IN THE FIRST BATTLE.

Merritt Kerr Writes to Mrs. S. A Davis From Manila.

Gives His Former Sunday School Teacher the Gratifying Information That He Has Come Through the First Battle Without a Scratch—First Nebraska Located Near Manila.

The following is taken from a letter written by Merritt Kerr to his former Sunday school teacher, Mrs. S. A. Davis:

CAMP LONESOME, Feb. 18.—I suppose you have heard of the events of the past two weeks, and are perhaps wondering how I am faring. I have come through the first battle without a scratch, though with a strong desire for peace. I have had all the fighting I want, but am afraid it is a vain hope. The rebels have put up a hard fight, although it has been a losing one from the first. They have inflicted a great deal of damage among our troops, but the lesson administered to them has been a terrible one—every battle they have had a long list of killed and wounded. Our regiment has sustained a loss of seven killed and thirty-three wounded, and I don't know but that some have since died. Three companies of our regiment had a hard fight yesterday afternoon, and seven of them were wounded. Our company was called to go to their support, but the battle was over before we could reach them. The last engagement our company participated in was on Monday, Feb. 6, in which one of our boys was killed.

Plattsmouth has been called upon to mourn the loss of one of her soldier boys—Guy Livingston. I wanted to see Guy and the rest of the boys before going back to my company street, but for some reason was unable to see them, and have not seen them since. They have been at Camp Santo Mesa all the time, defending the camp against attacks while the rest of the regiment is out guarding the water line. Our camp here is about eight miles east of Manila. We are doing a good deal of duty these days, being on outpost duty every other night. I was on patrol last night from midnight until morning and will probably get a chance to sleep tonight if there is no scare. I may have to go on a scouting trip tomorrow, and so may be in another fight inside of twenty hours. I was on a scouting trip Thursday and had a chance to see a good deal of the country. From our camp we passed through the woods to the Pasig river, five miles south of here, and saw a good deal of beautiful country. The country is very hilly and is densely wooded with bamboo and other tropical trees. Banana trees abound and there are a good many other kinds of fruits. The formation of the country seems to be all rock—the trees seem to grow right out of the rock. There is a thin covering of soil on the lower lands which is very rich. All of the open fields are squared off with ridges to keep the water from running off during the wet season.

The California boys, who are across the Pasig river to the south of us, had a hard fight last night—were engaged all night long, part of the fighting being very heavy. Our lines altogether are about twenty-seven miles long, with about 25,000 men, which makes any forward movement impossible before the regiments enroute arrive. When they come we will probably start on the aggressive again and will then end the war. I hope it will soon be ended, so the volunteers can return home.

Please remember me to the boys of the Sunday school class, and also to the members of the Epworth League and all my friends. Please ask the Epworth League to remember me in their prayers, as I need them here in my life, where the temptations are constant and almost overwhelming. Your friend, MERRITT KERR.

DISTRICT COURT NOTES.

From Thursday's Daily.

The jury in the case of Asa Coleman vs. The Modern Woodmen of America returned a verdict this afternoon in favor of the plaintiff for the full amount sued for—$2,000—with $88.62 interest. It is supposed that the case will be appealed.

The trial of Louis Olsen vs. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad is being tried to a jury. This case will probably consume the remainder of the week.

The jurors who are not engaged on the Olsen case were excused until Monday by Judge Ramsey today.

The case of W. K. Fox, administrator, vs. The Missouri Pacific railroad will come up for a new trial April 11. Sheriff Wheeler will summon a new jury to sit on the case.

Kipling Accused of Plagarism.

The Bookman, of New York, says: An interesting parallel between the well known "Explanation" of Rudyard Kipling, and a "Fable" not so well known, written in 1634 by one Richard Flecknoe, has been pointed out to us by a correspondent. It is his opinion that the old poet surpasses the modern, and he suggests that another "explanation" is due from Mr. Kipling.

A Warrant For Watson.

For some time it has been rumored that following the impeachment proceedings against John C. Watson that he would be placed under arrest on various charges. This afternoon William Hawke went before Judge Joyce and swore out a warrant for the arrest of the said Watson on the charge of obtaining his signature to a deed fraudulently and by misrepresentation. In his petition Hawke claims that he supposed he was signing a bill of exceptions, but claims he signed a deed to an undivided one-half of the northwest quarter of section No. 6, town 8, north of range 14, being the value of $5,000.

