

# GALVESTON.

DETAILS OF THE SITUATION ARE TERRIBLE.

## THOUSANDS PERISHED

Corpses Are Thrown into the Sea or Cremated Without Any Identification.

Galveston, Tex.—(Special.)—The last days of Pompeii were not as terrible as the last days of Galveston. Bonfires are burning all over the city. There are the funeral pyres of a thousand corpses cast back on shore at tide yesterday. The cremation has been a necessity to prevent epidemic. The negroes refuse to work and the town-people are paralyzed with fright and suffering, or are making preparations to leave the doomed island.

This morning the first train is announced to carry refugees to Texas City, seven miles across the bay, and since daylight a thousand men, women and children have been crowding into cutboats, lifeboats, sloops, schooners and a single steambot, the Lawrence, all bent on escaping from the city. Nearly all of them have lost some member of their family. Not one of them carries a valise. The women wear no hats, are unkempt and ill-clad. They look as if haunted.

### NINETY NEGROES SHOT.

Last night ninety negroes were shot by the citizen soldiery while looting and mutilating the bodies of the dead for plunder. The ninety probably do not represent a tenth of those who were engaged in the ghastly practice. The situation has got beyond the control of the authorities. The powers in control have been quarrelling. Last night at 7 o'clock every citizen soldier under command of Major Fayling was called in, disarmed and mustered out of the service. Chief of Police Ketchum then took charge and the major was relieved of his command. During an hour and a half the city was unguarded, and the looters held high carnival. As the major's work was unusually brilliant the citizens are furious. Last night the main thoroughfare was intensely dark and deserted, not a lamp in the city being lighted.

### LIFE IS HELD CHEAP.

Life is held cheap in Galveston. The awful presence of death of the great and the small has made men callous, and a shooting or killing attracts little or no attention. No one walks the streets unarmed and no one is permitted to be about at all except on a pass first obtained from the mayor. This morning the situation from the police standpoint is improved. A hundred of the state militia of the Houston light guards are patrolling the west end of the city. General McKibben, U. S. A., commander of the department of the gulf, and Adjutant General Scurry of Texas are on the ground and are advising with Mayor Jones and Chief of Police Ketchum.

In all other respects the city is worse off than on the morning after the tragedy. A terrible stench permeates the atmosphere. It comes from the bodies of a thousand unburied dead festering in the debris that cannot be removed for weeks on account of the paucity of laborers.

### DEAD MAY NUMBER 8,000.

The loss of life this morning is estimated by conservative people at 8,000. Besides the thousand or more bodies yet pined beneath the wreckage, hundreds of cadavers, all putrid and bloated, float beneath smashed-up piers. Hundreds of bodies are floating in full view in the bay. Every tide brings scores back to the shore. During the early part of yesterday trenches were dug and bodies thrown into them, but it soon became an impossibility to bury all the dead, and the health authorities decided upon cremation as an expedient. Funeral fires were built and torches applied.

Houston, Tex.—(Special.)—Summarizing the situation as it now appears, every business edifice in Galveston is probably destroyed or damaged. The entire shipping in port is wrecked, the grain elevators demolished in part, the wharves almost totally destroyed, food supplies damaged by water, fresh-water supply cut off, 20,000 persons homeless, 1,000 to 4,000 persons killed. Communication is destroyed and destruction everywhere.

### STORY TOLD BY MR. SPILLANE.

Richard Spillane, a well known newspaper man of Galveston, reached Houston after a terrible experience, and gives the following account of the disaster at Galveston:

"One of the most awful tragedies of modern times has visited Galveston. The city is in ruins, and the dead will number probably 5,000. I am just from the city, having been commissioned by the mayor and citizens' committee to get in touch with the outside world and appeal for help. Houston was the nearest point at which working telegraph instruments could be found, and the wires as well as nearly all the buildings between here and the Gulf of Mexico, being wrecked. When I left Galveston the people were organizing for the prompt burial of the dead, distribution of food, and all necessary work after a period of disaster.

### FURY OF THE TEMPEST.

"The wreck of Galveston was brought about by a tempest so terrible that no words can adequately describe its intensity, and by a flood which turned the city into a raging sea. The weather

bureau records show that the wind attained a velocity of eighty-four miles an hour, when the measuring instrument was blown away, so it is impossible to tell what was the maximum.

