Three Recent Incidents in History of Baler

ANILA, P. L. June 12. - (Special Correspondence of The the floor. Bee.)-Situated on the eastern shore of Luzon. Give in to Hunger. half way around the island, on the shore of a mountain-hedged

bay and nearly surrounded by the tropic friends and neighbors the inhabitants of the woods the big chattering monkeys on the timbs, the beautiful hued songsters in the treetops, the curly headed Negritos on the south and a trine of straight-haired Hongotes on the north.

Historically Bater is of great interest A pile of sardine cans and a barrel of pieces of a burned beat give the text of brave and heroic deeds of soldiers of two nations. The one tells of endurance almost to starvation, the other of attempted rescue at the risk of life. The third event to be historic

During Spanish rule Baler consisted of a few hundred inhabitants composing a quiet "valor, endurance and hereism," and then seashore town. The church and convent says: made of stone, word and a nipa roof and the stone blockhouse near the shore com- but, on the contrary as friends and in

most substantial Age, however, the these and the blockhouse is in a dilapidate) condition, the convent has been destroyed and the church alone remains. The nips and wooden houses that were a part of Baler at the time of the insurgent siege cere burned by the Spaniards, who man energetic skirmish with guns and matches and then returned to the church in which they were practically penned.

Since American occupation bamboo and nipa quarters have been built and the old church is used as a storehouse in which seven months' rations are kept for the one company stationed there. About a dozen Filipino families (Tagaleg) have built houses also and this makes up the town at present. The Tagalogs are very friendly and it is good policy, as the surrounding tribes are their enemies.

Monument to Spanish Valor.

The mounds of thousands of sardine cans near the church tell us of the Spanish captain, Moneras, and his seventy men who were garrisoning the town and were attacked by 500 insurrectes, but who withstood the assault until starved to surrender at the end of thirteen months. From the time of the surrender of Manila in August, 1898, until September, 1899, this plucky garrison of men fought desperately against heavy odds. The numbers were gradually lessened by sickness and bullets. The poor water from the well in the church corner and a diet of rice, sardines and a little flour was a poor stimulus. The ration was cut down to one-half, then to one-third and finally to one-fourth. The convent joining the church was used at first as a part of the barracks, but the insurrecto sharpshooters in high trees, made matters so unpleasantly dangerous that all lived in the church Holes in the walls of the church made for loopholes are witnesses of how closely this little band was confined. Each elde kept a vigilant watch and shots were exchanged daily.

After about seven and a half months Captain Moneras favored surrendering, and decided that was the best course to pursue. His two second lieutenants, a priest and the soldiers remaining, about forty, were opposed to this course of action, and after secret court-martial condemned the captain to be shot. His grave is beneath the earthen floor, near one end.

As the Filipinos were in hopes of starving the garrison to an unconditional surrender they would not make any promise how they would treat them if they surrendered. Time wore on, and the number was worn down to thirty-four. Many privates, some non-commissioned officers, the priest, one

second Beutenant and the captain new to side by side in their long sleep beneath.

Finally the rations were nearly gone and a flag of truce was sent out to ask for forest is the town of Baler. It has for terms. After some parleying the insurgenisagreed to send what were living to the American lines in safety if the rifles were surrendered. Upon this agreement the weather beaten and bullet-torn Spanish flag was haufed down from the church belfry and the party was soon guided on its difficult way over the mountain trails. is well that we take notice of the fact that for thirteen months after peace with Spain the flag of that nation was floating over one lonely spot in the Philippines This time would have been lessened if the decree of President Aguinable to the comis the secret of placing the foundation of promptly. In the communication to the mander at Baler had been carried out insurgent commander Aguinable culomized the Baler detachment of Spanish for their "The individuals composing the said force shall not be considered as prisoners. manding the entrance to Baler river were consequence such posses as shall be neves sary for them to return to their country tion as he was leaving the yard of the happy, some before and or leaving of insurrection, has been grawing at shall be furnished through headquarters.