No arrest was made, as Mr. Watson left for the north on the K. C. this afternoon.—Nebraska City News.

FILIPINOS ARE PREPARING DEFENSES

One Thousand Rebels Entrenched North of Malolos.

It Is Expected That Hard Fighting Will Be Necessary to Dislodge Them, as They Are Armed With Mauser Rifles—Americans Dig Up Two New Krupp Guns and 27,007 Silver Dollars.

MANILA, April 4.—4:45 p. m.—General MacArthur reconnoitered in force this morning with the Montana regiment, the Fourth cavalry and two guns of the light artillery as far as the river north of Malolos. The reconnoissance developed the fact that there are fully one thousand rebels, armed with Mauser rifles, preparing for defense. Shots were exchanged and two of the Montana regiment were wounded, but there was no engagement.

Later in the day General MacArthur moved northward, as the water supply of Malolos is inadequate.

The belief is spreading among the residents here that the effect of the capture of Malolos, the former rebel capital, followed by the proclamation of the United States Philippine commission will be to convince the natives that Aguinaldo's bubble has burst.

Dr. Schurman, president of the commission, said:

"The Filipinos have been asking unceasingly, 'What do you propose to do for us?' The proclamation answers the question and it should satisfy them."

Of Greatest Importance.

Colonel Charles Denby, member of the commission and former minister to China, remarked:

"It is the most important proclamation since the Declaration of Independence. Spanish, Tagalo and English versions have been printed, and it is proposed to circulate them about Malolos and at all seaports. They will be sent to the lake towns by gunboats."

The committee of Spaniards, under the leadership of Senor Antonio Fuset, president of the Spanish club, has had little success with the expedition organized to deliver money and stores to the Spanish prisoners. The members of the expedition were obliged to give the goods to the Filipino officers at Batangas. The boat had a letter from Aguinaldo directing the Filipino officials to aid the mission, but General Trias, commanding the Filipino forces in the southern provinces, and his subordinates declined to recognize Aguinaldo's authority. The Spaniards refused to accept the invitations to land, having been warned that they would be held for ransom.

Major Rafael Morales, the former Spanish governor of the island of Mindoro, was brought on board the ship for an interview. He was so weak that he fainted, and at parting he said:

"I shall never see you again."

The Filipinos thought the Red Cross flag was the American flag.

A committee, whose members are of all the nationalities in Manila, headed by John McLeod, an Englishman, has been organized for the purpose of interviewing the Filipino leaders and petitioning for the release of the prisoners in the name of humanity.

Rebels Massing for a Fight.

MANILA, April 5.—9:35 a. m.—The insurgents are massing strong forces north of Calumpit, about five and a half miles north of Malolos, and, according to the observations of the reconnoitering parties, they have fine entrenchments there.

It is expected that hard fighting will be necessary to dislodge them at that point and at San Fernando, where Aguinaldo is supposed to be. Large rivers strengthen both positions. The Montana regiment had one man killed and three wounded yesterday. Twenty-five men were prostrated by the heat and brought to the hospital.

Two new big Krupp guns, one six-inch and the other eight-inch, which were found buried at Malolos, will be mounted.

The Americans have also found 27,007 silver dollars.

PROCLAMATION POSTED

United States' Policy Outlined to Aguinaldo's Followers.

The Document Is Printed in English, Spanish and Taglog—Europeans Think Decisive Policy Will Be Successful—The Boastful Aguinaldo Said to Have Been Supplanted.

MANILA, April 5.—6:20 p. m.—The proclamation of the United States Philippine commission was posted in the streets printed in English, Spanish and Taglog today. It was also distributed in the outside towns as far as Malolos and has been received with marked attention by the natives generally and has been approved by a number of representative Manilans.

English bankers here who have been interviewed on the subject are optimistic upon the attitude of the Americans, assuming that the decisive policy will undoubtedly be successful.

Opinions on Document.

A Spanish banker who was interviewed expressed fear that the proclamation will not reach the masses controlling the rebellion because, he explained, the Filipinos at Manila are mostly domestics and clerks who have no definite opinions and the wire-pullers outside of the city have undoubtedly intercepted it.

