

ON SHAFER'S TRAIL

Witnesses in the War Investigation Testify Against Him.

SAYS HE ORDERED SUPPLIES LEFT BEHIND

Colonel Jacobs Defends Quartermaster's Department.

IT IS PREVENTED FROM DOING GOOD WORK

He Alleges Embarkment at Tampa to Be a Haphazard Affair.

SUGGESTS INCOMPETENCY IN COMMANDER

Several Witnesses Furnish Testimony Which Tends to Add Life to the Commission's Proceedings.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—Additional interest has been given to the war investigation today by the further direct charges against General Shaffer, Colonel Jacobs of the quartermaster's department testified that hospital supplies were left behind on positive orders of General Shaffer and that only fifty tents were taken for hospital purposes of which General Miles doubled the number immediately upon his arrival at Santiago.

Colonel Jacobs also said the embarkment of the troops at Tampa was a haphazard affair, and the conditions before Santiago something frightful. He defended his own department by saying it could do more for the comfort of the soldiers in the face of General Shaffer's orders to the contrary.

Major La Garde continued his testimony today concerning the conduct of the war from a medical point of view. He spoke first of the yellow fever which he saw at Siboney, which was under his charge, in a general way. He said, however, that his experience has been so fully covered with other duties that he had not visited the institution daily. He was satisfied, however, that the hospital was well conducted and that the supplies on the whole were ample. He did not have the complete records before him, but he was sure that the mortality in this hospital did not exceed 8 per cent. There might, however, have been suffering in individual cases on account of the insufficiency of supplies and for want of expert nursing.

Dr. Conner asked whether the contingency of yellow fever could not have been provided against, asking whether the hospital itself should not have been known by the surgeon general that under the circumstances there would be an outbreak of fever.

"He should have known that such were the probabilities and everybody should have known that such were the chances in sending an army into a malarial district in the summer. Evidently the surgeon general did foresee what happened and his words on this subject written before the expedition set out and during the expedition, read like prophecy."

The witness added that under these circumstances he could not understand why more complete provision should not have been made for supplying immune nurses and he did not know but that the corps surgeons had been asked for this assistance in advance. He knew only that they had not been adequately provided. Apparently, however, the army depended upon the yellow fever expert to say when yellow fever would break out. However, it must be said that the yellow fever was very mild and it came to be dreaded less as a malarial typhoid. As a consequence the mortality among the troops in Cuba was less than among those left in the United States.

Death Rate About One Per Cent. Returning to the hospital for wounded soldiers, Dr. La Garde said that between 1,300 and 1,400 wounded men had been treated by the surgeons at this institution. There were six operating tables and more could have been used to advantage. There were times when forty or fifty men were waiting outside for attention. Of the wounded men there were about a dozen deaths, or less than 1 per cent. There had never before been a war when the mortality record was so small. This was due largely to the use of the modern rifle and the prompt methods of rendering aid on the battlefield to prevent blood poisoning. He thought that under the old conditions the mortality would have been 20 per cent greater. Dr. La Garde expressed the opinion that had the soldiers been fully equipped there would have been no deaths among them, and he thought that much of the trouble was due to the fact that the soldiers were compelled to lie on the ground without cover.

Colonel J. W. Jacobs, who was chief quartermaster of the Fifth corps at Tampa and in Cuba, testified that General Humphrey had been in charge of the embarkment of troops at Tampa and that no order specifying what vessels they were to occupy were issued.

In reply to a question from Governor Weaver he said the embarkment had been a haphazard affair, but he thought there was a great deficiency in the provisions for disembarkment, as only two lighters were provided, and one of those was lost on the way over.

Colonel Jacobs had charge of the transportation facilities at Santiago, and he expressed the opinion that there were not sufficient number of wagons. He thought there should have been at least one wagon to each troop and company in addition to those at headquarters. General Shaffer's first order had been to take only fifty wagons. When General Miles went to Tampa he doubled the number, but even this order did not secure a sufficient number. He knew no reason for not sending more, except that there was no means of getting them from Tampa to Santiago.

