

### Carpenter's Letter

(Continued from Seventh Page.)

to 75 cents, according to whether they have dugout canoes or cargo boats.

A concession was given for the collection of taxes on horses, wagons and draft animals; this sold for about \$15,000 for a term of three years, and on this contract, I am told, one man recently made more than \$2,000 a month. Large profits were made on other things of the same nature and, indeed, almost every fat government job was a concession.

#### American Business in Manila.

Manila is rapidly putting on its American clothes. You see American signs on every street, and although most of the businesses so far started are small, the day will come when there will be large American stores here handling all kinds of American goods. At present we have an American drug store. It is a big one and it does a large business in novels, light literature and stationery, as well as in quinine and pills. There is one American jewelry store. There should be more, for an enormous amount of jewelry is sold here. The people invest

derstood the danger to those sleeping hundreds. Throwing away his papers, he ran through the silent streets, shouting the alarm and hammering at the doors.

The warning came none too soon, for hardly had Botsford and those who joined him notified the last house in the district directly threatened when the reservoir broke and 100,000,000 gallons of water poured down the hill in a stream ten feet deep. Dwellings inhabited by 5,000 people were more or less flooded and the houses in a strip three blocks wide were smashed or filled with sand and debris. Thanks to young Botsford's intelligence and devotion, no lives were lost and only one person was seriously hurt. There were many narrow escapes, some people having had to flee in their night garments and the private property loss may reach \$200,000. But Grand Rapids is thankful to have escaped the great loss of life that would certainly have occurred had not young Botsford passed that way, seen his duty straight before him and performed it with promptness and manly resolution.

Grand Rapids and every other city, the state and the nation, need boys and men who have eyes to see, minds to reason



IN THE MARKETS AT MANILA.

most of their savings in diamonds and gold and silver ornaments. There are large foreign stores selling watches and precious stones, and also East Indian merchants, who handle silverware and all kinds of jewelry. I understand the stores are having many demands for American watches. So far the most that I have seen are of Swiss make. They are sold at low prices and are much bought by the soldiers. Our American watch companies should study the market and push their goods.

One young American is making a fortune here in selling fine confectioneries, soda water, ice cream and American bread. He opened with a small shop, but he has now one of the biggest places on the Escolta and is increasing his business every day.

Another successful establishment is called the American Bazar. It sells all kinds of American goods, and I see that its advertisement in today's newspaper states that it has ten tons of goods' furnishing goods just in from 'Frisco. Among the items mentioned are thirty kinds of complete suits of underwear, and a certain garter at \$1 Mexican, which "will wear five years, 10 cents a year."

The chief business that the ex-soldier goes into in Manila is the opening of hotels and boarding houses. You find Yankee hotels and restaurants everywhere, advertised under all kinds of names. One is called "Mother's Home," another the "Oregon Hotel" and a third the "Washington Restaurant." We have the "Hoffman House," the "Astor House," the "Commercial," the "Golden Eagle," the "United States," the "Californian" and a dozen and one other places where you can get cold food beer and coffee "like your mother makes." As to saloons, they are to be found everywhere and all the saloon men are making money. Both hotels and saloons pay high licenses.

#### American Professional Men.

There are a number of our professional men who have hung out their signs in Manila. There are half a dozen lawyers and an equal number of dentists and doctors. The dentists are all busy and they all tell me they are doing well. I know one who made \$700 "silver" last week and who claims that he has made as high as \$3,000 and upward a month. All of the dentists make high charges. Their custom is among both the Filipinos and Americans. Some of them occasionally make trips over the country, going from army post to army post to attend to the teeth of the soldiers.

There are several American importing and exporting firms here, but none so far is doing a very large business. The most of the importers deal largely in liquors, advertising extensively the different brands of American whiskeys.

I would say, however, that there is no chance here for the small peddler and not much for the small dealer. The Chinese have all the petty retail business, and they can live so cheaply that the petty American cannot compete with them.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

### Right Kind of a Boy

Herbert Botsford of Grand Rapids, Mich., is a boy of whom his country may well be proud. While delivering papers at 5:30 o'clock on Monday morning, relates the Chicago Inter Ocean, he passed by the city waterworks reservoir and saw a little cataract descending from it into Livingston street. Below the hill on which the reservoir stood was a thickly built district of workmen's cottages. Young Botsford's quick wits instantly grasped the situation and un-

promptly and courage to act in the most efficient way. Young Botsford did not think of saving himself, nor waste time in telling the authorities who should have prevented the danger that it was at hand. He saw the thing to do was to waken those sleeping people at once and that he did, completing the task barely in time to drag his own breathless body out of the oncoming flood.

Herbert Botsford is a hero whom Grand Rapids should not fail properly to reward. He should have the best education as a start in life, for if he lives and keeps up his boyish record he will become a man of whom his country will hear and have need. He is the kind of boy of whom neither this nor any other nation can have too many.

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