Continuing, the Spanish banker said that if the proclamation had been issued on May 2, or even August 14 of last year, the result would have been different, as, in his opinion, based on twenty years' experience, the only argument which appeals to the masses here is the gun.

The editor of the Oceania thinks the proclamation is the most politic document ever published in the Philippine islands and that it is bound to convince the wavering of the folly of further hostilities.

An English merchant says the first clause, with reference to the establishment and maintenance of American sovereignty and warning the rebels, should settle the question in the minds of every thinking Filipino.

A Scotch ship owner thinks it does not leave any further doubt as to the policy of the United States, and that consequently, Aguinaldo must submit to the inevitable, as the continuance of hostilities is opposed to the best interests of the Philippines.

Routed Out of Dagupan.

MANILA, April 6.—10:15 a. m.—The cruiser Charleston, which has been cruising along the west coast of Luzon, to the north, sent a boat in shore near Dagupan last Tuesday to make soundings. The rebels opened fire, wounding a United States officer.

The cruiser thereupon bombarded the town, the insurgents evacuating it.

Rumor of Aguinaldo's Fall.

MANILA, April 5.—There are persistent rumors today that Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader, has been supplanted in the control of Filipino affairs by General Antonio Luna, commander in-chief of the Filipino forces. Luna is described as being a typical belligerent.

Theological Discussion.

Yabsley—Do you believe that heaven is a place of eternal rest? Mudge—I don't know anything about it. I know, though, that eternal work would be—wouldn't be heaven."—Indianapolis Journal.

CITY AND COUNTY.

WEDNESDAY.

Miss Anna Critchfield was an Omaha visitor today.

John T. Ritchey, the Wabash grain buyer, was in the city today.

Charles Richey of Louisville was in the city today and returned home via Omaha.

Henry Tartsch of McCook is in the city visiting his parents and old friends.

Miss May Bates went to Ashland this afternoon to visit relatives for a few days.

Thomas Walling and family are now pleasantly ensconsed in their new home on North Third street.

C. C. Parmele departed last evening for Deadwood to look after some business. Upon his return he will stop at Lakeside for a few days' duck hunt.

Frank Morgan and F. G. Fricke will go to Lakeside tomorrow to slay a few of the festive ducks which are said to infest that region in such large numbers.

R. B. Windham returned this morning from a week's trip to Champagne, Ill. His daughter Hermia, who has been spending the winter in Illinois, returned with him.

THURSDAY.

Father Carney was a passenger for Lincoln this morning.

Harry Reed, the Weeping Water real estate man, was in the city today.

Workmen flushed the streets today and made it possible to cross them without waders.

Bridge Contractor Charles Sheeley was in the city today attending to business with the commissioners.

Miss Grace Walker returned from Lincoln last evening, having completed her duties at the state house.

Lee Arnett of the Western Wheeled Scraper company was in the city today looking after business with the county commissioners.

The Missouri river has commenced to raise and if there is a general fall of rain the highest water for many years may be looked for this spring.

The vote of Tuesday's election will be canvassed at the council meeting next Monday evening. The newly elected officers will take the oath of office on that evening.

Eli Sampson, who recently sold his property in the west part of town to Conrad Schlater, has purchased the property opposite the Episcopal church of August Gorder, and with his wife now occupies it.

J. W. Thomas, who has watched the antics of the Missouri river for a great many years, predicts that we will have a flood almost equal to that of 1881 this spring. He will not attempt to raise sweet potatoes on the island this summer.

William Tate, the young man who was injured in the Burlington yards two weeks ago, is still confined to his bed in the Perkins house. He is conscious at intervals and seems to be improving, but is still in a critical condition.

At a fire in Lead, S. D., Tuesday night in which $100,00 worth of property was destroyed, the tin shop belonging to Harry Coolidge, with the contents was destroyed. He is a brother of Deputy County Clerk Will Coolidge of this city and had only owned the shop since January 1. It is not known whether he carried any insurance or not.

A reduction in the price for the Woman's club concert course is announced. Those holding season tickets will find their tickets good for four concerts instead of three as first intended. The price for each of the three remaining concerts is 35 cents for each concert. The course tickets can still be secured for $1 for the three remaining concerts. The next concert will be at White's hall April [illegible] Reserved seats at Lehnhoff's for [illegible] cents. Schubert lecture recital May [illegible] and children's concert on May 25.