"The storm began at 2 o'clock Saturday morning. Previous to that a great storm had been raging in the gulf and the tide was very high. The wind at first came from the north and was in direct opposition to the force from the gulf. While the storm in gulf piled the water upon the beach side of the city, the north wind piled the water from the bay on to the bay part of the city. "About noon it became evident that the city was going to be visited with disaster. Hundreds of residences along the beach front were hurriedly abandoned, the families fleeing to dwellings in higher portions of the city. Every home was opened to the refugees, white or black. The winds were rising constantly and it rained in torrents. The wind was so fierce that the rain cut like a knife.

### ENTIRE CITY IS SUBMERGED.

"By 3 o'clock the waters of the gulf and bay met, and by dark the entire city was submerged. The flooding of the electric light plant and the gas plants left the city in darkness. To go into the streets was to court death. The wind was then at cyclonic velocity, roofs, chimneys, portions of buildings, telegraph poles and walls were falling and the noise of the winds and the crashing of the buildings was terrifying in the extreme. The wind and waters rose steadily from dark until 2 o'clock Sunday morning. During all this time the people of Galveston were like rats in traps. The highest portion of the city was four to five feet under water, while in the great majority of cases the streets were submerged to a depth of ten feet. To leave a house was to drown. To remain was to court death in the wreckage.

### WORK OF THE WINDS.

"Such a night of agony has seldom been equaled. Without apparent reason the waters suddenly began to subside at 2 a. m. Within twenty minutes they had gone down two feet, and before daylight the streets were practically freed of the flood waters. In the meantime the wind had veered to the south-east. Very few, if any, buildings escaped injury. There is hardly a habitable dry house in the city. When the people who had escaped death went out at daylight to view the work of the tempest and floods they saw the most horrible sights imaginable. In the three blocks from avenue N to avenue P, in Tremont street, I saw eight bodies. Four corpses were in one yard. The whole of the business front for blocks in from the gulf was stripped of every vestige of habitation, the dwellings, the great bathing establishments, the Olympia and every structure having been either carried out to sea or its ruins piled in a pyramid far into the town, according to the vagaries of the tempest.

### LARGEST BUILDINGS WRECKED.

"The first hurried glance over the city showed that the largest structures, suppose to be the most substantially built, suffered the greatest. The Orphans' home, Twenty-first street and avenue M, fell like a house of cards. How many dead children and refugees are in the ruins could not be ascertained. Of the sick in St. Mary's infirmary, together with the attendants, only eight are understood to have been saved.

"The Old Woman's home, in Rosenberg avenue, collapsed; the Rosenberg school house is a mass of wreckage. The Ball high school is but an empty shell, crushed and broken. Every church in the city, with possibly one or two exceptions, is in ruins.

### SOLDIERS REPORTED DEAD.

"At the forts nearly all the soldiers are reported dead, they having been in temporary quarters which gave them no protection against the tempest or the flood.

"No report has been received from the Catholic orphan asylum down the island, but it seems impossible that it could have withstood the hurricane. It fell all the inmates were no doubt lost, for there was no aid within a mile.

"The bay from end to end is in ruins. Nothing but piling and the wreck of great warehouses remain. The elevators lost all their superworks and their stocks are damaged by water.

"The life-saving station at Fort point was carried away, the crew being swept across the bay fourteen miles to Texas City. I saw Captain Haines yesterday and he told me that his wife and one of his crew were drowned.

### WRECKAGE AT TEXAS CITY.

"The shore at Texas City contains enough wreckage to rebuild a city. Eight persons who were swept across the bay during the storm were picked up there alive. Five corpses were also picked up. There were three fatalities in Texas City. In addition to the living and the dead which the storm cast up at Texas City, caskets and coffins from one of the cemeteries at Galveston were being fished out of the water there yesterday.

### DANGER OF PESTILENCE.

"The cotton mills, the bagging factory, the gas works, the electric light works and nearly all the industrial establishments of the city are either wrecked or crippled. The flood left a slime about one inch deep over the whole city, and unless fast progress is made in burying corpses and carcasses of animals there is danger of pestilence.

