimony of this, and of the ability and desire of the Filipinos to govern themselves, a document signed by the chiefs is submitted with the appeal. The prayer of the appeal is for the recognition by foreign governments of the belligerency and independence of the Philippines.

The national assembly of the Philippine republic is still in session. It has decided to request the Americans, first, to recognize the independence of the islands; second, to establish a protectorate over their external affairs, and to induce the powers to recognize their independence; third, to appoint a joint commission of Americans and Filipinos for the arrangement of details to "reciprocate the Americans' services."

A representative of the Philippine national assembly has been sent to the United States. His name is Philippo Agoncello. With his secretary, Jose Lopez, and in company with Gen. Francis Vinton Greene, who returns with messages to the government at Washington, Agoncello arrived at San Francisco on the 22d and in Washington on the 27th. His ultimate mission is to endeavor to secure the recognition of Philippine independence by the United States. He says that the Filipinos will lay down their arms as soon as they have the assurance of the United States that their islands will never be given back to Spain. If the United States will not recognize their independence, they will ask for a United States protectorate; and upon the denial of that they will as a third choice ask to become a colonial possession of the United States. Agoncello's purpose, however, is to lay before President McKinley the claims of his government to be represented at the sessions of the Paris peace commission. He has not yet called upon the president.

In eastern Cuba Gens. Lawton and Wood are progressing satisfactorily both in improving the government of Santiago and in restoring the confidence of the Cubans which Gen. Shafter forfeited. Gen. Garcia visited the city on the 23d and was welcomed by Gen. Wood who, with part of Gen. Lawton's staff and a number of other officers, went outside the city limits to meet him and escort him into the city. The Cuban general was accompanied by many Cuban officers

and 200 Cuban cavalry. The streets were thronged as he passed, and it was estimated that 10,000 people filled the plaza in front of the palace. Enthusiastic cheering greeted the procession. At the door of the palace, Gen. Lawton met the party and tendered Garcia an informal reception. In a thoughtful speech which Garcia made on this occasion he closed with the words, "Our gratitude will long live for America." Gen. Wood's jurisdiction is now extended so as to embrace the whole province of Santiago de Cuba, and the Cuban general, Castillo has, with the approval of Lawton and Wood, been appointed counselor and assistant to the civil governor. Maj. McCleary, formerly attorney general of Texas, has been appointed Mayor of Santiago, and Spanish officials generally are being displaced by Cubans.

At the western end of the island, also, a better feeling is growing up. This is particularly noticeable in the declaration of the radical members of the colonial house of representatives, part of the autonomist government which Spain sought to establish, a declaration that has been forwarded from Havana to Washington. It contains 10 signatures, and is an unreserved submission to the new situation. The signers offer allegiance to the new political status, and swear within the limits of that status to defend "the absolute independence of the Island of Cuba." They also recommend all autonomists to take an active part in the politics of the island "but without attempting or pretending to exercise a controlling influence or power in the management of political affairs, which logically and justly belong to those who have always been the consistent supporters of the cause of independence."

By order of Captain General Blanco the remains of Christopher Columbus have been removed from the cathedral in Havana to the palace, for transportation to Spain. The little lead coffin contained only a handful of brown dust and a few small fragments of bone, besides two parchment documents. One of the documents was a certificate of the transfer of the remains from Sevilla to San Domingo in 1524, and the other of their removal from San Domingo to Havana in 1795.

On the 27th, the war department made public an order for the forma-

tion of the first military division to go to Cuba. It is to go not later than October 20. No commander of the division has yet been officially announced, but it is expected that he will be Gen. Wade, who with his staff arrived in Havana on the 27th.

The American peace commissioners—Day, Davis, Frye, Reid, and Gray,—arrived in Liverpool on the 24th, by the Campania. They went immediately to London, and after remaining there over Sunday reached Paris in the early evening of the 26th. They were received in Paris by the American ambassador and a representative of the French government. On the 27th they held a private sitting at the Continental hotel. A meeting of the Spanish commissioners was held at the same time at the Spanish embassy.

Passing back now from American to foreign affairs, it appears that the rumors reported last week of the occupation of Fashoda by Gen. Kitchener were well founded. Kitchener has returned to Omdurman after establishing a post on the Sobat river, about 60 miles south of Fashoda, and one also at Fashoda. No fighting was done. Gen. Kitchener upon finding a French force under Maj. Marchand at Fashoda, notified Marchand that the French must retire. He offered to transport them to Cairo. Maj. Marchand declined to retire, whereupon Gen. Kitchener hoisted the Egyptian flag, left a garrison under Col. Jackson to protect the flag, sent an official report to London, and went his way. The Egyptian flag is planted 500 meters from the French flag. Maj. Marchand was offered an opportunity to enter a protest, but he declined. The question of rightful occupation will now be made a subject for diplomacy. For his work in Egypt Gen. Kitchener has been raised to the British peerage.

The last stronghold of the dervishes, Gedaref, was captured by the Anglo-Egyptian troops on the 22d, after three hours of hard fighting.

And now Italy and Colombia are becoming entangled in war producing relations. The trouble arises out of the Cerruti claim, which was supposed to have been settled. This claim was allowed by President Cleveland, as arbitrator, and as it remained long unpaid Italy sent war vessels into Colombian waters to demand an ad-