General McKee developed an animated episode by asking if there was any reason why the cooking utensils and camp equipment of the troops should not have been forwarded from Baiquiri to the troops in the field.

"There was no reason," Colonel Jacobs replied, "except that General Shaffer's order forbade."

Continuing, he said that the order was most positive. It did not specify what should not be forwarded, but was most specific in providing that only forage and rations should be forwarded. General Shaffer's orders to this effect were written, and the general had given him strict verbal instructions to see that the orders were observed. "Food had been sent to the front cooked, but he thought the men should have had some facilities for cooking. The order had never been changed during the month he remained at Baiquiri."

Dr. Conner asked whether orders had been given to leave all the hospital equip-

ments behind at Tampa, and Colonel Jacobs responded that it was his impression that such was the case. He had personal knowledge that General Shaffer had given such an order concerning the ambulances. "It was expected there would be an engagement, was it not?" asked the doctor. "Certainly," responded the colonel. "We went down there to fight."

"Then should there not have been some provision for taking care of the wounded?" "I should say that these things should have been taken along."

"Then," continued Dr. Conner, "the medical department was left to the air, and the quartermaster's department is responsible?" "The quartermaster's department could not have been responsible. We were acting under orders. I will swear that General Shaffer told me not to take the ambulances, although I do not recall any distinct orders in regard to hospital equipments."

Railroad Facilities Deficient. Colonel Jacobs expressed the opinion that the conditions began to deteriorate at the fact that the increased business was beyond the capacity of the railroads running into Tampa.

Captain J. N. Patton, who, as assistant quartermaster general, had made the contracts for the construction of the quartermaster's hospital at Camp Santiago, near Wilkoff at Montauk Point, gave the particulars of this transaction and other occurrences at that camp. The buildings were completed within eight days, but before supplies began to arrive. He also said the camp was not entirely ready for the troops until the 20th of November, although the buildings were sufficient. Exclusive of the stores-house, 2,000,000 feet of lumber had been used in the camp.

Captain Patton was also deputy quartermaster and he said all requisitions, except possibly in trivial matters, were promptly filled. "I do not remember a single instance in which that was not furnished as soon as it was asked, even without requiring a receipt for it," he said.

Witness said there had been a great deal of injustice in the criticisms in the newspapers concerning the delay of sick men at the depots going off on functions. "There was no neglect in this matter," he said, "and no more discomfort than is necessary in removing sick men. The men were provided with seats and cots while they waited."

"Captain Patton said that while there had been some delay on the railroad going into camp they had not been material and he thought the road had done well for a single-track line. Transportation papers had been furnished promptly by his office, and if men had to stand in line for hours in order to get these documents he had no knowledge of the fact."

There Was Plenty of Lumber. Dr. Conner read a letter from Dr. Forward to the surgeon general complaining of the delay in getting lumber for the hospitals, but the witness said he knew nothing of such a condition of affairs. There was an abundance of lumber on hand, and there should have been no complaint.

In reply to a question from General McKee Captain Patton said there had been no effort on the part of his superior officers to dictate to him in the matter of letting contracts. In the afternoon session Captain M. W. Ireland, who was associated with Dr. La Garde as a surgeon and executive officer in the Siboney hospital, was the first witness. He said he had gone to Cuba on the Santiago, but had not been able to land for six days; why, he did not know.

The hospital at Siboney had been sufficiently well supplied for about 300 patients, except in the matter of cots of which there were in excess of this number were compelled to lie on their blankets on the ground for the first week of the hospital's history.

About 100 cots came to be used within three or four days after the institution of the hospital. The surgeons were all competent, and notwithstanding the shortage of supplies, the men had as good attention there as they could have had at any other hospital. The exception of delicacies and conveniences. There was a scarcity of ice and milk, for instance, for the transports carrying convalescents north. These transports were provided with all the articles that were on hand.

