

Weekly News Summary

At Chatham, Mass., while engaged in the rescue of the crew of the stranded barge Wadena, the life-boat capsized and eleven persons were drowned.

John Dillon, nationalist, was suspended from the house of commons March 19 for referring to Joseph Chamberlain as a liar. The suspension is for one week.

The foreign residents of Japan have refused to pay the new taxes on property, claiming that it is a violation of treaties and the question is to be definitely settled between the powers and Japan.

Rear Admiral John A. Howell, president of the naval retiring board, and next to Admiral Dewey the ranking officer of the navy, reached the age of 62 years March 15 and was placed on the retired list.

A dispatch from Berlin announces that great dissatisfaction is felt in Germany on account of the evident partiality that is being shown to the transportation of American goods by German steamship lines.

In a suit held in New York against the Northern Pacific railroad company, it developed that the firm of J. Pierpont Morgan & Co. had traded \$78,000,000 of the stock of this company for Northern securities.

The pier of the Phoenix steamship line at Hoboken, N. J., was destroyed by fire March 18. The steamer British Queen was consumed, also a large amount of cotton bales and hay. The loss will approximate \$1,000,000.

In the house of commons March 18 the war secretary, Mr. Broderick, announced that Lord Wolseley's trip to South Africa was an entirely private affair, the object of his visit being in no way connected with the war office.

At the celebration of the 126th anniversary of the evacuation of Boston by the British, a monument on Dorchester Heights was unveiled. Henry Cabot Lodge delivered the oration and Admiral Schley was the guest of honor.

Late advices from Venezuela concerning the revolution seem to assert the supremacy of the rebels over the government forces. Provisions are becoming scarce in Panama as the small boats are no longer able to communicate with the neighboring towns.

A new cabinet has been formed in Spain with Senor Sagasta as premier and General Weyler as minister of war. According to the Associated press dispatch of March 15, the queen regent commanded Senor Sagasta to form a new cabinet to take the place of the one that resigned March 13.

A dispatch from Havana announces that a sentiment is growing in Cuba in favor of an open door policy with regard to reciprocity to all nations and that if the United States shall make a less reduction in the tariff than 50 per cent, the government of Cuba will demand the immediate right to make commercial treaties.

In the house of commons on March 18, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the liberal leader, asked for an investigation of the whole commercial history of the South African war. In the house of lords, the premier, Lord Salisbury, was called upon to defend the government's rigorous methods in Cape Colony. He insisted that there was enough of armed resistance in the Cape to fully justify the application of martial law.

THE WEEK AT WASHINGTON.

The bill providing for the repeal of the war revenue taxes passed the senate March 21.

The Sibley plan with regard to Cuban reciprocity has been adopted by

the republican caucus in the house. This plan provides for a 20 per cent reduction of duty and limits the duration of the reduced rates to December 1, 1903.

On March 21 the house passed the river and harbor bill. It carries an appropriation of \$60,688,267.

Washington dispatches intimate that President Roosevelt will force General Miles' retirement on account of the statements attributed to General Miles before the congressional committee.

On March 18 the house heard several arguments on the pending eight-hour bill. Messrs. Payson and McCammon, representing a number of large corporations, spoke against the bill, and President Gompers of the federation of labor, spoke in favor of it.

The senate committee on foreign relations has made concessions to the house by deciding that reciprocity treaties affecting the revenue are to be amended so as to provide that these treaties shall take effect when approved by congress. This means that these treaties must have the approval of the house as well as of the senate.

March 20 General Miles appeared before the senate committee on military affairs and, dispatches report, announced his intention of resigning if the bill introduced by Senator Hawley for the organization of a general staff for the army should become a law. The reason he gave is that the bill would destroy unity of the army and leave its management in the hands of the favored few.

General Miles made a request to be sent to the Philippine islands and there allowed to employ methods similar to those used by him so successfully in his Indian campaigns. This request, however, has been denied by the president, and the war department as they hold that the war is "already about at an end, and the adoption of a change of policy would be unfair to those whose work there has brought about almost complete pacification."

THE SHIP SUBSIDY BILL.

The ship subsidy bill came up in the senate on March 17th for consideration and it was passed by a vote of 42 to 31. Senator McLaurin of South Carolina, elected as a democrat, voted for the bill. All democrats present voted against the bill and Senators Allison, Dolliver, Proctor, Spooner, Quarles, and Dillingham, all republicans, voted against the measure. The debate of the day began with a speech by Mr. Gallinger in favor of the bill.