Made in Tartae June to 1800. "El Presidente de la Republica "EMILIO AGUINALDO."

The weak and ill-fed Spaniards made slow progress on their westward trip to men who had demonstrated to the world of more's Attempt at Rescue. San Jose, San Juan, Puntubangan and then what Spanish satellers can patriorically entaken. This latter town is where Aguirealdo gave a reception and raised a respectable had his temperary capital when he called subscription for the benefit of the heroe-General Luna from the firing line at San Medals of honor and promotion have fid Fernando and then ordered his assurance lowed, and most of these men were made



BALER CHURCH, WHERE THE SPANISH WEGT DESIRGED

headquarters.

Moving on to San Isidro, the first Ameri under a thag of crime

Upon the arrival at Mamla of those brave country Cabanatuan, where a short rost was dure, the members of the Spanish colons

for Spain. Made of pass or received in Ma-nilla after the return of these suddiers for can post, the Spaniards were turned ager of extended honors and the outbustness at the Landing of the portion at their moch-

The presence of the burned from sailberand kept for relies tell the story of the fatul subseme of Licensenant James C. Gd. more a affempt to reseme the Spanish purty the unibush, the fight and the capture

The graduat Yorktown was cheve the besieged Spantards held in the Major shareb. The day of the defit was April 12, 1809, just eight months after The 500 incorrector had it and around the burch, making it a prison at rife range

Before distlight two scouts were landed on the shore of list r boy in the dock shad one of the trees. After this the joins wen a fittle routh and anterest Baber Siver There were fourte a besides describing Gilmere and they showly rowed along 1 min varils upstream. The line of river tenches that may be seen today explains how the locality was a death trap to any heat party and an ideal place for an ambush-

A volley from the incurgents, who could ace and not be seen, was the outcome With the Lieutenant and his mon it was

cars of being a nired and having nor Some of the present printinger of Bulthe mon aboved their order is firms and moving the tour in an attempt to go away. This arried at the light count as h about up in one end myone his orders to they absenced to his old the new gags may ted were not able to their when hearly. If was toronass in home the contra of their the is a proceed Propose Ourkeman-hip

Structure was inevitable, when, with a wild dust. The incurrence charged on the tittle parts. As they have closing in an

selectionists on page thenery



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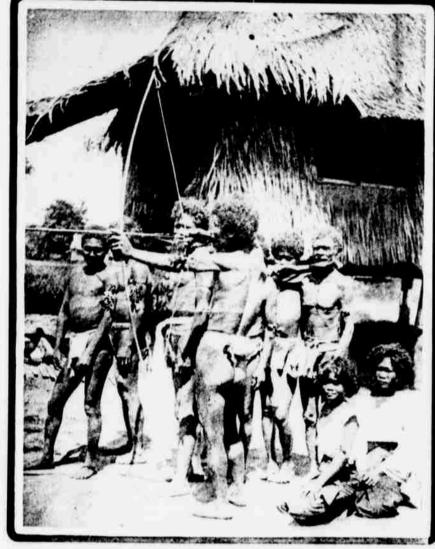
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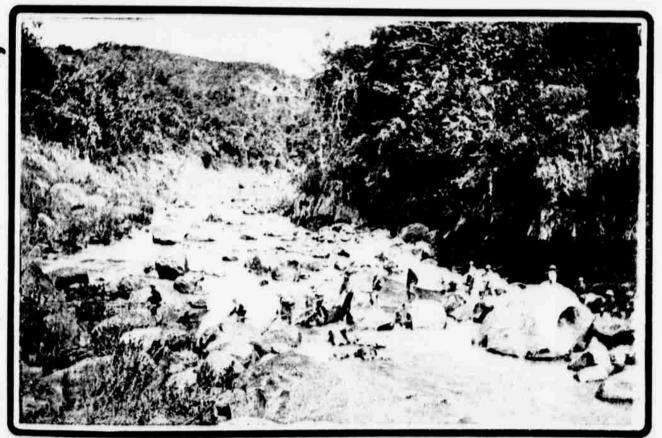
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