Speaking of the Concha, concerning which there has been considerable criticism, he said he had supervised the provisioning of that vessel and he was sure that it had received all the supplies necessary—at least there had been no complaint before leaving. He had taken it for granted that it had all that was required.

He did not know of any ships coming north without medical officers and attendants, yet the convalescents were expected to look after themselves on the trip. Surgeon Looks for a Gun. Dr. Ireland said that on one occasion a surgeon on the Seneca had come ashore in search of a revolver, because, he said, he was unable to get a revolver, but did get a rifle, but Dr. Ireland had never heard that he had been called upon to use it. He was not sure whether this was Dr. Bird or Dr. Hicks.

Dr. Edward E. Munson, who for a time was on duty at Tampa and in Cuba, being for a time on the Olivette, and also adjutant to General Pope, chief surgeon of the Fifth corps, said he had understood that requisitions were promptly approved and that all the difficulty there was in getting medicines and supplies was due to the lack of transportation. Each regiment had been expected to take the supplies necessary. There were no orders to leave medical supplies, except the ambulance, at Tampa.

He had understood that medical supplies in Cuba were short. They were taken on the transports, but it was impossible to get them landed. Dr. Pope had made an application to the quartermaster's department for transportation for this purpose, but was told there was none to be had. Later a small boat had been furnished for one trip only. General Shaffer had ordered the use of the boat for this trip and had afterward revoked it to the extent of having the boat take some officers aboard.

As a fact the medical department had to the hospital supplies. As a result there were medical supplies which had never been landed. Dr. Munson had outfitted some of the hospital ships going north and on one occasion had seized from the commissary department a large quantity of delicacies which had been left on the steamer. Continued on Santiago Bay. Dr. Munson said the condition of the army before Santiago was lamentable, owing largely to the fact that the men were without tents. For the first two or three days there were practically no supplies on shore. So far as the medical department was concerned, the commissary department had made no effort to assist the medical department, leaving it entirely to its own devices.

He thought there was sufficient dressing for the wounded, sufficient medicines and sufficient medical instruments, but that there was a lack of tents, cots and necessary diet. The deficiencies were met by the medical department, but if the fighting had continued he would have been obliged to con-

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EXPANSION TO BE DEPLORED

Such a Policy Not in Harmony with Idea of Protection to Laborers.

FREE TRADE WILL FOLLOW ON MANY LINES

Home Market Club Shows Why Economic Principles Are Against Theory of Annexation.

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 15.—The annual meeting of the Home Market club was held today. Colonel Albert Clarke, secretary of the club, in his annual report, considered the question of national expansion from an economical standpoint, and said: "It is greatly to be hoped that President McKinley will so frame his treaty of peace with Spain as to minimize the dangers and responsibilities which we must assume as the result of the war."

"On October 19, at the quarterly meeting of our officers, all the New England states were represented, there were many strong expressions of personal opinion against the policy known as 'national expansion,' and there was no expression in its favor. "Some think our opposition is because expansion and protection will not be good together. That will depend upon how the new acquisitions are treated. If they are helped to independence, as I think they should be, or are governed as colonies, as those not able to govern themselves ought to be, if the constitution will permit, tariff may be maintained between them and the United States which will protect both and at the same time give reciprocal preference."

"But if they are annexed and made a part of our country, the provision in section 8, article 1, of the constitution, that all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; and the provision in section 9 that no tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any state, which has been held to apply also to territories, may have the effect of practically introducing free trade in such articles as sugar, tobacco and other agricultural products, and all other goods produced in the annexed regions, and as it is impossible to bring working people in these countries up to the American standard, their annexation would seem to expose our industrial population to unrestrained competition with low prices and ill-considered labor."