Mr. Hanna appealed for the passage of the measure in behalf of the business interests of the country. Mr. Clay of Georgia said that while Mr. Hanna had made a remarkable speech, he had not answered the questions which had been asked by the democrats. Mr. Hanna replied that he did not have time. Mr. Clay retorted that Mr. Hanna might have had a month and he could not answer the questions that had been propounded by the democrats. Mr. Clay then proceeded to speak in opposition to the bill. Mr. Wellington spoke in behalf of the measure. Mr. Berry followed in a speech against the bill. Mr. Perkins of California spoke in favor of the bill and was followed by Mr. McLaurin of Mississippi in opposition. A running

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debate ensued, after which amendment after amendment designed to improve the measure was voted down. The six republican senators who voted against the bill on its final passage voted with the supporters of the bill in order to defeat the amendments proposed by the democrats.

PRESIDENT'S BILL.

The bill for the protection of the president passed the senate March 21. Mr. Patterson made a speech in opposition to the bill. Mr. Fairbanks spoke in support of the measure and the bill was passed after the rejection of all amendments by a vote of 52 to 15. The bill provides that any person within the United States who shall willfully and maliciously kill the president or any officer on whom the duties of president may devolve, or any sovereign of a foreign country, or shall attempt to kill any of the persons named shall suffer death; that any person who shall aid, abet, advise or counsel the killing of any of the persons named or shall conspire to accomplish their death, shall be imprisoned not exceeding twenty years; that any person who shall threaten to kill or advise or counsel another to kill the president or any official on whom the duties of president may devolve, shall be imprisoned not exceeding ten years; that any person who shall willfully aid in the escape of any person guilty of any of the offenses mentioned shall be punished as a principal. The secretary of war is directed to detail from the regular army a guard of officers and men to protect the president "without any unnecessary display," and the secretary is authorized to make regulations as to the dress, arms and equipment of such guard.

GENERAL OTIS' TESTIMONY.

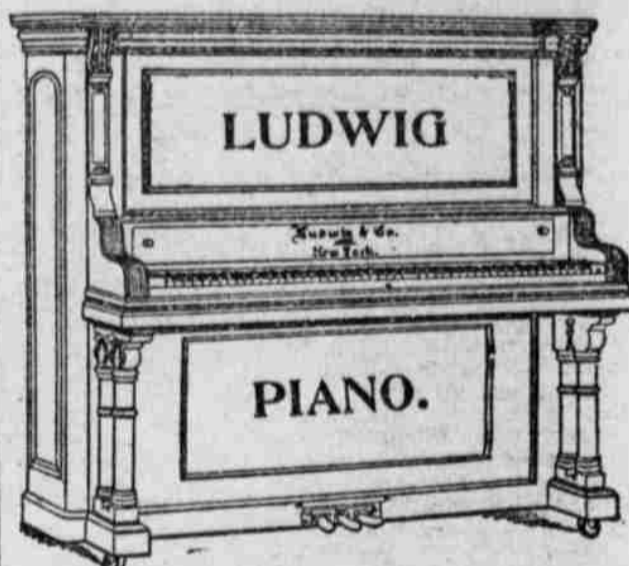
Major General Otis again appeared before the senate committee on the Philippines March 18. He stated, in reply to a question by Senator Hale as to where the insurgents got their supplies, that they had received 2,500 rifles from Admiral Dewey and also supplies from Hong Kong. On March 19, General Otis again appeared before the committee and the Associated press dispatches say: Senator Patterson continued his questioning and referred to a letter dated September 6, 1898, addressed by General Otis, to Aguinaldo, as "the commanding general of the Philippines forces," in which he spoke of the sacrifices made by the revolutionary forces, "in the interest of civil liberty." General Otis declared that this related to their dealings with the Spaniards. He admitted that before the United States army arrived in Manila and for some little time before they took possession, the insurgents had the Spaniards hemmed in in Manila. He denied that he led Aguinaldo to believe that the United States would not assume absolute sovereignty and governmental control over the islands. Asked what he meant by the statement in his letter that "rather than see the ships of the United States navy control the navigable waters of these islands and its army devastating their territory I greatly prefer to advise my government not to send any more troops here." General Otis answered that that was his opinion because he did not want to see any war. "I wanted to conquer by peaceful means," said he, "but I gave the impression that there were troops waiting." General Otis said, answering an inquiry by Senator Hale, that had the government taken him at his word, not to send more troops, anarchy would have reigned throughout the island. He thought that his letter should be considered as a whole. "That was a period when I was laboring hard," said he, "to keep the peace, and to keep our men and officers from paying attention to the insults received from

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