

How the Fight Began in the Philippines.

In the city, long before the heavy firing commenced, the alarm spread, a general call to quarters was sounded, and patrols were thrown out through the streets. An excitable orderly rushed into the circus where several hundred soldiers and civilians were seated, and between gasps howled the California men to quarters; the place was in an uproar in a second, and as the men rushed over the flimsy structures through the rings, the people followed suit, and clowns and trained horses were forgotten in the general rush to the doors. A number of officers were present who attempted to restore order, but the delay cost them their carriages; for when they reached the street they found their horses had been taken by soldiers in their anxiety to get to barracks. The Spanish and foreign population deserted the drives and theatres, and rushed to their homes, locking the doors and extinguishing the lights. In half an hour the city was deserted, with the exception of the soldiers everywhere on guard or hurrying to the front in quick, measured steps that rang through the empty streets. The walled city was the refuge of many people who had deserted their houses and sought safety in the churches, as they feared their own servants. Companies from the First Oregon, the Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteers, and Twenty-third United States Infantry, under direction of General Hughes, the Provost-Marshal, maintained the best of order; and as all the residents bolted their houses as though to resist a siege of the old days, this part of the city was easily controlled. In the new city beyond the walls and in the outlying districts several attacks were made on individuals. Lieutenant-Colonel Colton was driving to Santa Mesa to join his regiment when a native, a mere boy, rushed at him with a sword, and only the blunt edge prevented a wound. Failing the first thrust he returned to the attack, and it took three shots from the Colonel's revolver to silence him.—From "The Battle of the Block-houses," by Percy G. McDonnell, in the June Scribner's.

Old Soak, very much inebriated, had boarded a Broadway car and fallen into the solitary vacant seat. Two blocks further up town there was a stop, the car door was thrown open and the biggest of fat negro women squeezed into the car. Old Soak studied the newcomer for several minutes with drunken solemnity, then, turning to his fellow-passengers, exclaimed:
"I'll be one of any two gentlemen to get up and give this lady a seat!"

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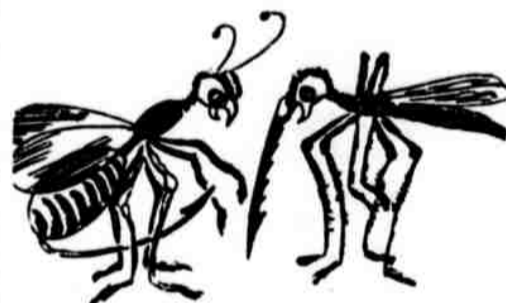
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