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**Extra Session Unless the Army Bill Passes.**  
 Miles' Reports to be Investigated.—  
 Foreign Trade Increasing.

The senate has got to pass the Hull army bill, which has been reported from the committee on military affairs with a few minor amendments, or there will be an extra session of congress. Such is the ultimatum of President McKinley to the combine of democratic senators who have undertaken the job of holding up the army bill, and he means business. The democratic offer to compromise by authorizing a continuation of the regular army on a war basis for one year from next July, has been rejected. The reorganization and increase of the army provided for in the Hull bill, is regarded as necessary by President McKinley and he intends to have it, if not from this congress, then from an extra session of the fifty-sixth congress, to be called immediately after the close of the present session. Not only are all the volunteers entitled, under the terms of their enlistment, to an immediate discharge as soon as the treaty of peace goes into effect, which will be as soon as the Spanish cortes has ratified the treaty and copies of it have been exchanged by representatives of Spain and the United States, but more than half the regulars enlisted with the same provision—that they could claim their discharge at the close of the war.

Unless General Otis is mistaken his one week's campaign against the Filipinos, which was a succession of victories from start to finish, has given Aguinaldo's army all the fighting they want—has, in fact, scattered and destroyed that army, and given the Filipinos an object lesson on the power of the United States. By the way, speaking of General Otis, it will be well to remember that the military Governor of the Philippines is Major General E. S. Otis, while the commander of the brigade which won such a brilliant victory at the capture of Calococan is Brigadier General Harrison S. Otis, lately a well known California editor. There has been a tendency to mix up these two officers of the same name.

The report of the treasury bureau of statistics for the year ending December 31st, 1898, just made public, shows that Great Britain continues to be our best foreign customer, notwithstanding the steady decrease in our purchases from the British. In 1893 we sold goods to the value of \$538,661,787 to Great Britain, an increase of \$56,000,000 over 1897; in 1898 we bought of Great Britain goods to the value of \$111,861,617, a decrease on the value of our 1897 purchases of \$52,000,000. These figures do not make pleasant reading for those who predicted that the Dingley tariff would entirely destroy our foreign commerce, but they strongly vindicate a protective tariff.

Gen. Eagan, whose court martial sentence of dismissal from the army was mitigated by the president to six years' suspension from duty, is likely to remain in Washington until the military court of inquiry called by the president, to give Gen. Miles an opportunity to prove his charges that bad meat was issued to our troops in Cuba and Porto Rico, completes its work, as he will be an important witness before the court. The court will meet Wednesday and get right down to work, but it will take some time for it to finish its job. The appointment of this court of inquiry shows that instead of being disposed to act against General Miles, the president is disposed to afford him every opportunity to make good his charge.

The substance of the report of the war investigating commission was given out as soon as the report was placed in the president's hands, and an abstract of the report, made by direction of the president, has been given to the press. Although the report is, as a whole, commendatory of the conduct of the war, it contains numerous criticisms of particular acts, which fell short of what they should have been. The abstract of the report contains every one of these criticisms as well as the reasons for making them. It will require an act of congress to provide for any distribution of printed copies

**of the entire report and of the evidence taken by the commission.**

In view of the lessons on the war with Spain, which caught our coast cities in a most defenceless condition, the action of the 'house committee on appropriations, in reporting the fortification bill, carrying only \$4,744,798, when the war department's estimate of the amount needed was \$12,151,898 strikes many as a bit of unwise economy, although the report on the bill shows that the emergency work done during the war has vastly improved our coast defences, and Chairman Cannon has made evident the necessity for care in making appropriations.

Although generally admitted to be meaningless, even if adopted by the senate, the senate, probably with the hope of stopping the waste of time in wrangling over the matter, has agreed to vote on the McEnery resolution concerning the Philippines, this week. Senator Mason virtually forced the agreement to a vote, by getting the floor and announcing his intention to keep it until the agreement was reached.

Secretary Long has, in accordance with a recent senate resolution, sent to the senate a complete official record of Schley and Sampson during the war with Spain. The record is not as flattering to Schley as his admirers would like to see it.

**Downfall of a Masher.**

One member of the order of professional "mashers" who infest the streets met his deserts a short time ago, and is taking a temporary vacation from the pursuits of his duties in this connection. He was a young chap, scarcely out of his teens, and his face showed dissipation far beyond his teens. He was walking down street and noticed a stylish and handsomely clad woman approaching. He placed himself in her path, and when she stepped aside to let him pass he coughed and uttered unintelligible remarks. The woman paid no attention and the young man followed her, coughing insinuatingly and giving expression to a variety of sounds to attract her attention.

A group of well-dressed, middle-aged men stood conversing on the corner as the pair approached. Here the woman turned and in a tone just loud enough to be heard by the group, she said to the young man after surveying him from head to foot: "You have been at considerable pains to attract my attention."

The young fellow grinned half foolishly and half expectantly.