### MANY MIRACULOUS ESCAPES.

"Some of the stories of the escapes are miraculous. William Nisbett, a cotton man, was buried in the ruins of the Cotton Exchange saloon, and when dug out in the morning had no further injury than a few bruised fingers.

"Dr. S. O. Young, secretary of the cotton exchange, was knocked senseless

when his house collapsed, but was revived by the water and was carried ten blocks by the hurricane.

"A woman who had just given birth to a child was carried from her home to a house a block distant, the men who were carrying her having to hold her high above their heads, as the water was five feet deep when she was moved.

"Many stories were current of houses falling and inmates escaping. Clarence N. Ousley, editor of the Evening Tribune, had his family and the families of two neighbors in his house, when the lower half crumbled and the upper part slipped down into the water. Not one in the house was hurt.

"The Mistrot house, in the west end, was turned into a hospital. All of the regular hospitals of the city were unavailable. Of the new Southern Pacific works little remains but the piling. Half a million feet of lumber was carried away, and Engineer Boschke says as far as the company is concerned it might as well starve again.

"Eight ocean steamers were torn from their moorings and stranded in the bay. The Kendall Castle was carried over the flats from the Thirty-third street wharf to Texas City and lies in the wreckage of the Inman pier. The Norwegian steamer Gyller is stranded between Texas City and Virginia Point. An ocean liner was swirled around through the West bay, crashed through the bay bridges and is now lying in a few feet of water near the wreckage of the railroad bridges. The steamship Taunton was carried across Pelican point and is stranded about ten miles up to East bay. The Mallory steamer Alamo was torn from her wharf and dashed upon Pelican flats and the bow of the British steamer Red Cross, which had previously been hauled there. The stern of the Alamo is stove in and the bow of the Red Cross is crushed.

"Down the channel to the jetties two other ocean steamships lie grounded. Some schooners, barges and smaller craft are strewn bottom side up along the slips of the piers. The tug Louise of the Houston Direct Navigation company is also a wreck.

"It will take a week to tabulate the dead and the missing and to get any near an approximate idea of the monetary loss. It is safe to assume that one-half of the property of the city is wiped out, and that one-half of the residents have to face absolute poverty.

### RUIN AT TEXAS CITY.

"At Texas City three of the residents were drowned. One man stepped into a well by a mischance and his corpse was found there. Two other men ventured along the bay front during the height of the storm and were killed. There are but six buildings at Texas City that do not tell the story of the storm. The hotel is a complete ruin. The office of the Texas City company has some of the walls standing with all the upper walls stripped off. Nothing remains of the piers except the piling. The wreckage from Galveston litters the shore for miles, and is a hundred yards or more wide.

"For ten miles inland from the shore it is a common sight to see small craft, such as steam launches, schooners and oyster sloops. The life-boat of the life-saving station was carried half a mile inland, while a vessel that was anchored in Moses bayou lies high and dry five miles up from Lamarque."

### COUPLE OF PROCLAMATIONS.

#### Americans and the Filipinos Both Make Declaration.

Washington, D. C.—(Special.)—The postmaster general has received from F. W. Valle, director general of posts in the Philippines, copies of two undated proclamations, one by the American peace commissioners and the other by the insurgents, issued presumably just before the last mail left the islands for the United States.

The American proclamation was of a pacific character, but warned the natives that they had nothing to expect from continued opposition to the American occupation. It promised free transportation home to all insurgents who surrendered their arms and directed the confiscation of all money and hemp belonging to the insurgent government. The natives were notified that the American soldiers were expected to pay for everything they obtained from the Filipinos in the way of food and supplies, and requested the natives to report any case of looting or extortion to the nearest military commander.

The Filipino proclamation, issued in reply to this, announced that for a period of ten days amnesty would be extended to all Filipino spies in the employ of the American forces if they presented themselves to the insurgent military or civil authorities. A single exception was made in the case of one Marcello Abinsay, who was denounced as an outlaw beyond the pale, and a reward was offered for his apprehension, dead or alive, while the death penalty was pronounced against any one found in his company at the time of his capture. The proclamation further declared that all the threats of the Americans of pursuing the insurgents to the hills were idle, as the Americans were short of food and ammunition and had received no reinforcements for many months.