RAILROAD NOTES AND PERSONALS

From Wednesday's Daily.

L. E. Karnes returned from his trip to Broken Bow today and will once more be found at his post of duty at the Burlington depot. While at Red Cloud he instituted an encampment of the I. O. O. F.

J. W. Deweese, the Burlington attorney, was down from Lincoln on legal business today.

Lawrence Quinlan, who has been acting in the capacity of night operator at the Burlington depot during L. E. Karnes' absence, returned to Lincoln this morning.

From Thursday's Daily.

The committee on locomotive painting held a meeting in the office of Superintendent of Motive Power D. Hawksworth today. The committee is composed of R. B. Archibald, master mechanic at McCook, A. R. Pirie, master mechanic at Wymore and Mr. Wickhors, engineer of tests, of Aurora, Ill.

The Burlington day car is scheduled to arrive here next Monday morning, April 10.

Another fast run has just been made by the Burlington fast mail, which is due in Council Bluffs in the morning. The train left Chicago late on account of a wreck in the yards. When it left Creston, Ia., it was sixty-six minutes late. Upon arrival at Council Bluffs it was twent-nine minutes late. The distance from Creston to the Bluffs is 104 miles, which was made in 113 minutes, including two stops. The run was really made at the rate of a mile a minute. This rate of speed is frequently made on the east end of the line, where most of the fast running by these trains is scheduled, but it rarely occurs that such speed is attained on the western divisions. During the month of March this train was late but once, twenty-three minutes on March 18. The fast mail due here in the afternoon has only been late once since January 1, fifteen minutes on February 25.—Omaha Bee.

O. C. Smith, a former Plattsmouth citizen, but who is now a clerk in Greusel's office in Havelock, was in the city today.

FILE YOUR WANTS.

(Special notices under this head will be charged for at the rate of one-half (½) cent per word for each insertion.)

AGENTS WANTED.

WANTED—Active and trustworthy persons to work for us locally. Liberal salary guaranteed. Good chance for advancement. No capital required. For full information, address Snepp Company, 1031-1033 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, Pa

FOR SALE AND RENT.

FOR RENT—Five room brick house on First street, Wintersteen hill, one block from shop yard. Inquire of W. W. Hull.

FOR RENT—A pasture and about 20 acres of fall plowing on a place near town. Inquire of William Morrow at Vienna bakery.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Notice to Creditors.

STATE OF NEBRASKA, Cass County, } ss. In County Court.

In the matter of the estate of Bushrod Washington Richardson, deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of said deceased will meet the administrator of said estate, before me, County judge of Cass county, Nebraska, at the county court room in Plattsmouth in said county, on the 29th day of May, A. D., 1899, and on the 30th day of Oct., 1899, at 9 o'clock a. m., each day for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance. Six months are allowed for the creditors of said deceased to present their claims, from the 29th day of April, 1899

Witness my hand and seal of said county court at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, this 4th day of April, 1899. GEORGE M. SPURLOCK, (Seal) County Judge.

Notice to Creditors.

STATE OF NEBRASKA, County of Cass. } ss. In County Court.

In the matter of the estate of Albina Phillinda Thomas, deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of said deceased will meet the administrator of said estate, before me, county judge of Cass county, Nebraska, at the county court room in Plattsmouth in said county, on the 16th day of May, A. D., 1899, and on the 16th day of September, 1899, at 9 o'clock a. m., each day for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance. Six months are allowed for the creditors of said deceased to present their claims, from the 15th day of April, 1899.

Witness my hand and the seal of said court at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, this, the 21st day of March, A. D. 1899. GEORGE M. SPURLOCK, [SEAL] County Judge.

Notice to Creditors.

STATE OF NEBRASKA, Cass County. } ss. In County Court.

In the matter of the estate of George F. Terryberry, deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of said deceased will meet the executor of said estate, before me, county judge of Cass county, Nebraska, at the county court room in Plattsmouth in said county, on the 8th day of May, A. D. 1899 and on the 9th day of October, 1899, at 9 o'clock p. m., each day for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance. Six months are allowed for the creditors of said deceased to present their claims from the 8th day of April, 1899.

Witness my hand and the seal of said county court at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, this 11th day March, 1899. GEORGE M. SPURLOCK, (Seal) County Judge.