

## THE NEWS OF THE WEEK.

According to the reports from London King Edward continues to improve and great hope is entertained of his speedy recovery.

Disastrous forest fires have been raging in the state of Washington, causing the destruction of many lumber camps and much valuable timber.

The Colombian government troops have captured the town of Agua Dulce without trouble. This town was one of the strongholds of the revolutionary troops.

It is reported that a special session of the Ohio legislature will be called to make good laws in the place of several which the supreme court of the state has declared invalid.

Congressmen W. L. Stark and A. C. Shallenberger were both renominated for congress from Nebraska on June 23. Mr. Stark represents the Fourth district and Mr. Shallenberger the Fifth.

A dispatch from Manila announces the ravages of cholera in the Philippines. Up to June 22 ninety American soldiers have died of the disease and it is making great headway among the natives.

A cablegram from London under date of June 22 says that a report from Shanghai, China, gave notice of a terrific explosion wrecking a Chinese warship in the Yang Tse river, and causing the death of all but two of the 150 officers and men on board.

On June 21, 525 employes of the Union Pacific railroad shops were discharged as the result of the boiler-makers' strike. This includes 225 at Omaha, 200 at Cheyenne, and 100 at Armstrong, Kas. Later advices increase the number of those discharged at Cheyenne to 550 men.

Great consternation was occasioned in London and throughout the civilized world by the news of the severe illness of King Edward of England on the very eve of his coronation. His condition is being watched with great anxiety and the coronation festivities have been indefinitely postponed.

A dispatch from the island of St. Helena, under date of June 27, announces that the first consignment of Boer prisoners that has been confined there for many months sailed for South Africa on June 26. The consignment numbers 478 men, and all took the oath of allegiance to Great Britain.

Several American steel foundries have united in a trust under a New Jersey charter with \$40,000,000 stock. The control of the companies is to be taken over July 15. It is stated that no corporation fees were expected, and that announcement of the election of officers and directors of the corporation would be made shortly.

The national mine workers are furnishing supplies to their comrades in West Virginia. Three carloads of food are being sent daily from Cincinnati, but it is feared that the court may enjoin them from this work, as the injunction issued some days ago by Judge Jackson at Parkersburg, W. Va., is the most sweeping they have encountered.

Lord Milner, who was British high commissioner in South Africa, took the oath as governor of the Transvaal at Pretoria on June 22. The same ceremony was performed at Bloemfontein, Orange River Colony, on June 24. The constitution of the colony was promulgated in the presence of military and civil officers. General De Wet and other prominent Boers were present.

A dispatch from Washington, under date of June 25, says: Walter S. Cox,

formerly associate justice of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, and one of the most distinguished jurists in this section, died here today. He was 76 years old. He presided over many famous criminal cases, the most notable of which was the trial of Guiteau for the assassination of President Garfield.

A cablegram from St. Petersburg, under date of June 26, says: It is said the Russian troops have already been withdrawn from Moukden, Manchuria, that Kerin will be evacuated by 1903, and that the Shan Hai Kwan railroad will be restored to its owners by October. The Manchurian railroad guards will number thirty thousand men.

President John Mitchell of the united mine workers of America issued an address on June 22 to the public. It is partly a reply to the letters of the operators declining to accede to the demands of the union which were published about ten days ago. Briefly summarized, the address says that every possible means was resorted to in the effort to prevent the strike, claims that the cost of living has increased to the point where the miner was compelled to ask for higher wages; denies the allegations of the operators that the productive capacity of the mine workers has fallen off, but on the other hand has increased; quotes official figures to substantiate the contention that the employers can pay higher wages without increasing the cost of coal to the consumer; asserts that the coal carrying railroads, which control about 85 per cent of the mines, absorb the profits of the coal companies by charging exorbitant freight rates, claiming that a ton at the mines means anywhere from 2,740 to 3,190 pounds instead of 2,240, and says that more men are killed and injured in the anthracite mines of Pennsylvania annually than were killed or wounded during the Spanish-American war. The address also says that in the event the union is crushed which it adds is not likely, a new organization would rise from its ruins. It concludes with another appeal for arbitration of all questions in dispute.