### FLOUR MILL TRUST IN COURT.

Milwaukee, Wis.—(Special.)—The Central Trust company of New York this afternoon instituted foreclosure proceedings against all the property of the United States Flour Milling company, known as the flour trust. The bill asks that all property be sold, the company having failed to make the first payment of interest under a mortgage dated May 1, 1899, issued to cover a bond issue of \$15,000,000.

### WHAT WILL OUR BOY DO?



THE FATHER—What will my boy do? Things have indeed changed. Your outlook is bluer even than when I began life.

## SLAVERY UNDER OLD GLORY.

(From Omaha World-Herald.)

### THE SULU AGREEMENT.

Following is the agreement entered into between John C. Bates and the sultan of Sulu and approved by Mr. McKinley:

### KEEP THIS IN MIND.

First, this agreement provides that the sovereignty of the United States is extended over the Sulu islands.

Then it is provided that the United States flag shall be the official emblem.

Then it is provided that any slave shall have the right to purchase his freedom.

The thirteenth amendment to the constitution provides that "neither slavery nor involuntary servitude . . . shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Notice now that William McKinley approved an agreement whereby the Sulu islands were made subject to United States jurisdiction and at the same time purchase was designated as the method whereby slaves were to obtain their freedom.

Here is the Sulu agreement in full:

Article I. The sovereignty of the United States over the whole archipelago of Sulu and its dependencies is declared and acknowledged.

Article II. The United States flag will be used in the archipelago of Sulu and its dependencies on land and sea.

Article III. The rights and dignities of his highness, the sultan, and his datus shall be fully respected, and Moros shall not be interfered with on account of their religion; all their religious customs shall be respected and no one shall be persecuted on account of his religion.

Article IV. While the United States may occupy and control such points in the archipelago of Sulu as public interest seem to demand, encroachment will not be made upon the lands immediately about the residence of his highness, the sultan, unless military necessity requires such occupation in case of war with a foreign power, and where the property of individuals is taken, due compensation will be made in each case.

Any person can purchase land in the archipelago of Sulu and hold the same by obtaining the consent of the sultan and coming to a satisfactory agreement with the owner of the land, and such purchase shall be immediately registered in the proper office of the United States government.

Article V. All trade in the domestic products of the archipelago of Sulu, when carried on by the sultan and his people with any part of the Philippine islands, and when conducted under the American flag, shall be free, unlimited and undutiable.

Article VI. The sultan of Sulu shall be allowed to communicate direct with the governor general of the Philippine islands in making complaint against the commanding officer of Sulu or against any naval commander.

Article VII. The introduction of firearms and war materials is forbidden except under specific authority of the governor general of the Philippines.

Article VIII. Piracy must be suppressed and the sultan and his datus agree to heartily co-operate with the United States authorities to that end and to make every possible effort to arrest and bring to justice all persons engaged in piracy.

Article IX. Where crimes are committed by Moros against Moros the government of the sultan will bring to trial and punishment the criminals and offenders, who will be delivered to the government of the sultan by the United States authorities if in their possession. In all other cases persons charged with

crimes or offense will be delivered to the United States authorities for trial and punishment.

Article X. Any slave in the archipelago of Sulu shall have the right to purchase freedom by paying to the master the usual market value.

Article XI. At present Americans or foreigners wishing to go into the country should state their wishes to the Moro authorities and ask for an escort, but it is hoped this will become unnecessary as we know each other better.

Article XII. The United States will give full protection to the sultan and his subjects in case any foreign nation should attempt to impose upon them.

Article XIII. The United States will not sell the island of Sulu or any other island of the Sulu archipelago to any foreign nation without the consent of the sultan of Sulu.

Article XIV. The United States government will pay the following monthly salaries:

To the sultan	\$250
To Dato Rajah Muda	75
To Dato Attik	60
To Dato Calbe	75
To Dato Joakanan	75
To Dato Puyo	60
To Dato Amir Haisin	60
To Hadji Buter	60
To Habib Mura	40
To Serif Sagun	15

Signed in duplicate, in English and Sulu, at Jolo, this 20th day of August, A. O. 1899 (13th Arakul, 1397).

THE SULTAN SULU,  
DATO RAJAH,  
DATO ATTIK,  
DATO CALBE,  
DATO JOAKANAN.