"If we must have an expansion policy, and it must take a form of annexation and territorial government, how can the party which has always favored protection to American labor ever look a workman in the face? "We do not oppose, but we favor the finding of foreign markets. We are gaining them constantly. Hitherto the conquest has been peaceful. The best of them are in countries which are self-governed and for which we have to assume no responsibility and bear no expense. We can continue to increase our trade in those countries, but we can gain vastly more by preserving the conditions of domestic prosperity and cultivating the home market with equal care. Let us do both."

There was plenty of lumber. Dr. Ireland said that on one occasion a surgeon on the Seneca had come ashore in search of a revolver, because, he said, he was unable to get a revolver, but did get a rifle, but Dr. Ireland had never heard that he had been called upon to use it. He was not sure whether this was Dr. Bird or Dr. Hicks.

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FERD PECK TALKS TOO MUCH

American Commissioner to Paris Fair Gets Himself Disliked.

PICARD WILL NOT CONFIRM STATEMENTS

This Country Has Not Been Allowed Most Space and the Statement It Had Struck a Mild Controversy.

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Partly Cloudy; Variable Winds.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURE AT OMAHA:

High, 54. Low, 34. Wind, S. by E. 5 to 10. Clouds, 3 to 4.

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WANT ARBITRATOR

Spanish Commission Springs a Surprise on the Americans.

QUESTIONS LEGALITY OF THE PROTOCOL

Ask that Philippine Dispute Be Referred for Judgment.

WILL HANG ON TO ISLANDS TO THE END

Spain Contends It Should Have the Benefit of All Doubts.

ADJOURNMENT FOLLOWS UNTIL SATURDAY

Spaniards Are Merely Making Post-Diplomatic Fight They Can and Will Give Up to the Final Ultimatum.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, Nov. 16.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Today's meeting of the Joint Peace commission lasted forty-five minutes and was of high importance. The Spanish commissioners presented their rejoinder to the American reply on the Philippine question, in which they strongly reiterated their contention that Philippine sovereignty does not come up for discussion under the terms of the protocol and sets out various reasons why the United States' proposal concerning the cede could not be accepted by Spain.

The surprise of the meeting, however, was a request that the dispute should be referred to arbitration, as the scope of the protocol and its legality demand that the United States should consider the sovereignty question under it. This proposal—submitted with the protestation that it was made simply because the great desire of Spain is to bring negotiations to an amicable issue—also pointed out that the United States has always been foremost in championing arbitration; consequently, Spain makes the request with all the more confidence of its being granted. No name for an arbitrator is mentioned, but it is understood that the Spaniards have either the king of the Belgians or the president of the Swiss Federation in view.

The American commissioners asked for an adjournment until Saturday, when it is fully expected that they will reject the arbitration proposal which is, in effect, a derogation from their powers. They are commissioned to settle all points arising on the protocol and they maintain unshaken their view that sovereignty of the Philippines is deposable under that instrument.

The Spaniards are merely making the best diplomatic fight they can and it is not believed here is any likelihood of absolute rupture, as they will accept—though under protest—when the American commissioners say their last word about the Philippines.

I hear from another source that the Spaniards' memorandum deals voluminously with the American arguments and concludes by announcing the inability of the Spanish commission to accept the American propositions. The Spaniards also presented the proposition to the American commission to the effect that the latter insisted on demanding sovereignty of the Philippines the joint commission should request the two governments to agree on a question, an arbitrator to determine the case making the third and sixth articles of the protocol.

Instructed to Hang to Philippines. MADRID, Nov. 16.—The minister of foreign affairs, Dafe Almodovar de Rios, has received dispatches from the Spanish peace commissioners, now in Paris, indicating that today's meeting of the joint commissions will not be the last. The commissioners, it is added, have received additional instructions to defend Spain's rights in the Philippines.

The minister of marine, Senor Anon, and the minister of foreign affairs have conferred on the statement of Emperor William's visit to Spain. The newspapers discuss the Carlist agitation, but express belief that the followers of Don Carlos will not issue a revolutionary manifesto.