### THE WEEK AT WASHINGTON.

A caucus of the democratic members of the house met in Washington on June 27 and unanimously adopted resolutions condemning the republican majority for not passing a measure providing for reciprocity with Cuba, demanding that tariffs be so reduced as to injure the trust system; and making the trust question an issue in the coming campaign.

The cabinet has decided that all political prisoners in the Philippines, including Aguinaldo, will be given their liberty on the Fourth of July. This amnesty will be declared when the Philippine bill shall have passed.

All hope of passing any reciprocity measure with Cuba was abandoned in the senate and it will be passed over until the next session of congress. The disposition is to go to the country and try to "strengthen the cause."

Major General Lloyd Wheaton has returned from the Philippines where he has been in active service since January, 1899. He would not talk on the charge of cruelty made against American soldiers there, but made this statement as showing what American occupation meant.

"The devastations of war have cost many lives and the loss among the natives has, no doubt, been very large, but when one takes into consideration the hundreds of thousands of lives that have been saved by reason of the sanitary precautions of the American army and the civil commission that loss by war seems infinitesimal.

"Smallpox became epidemic soon after the Americans took Manila and would have caused frightful mortality among the natives as well as among the streets but for the regulations and precautions of the medical authorities of our army. Compulsory vaccination was held in every city, province and town throughout the country. In that way we saved thousands of lives. In General Bell's department 300,000 were vaccinated. Later when the bubonic plague seemed bound to obtain a foothold in the Philippines the army stamped it out by determined action. At present cholera is raging and I believe the health officers have the disease well under control. These dangers have been met and overcome by Americans."

The debate on the Philippine government bill in the house on June 23 was characterized by comparisons of the cruelties charged to have been practiced in those islands with those which occurred during the civil war. Mr. Grosvenor of Ohio revived the memories of the extremities to which Grant and Jackson were put during the rebellion. Mr. Mahon of Pennsylvania also made a speech in which allusion was made to Andersonville and Libby prison. The other speakers were Mr. DeArmond of Missouri, Mr. Olmstead of Pennsylvania, Williams of Illinois, Corliss of Michigan, and W. W. Kitchin of North Carolina.

Mr. Grosvenor of Ohio, under the latitude allowed in general debate, discussed at length the criticism of the rules of the house recently made by Mr. Cushman of Washington and others. His speech was a defense of the rulings of the presiding officers of the house, particularly of Speaker Henderson. In conclusion Mr. Grosvenor spoke in defense of the army in the Philippines, declaring that the counterpart of all the reported cruelties there could be found on both sides during the civil war.

On June 23 a motion was formally made by Mr. Quay of Pennsylvania to discharge the committee on territories from further consideration of the bill to admit to statehood the territories of Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona. On June 25 the senate agreed to make this bill the unfinished business for the 10th day of the next session of congress.

The state department received a cablegram from United States minister Bowen at Caracas on June 24. No official news as to the contents of the message has been given out, but it is understood that a critical state of affairs reigns in Venezuela. It is rumored that Venezuela has adjusted her relations with Colombia so as to allow of the withdrawal of the government forces of 8,000 men from the Colombian border and these men will be rushed to the relief of President Castro at Caracas.