Signed, J. C. BATES, Brigadier General, U. S. V.  
Approved by the president,  
WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

"UNCLE SAM'S SLAVES AND WHERE THEY COME FROM."

On June 24, 1900, a number of republican newspapers throughout the country printed an interesting letter from Frank G. Carpenter, the well known correspondent. This article was entitled: "Uncle Sam's Slaves and Where They Come From."

Does not this have an odd sound to people who have been told that slavery could not exist under the stars and stripes?

Mr. Carpenter writes from the Sulu islands, and says he was offered four slaves for fifty gold dollars. This is considerably cheaper than the market price—as fixed by Mr. McKinley—at which the slaves may purchase their freedom.

Mr. Carpenter says: "According to our treaty, as I understand it, any slave in the island ruled by the sultan of Sulu can be freed upon payment of \$20 by him to his master."

According to the rates fixed by Mr. McKinley, these four slaves would have been required to pay \$80 for their freedom, but Mr. Carpenter could purchase them with a \$30 discount.

Concerning his opportunity, Mr. Carpenter says:

"They were owned by a woman, who claims she is a Christian, and not by one of the Mohammedan Moros. I went into the woman's house and chattered with her for some time about the human flesh on sale, and later on persuaded her to bring the slaves out in the yard that I might make a photograph of them. Three of them were boys, ranging in age from 16 to 6. The other was a girl of 12, the age at which girls are sometimes married down here on the edge of the equator. The smallest boy had nothing on but a shirt which barely reached to his waist, and the other two wore only coarse pants, loons extending from the waist to the

knees. The girl was half naked, her only garment being a wide strip of dirty cotton cloth wrapped about her waist and fastened there in a knot. I had a photograph made, with myself standing beside her, and she reached to my shoulder. As I stood thus, the slave owner evidently thought I wanted the girl and said 'Mucho bueno,' or 'very good,' and told me that if I bought her only she would have to charge me more in proportion than she asked for the job lot. She said the little girl should be worth at least \$15, and seemed surprised when I did not jump at the bargain.

"I asked her where the slaves came from. She replied that they had been brought in from the mountains, having been captured by one of the savage tribes in a recent war with its neighbors."

Then Mr. Carpenter shows the wide latitude which slave owners have with "Uncle Sam's slaves" of 1900. He says: "Had I bought them, I am told I would have had, according to the custom which prevails in the country about here, power of life and death over them, and that I could have killed them without risk of a criminal investigation."

To show the extent of slavery under the stars and stripes in the Sulus, Mr. Carpenter says:

"Slavery is common among the people of Mindanao and the Sulu archipelago, and I am led to believe that there is a form of debt slavery in some of the islands further north. Here in Mindanao there are not only debt slaves, but slaves by birth and by conquest. I have been told at every place I have stopped that slavery is common and that women especially are bought and sold. All of the Moro datus have numerous slaves and the richer of their subjects have as many as they can support.

"The Visayans of this island, at least, have slaves, although it is nominally against the Spanish law. Still human beings are bought and sold, and even the officials have been accustomed to own them. I met this afternoon the ex-president of the town of Davao. He is a rich Visayan, who has a large farm not far from here. He owns a number of farms not far from here. He owns a number of slaves and keeps several in his family for servants. I have been told that the Christians seldom sell slaves, although they buy them, and that it is common for a man to purchase children to bring them up for work about the house."

Mr. Carpenter also deals with another vice. He says:

"The question of polygamy is a more serious one. This is connected with the Mohammedan religion, and of the United States attempts to abolish it we shall have a war on our hands which will probably last until the Moro population is wiped out."

Republican party leaders frequently boast that the McKinley administration is a "business administration." Is it "business" for the American people to hoist their flag and assert their sovereignty where slavery must be tolerated among Christians as well as among Mohammedans and where polygamy must not be disturbed for fear of war? The American people will not forget that it was William McKinley who signed an agreement wherein purchase was made the method of emancipation, and wherein \$20 per head was fixed as the price of human freedom. The situation described by Carpenter will bring the blush of shame to many American citizens.

Holders of confederate bonds in England have held a meeting and expressed great faith in the early redemption of the bonds, "based on the well known honesty of the American people." Very blustering indeed, but the great American people are not in the habit of reimbursing purchasers of gold bricks.