"Evidently," she continued, "you imagined I might have encouraged your advances. Now look at me and tell me what there is in my appearance which would lead you to think that I would tolerate you for an instant. I am fairly good-looking, of at least average intelligence, and well dressed. You, on the other hand, are far from prepossessing. One glance at your face reveals your dwarfed mind. You are dressed in atrocious taste, and your tailor had better be carrying the hod instead of making clothes, as your's fit you shockingly. The fingers of your ungloved hands are soiled with nicotine stains, the nails not clean, and your clothes and breath exhale an odor of stale liquor and tobacco that should make it a crime for you to ride in an owl car. Now, pray tell me what suggested to you that I might admire that sort of thing?"

The young man stood half dazed. He suddenly realized that his answer was being awaited by a breathless and grinning audience, as many passers-by had stopped to listen, and increased the original group. He made a break to get away, his face flushed crimson, but one of the bystanders grasped him by the arm and detained him.

"No you don't," said he. "Not until you've answered the lady's question."

"I can't," gasped the young man. "Let me go. I don't know."

"Yes, let him go," put in the woman. "He doesn't look old enough to know," and she passed on up the street.

**HOW COLD WAS IT?**

Some Exaggerations Indulged in to Prove the Intense Cold Weather of Saturday Night.

'Twas last Sunday morning and after a night of intense cold, a crowd of perhaps a dozen had just got comfortably located around a red hot stove in one of our business houses to await the coming of the morning mail, reported three hours late. The subject of cold weather was easily commenced by a remark from one that a bucket of water had frozen sitting right beside his hard coal stove. This brought a remark from another that he had kept his hard coal burner red hot and then a tea kettle of water froze on top of it. "Mine, too," remarked another, "and the clouds of steam formed huge icicles reaching from the ceiling to the floor." The rest of the crowd shrugged their shoulders and remarked:

"Pretty cold."

"Why," remarked an old resident, "that's nothing. It was so darned cold at my place that your breath would form into ice cakes while you were blowing it against a red hot stove."

Everybody looked sad and someone asked, "How cold was it anyway?"

"Well," replied the next, an old gray whiskered sage, "I don't know for sure. My mercury froze up at 35 below and I turned the old dog out doors and used him for a thermometer. Every time it got a degree colder he would bark. In this may I recorded 103 barks or 103 degrees below zero, and then the dog quit barking. I went out to see why for I knew it was still getting colder, and found the old dog froze stiff. I tell you what fellows I felt sorry for that poor, old, faithful dog. I resolved to keep him till it got warmer and give him a decent burial. I took him in the house and laid him in his favorite spot by the stove. After he had lain by the stove a few minutes three more barks came out which had frozen up in him, so I guess it was about 106 below. And to think the good, old, faithful fellow is dead now," and he wiped away a tear.

Dead silence reigned with the exception of a few groans and grunts. Some regarded the narration with suspicion and another with a kindly sympathy for the old man remarked: "I guess it was about that cold, for about ten o'clock I lit the lantern and went out on the back porch to see how cold it was and my thermometer had froze up at 35."

"Didn't you have any dog," asked



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**IT FLOATS.**

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**one with suspicion.**

"No," he replied, "but I heard his barking at intervals. I know it was fully that cold, as I had to leave my lantern burn till morning on account of the blaze being froze and I couldn't blow it out."

"Why didn't you break the blaze off?" someone said.

No answer came and everybody fell into a thoughtful mood and began to wonder how soon the ear would come up. At this juncture another entered. "Pretty cold last night," he remarked.

"Ya-as," replied the loser of the dog with a broad smile. "We've been comparin' notes and all got more or less frosted. Anything freeze up your way?"

"Yes a little, you see when I went to bed I built up a fire and left the stove red hot. When I got up in the morning it was still red hot. I thought that strange for I expected it to burn out in an hour or two. When I examined it I found the stove had froze up while it was red hot and the fire was froze solid on the inside. I tell you it was a pretty sight, that bed of frozen coals. I intended to preserve it as a relic but my wife put in a chunk of ice and that drew the frost and thawed it out."

More silence, with a few groans and sounds like some one gasping to get a breath.

"Did anything else freeze up your way?" inquired a quiet man who had been occupying a seat on a box in the corner.

"No," he replied, "not at my place, but over to my neighbor's, just across the road, the house caught fire and—" but at this juncture he found himself talking to some empty chairs and an old tom cat. The stove had got so hot that the audience had thawed out and melted away.

**Dangers of the Grip.**

The greatest danger from its grippe is of its resulting in pneumonia. If reasonable care is used, however, and Chamberlain's Cough Remedy taken all dangers will be avoided. Among the tens of thousands who have used this remedy we have yet to learn of a single case having resulted in pneumonia which shows conclusively that this remedy is a certain preventative of that dangerous disease. It will cure the grippe in less time than any other treatment. It is pleasant and safe to take. For Sale by H. E. Grice.

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