An important decision as regards the status of Filipinos desiring to become citizens of the United States was recently issued. An Associated press dispatch follows: What amounts to an official pronouncement of the administration on the question of citizenship in the Philippines, pending further legislation, was filed in the supreme court of the District of Columbia today. It is in the form of an answer to the rule of the court to show cause why a mandamus should not issue requiring John R. Young, clerk of the court, to allow Antonio M. Opisso Y de Y Casa, recently an inhabitant of the Philippines, to declare his citizenship intentions before Mr. Young, as clerk, as petitioned by the Filipino. The answer prepared by United States District Attorney Gould and approved by Attorney General Knox, points out that congress has not yet determined the civil rights and political status of the Philippines inhabitants; that the petitioner is not included in any class of persons authorized by law to declare their intentions to become citizens of the United States, and that the defendant

## A new cure for Rheumatism of which any suffering Reader can Have A Box Free!

On the theory "that seeing is believing," John A. Smith of Milwaukee wants everyone to try his remedy for the cure of rheumatism at his expense. For that reason he proposes to distribute 25,000 free boxes among all persons sending him their address. Mr. Smith had suffered all the agony and torture from rheumatism, tried all the remedies known and yet utterly failed to find relief.

At times he was so helpless that he had to take morphine and after considerable doctoring he gave up in despair. He began studying into the causes of rheumatism and after much experimenting, finally hit upon a combination of drugs which completely cured him. The result was so beneficial to his entire system that he called his new found remedy "Gloria Tonic." Those of his friends, relatives and neighbors suffering from rheumatism were next cured and Mr. Smith concluded to offer his remedy to the world. But he found the task a difficult one as nearly everybody had tried a hundred or more remedies and they couldn't be made to believe that there was such a thing as a cure for rheumatism. But an old gentleman from Seguin, Texas, wrote him saying if Mr. Smith would send him a sample he would try it, but as he had suffered forty-one years and wasted a fortune with doctors and advertised remedies, he wouldn't buy anything more, until he knew it was worth something. The sample was sent, he purchased more and the result was astonishing. He was completely cured. This gave Mr. Smith a new idea and ever since that time he has been sending out free sample boxes to all who apply. In Prosser, Neb., it cured a lady of 67 who had suffered 52 years. In Fountain City, Wis., it cured Hon. Jacob Sexauer, a gentleman of 70, who suffered for 33 years. In Perrysburg, Ohio, it cured a gentleman 70 years old. In Heron Lake, Minn., it cured Mrs. John Gehr, who had suffered for 30 years. Rev. C. Sund of Harrisville, Wis., tested this remarkable cure on two members of his congregation, one who had suffered 15 and the other 25 years, both were completely cured. In St. Louis, Mo., it cured Mr. F. Faerber of the Concordia Publ., House. In Vandalia, Ills, it cured Mrs. Mary E. Sayles, 78 years of age, who was so crippled that she could not dress herself. In Bennington, Vt., it cured an old man whom the best physicians of Worms and Frankfurt, Germany called incurable. This old gentleman had walked for 20 years on crutches, both legs having been lame. He can now walk like a young man. Even prominent physicians had to admit that "Gloria Tonic" is a positive success, among them Dr. Quintero of the University of Venezuela, to whom it was recommended by the United States Consul. In thousands of other instances the result has been the same. It cured many cases which defied Hospitals, Drugs, Electricity and Medical Skill, among them persons over 75 years old.

Mr. Smith will send a trial box also his illustrated book on rheumatism absolutely free of charge to any reader of THE COMMONER for he is anxious that everybody should profit by his good fortune. It is a remarkable remedy and there is no doubt but that it will cure any case of rheumatism, no matter how severe it may be. Mr. Smith's address in full is:

JOHN A. SMITH,

4463 Germania Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis

Young is without any authority to receive such declaration.

The answer also says it is assumed that the petitioner intended to renounce his allegiance to Spain and adopt the nationality of the territory of the Philippines, inasmuch as he does not allege that he took the steps required by article 9, of the treaty with Spain, providing that a declaration of decision to preserve allegiance to Spain should be made before a court of record by April 11, 1900.

On June 24 the senate passed bills creating a national forest reserve in the southern Appalachian mountains and ratifying the agreement between the United States and the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians of the Indian territory. The first bill provides for the purchase of 4,000,000 acres in the southern Appalachian system at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. The secretary of agriculture is to designate the lands to be purchased and is to take measures to preserve the hardwood forests which they bear.

On June 24 the Philippine govern-