

earnest efforts to adjust the quarrel, but without success. The Russians refused to listen to any proposition short of the unconditional withdrawal of the British from the Russian concession, and the British refused to withdraw. Until the 20th each commander held this position upon his own responsibility; but since then both have been acting upon instructions from home. On that day the Russian general, Wogack, made a formal demand upon the British for the withdrawal of their force and an apology for removing the Russian flag, and the British returned a negative reply.

Another matter of concern to the allies in China is the action of the Russian representative in the meeting of foreign ministers at Peking on the 13th. He opposed any further punishment of Chinese officials for participation in the Boxer uprising. This merciful policy on the part of Russia is suspected to be in part consideration for further Chinese concessions.

The United States is discreetly retreating from this inflammable neighborhood. Formal orders were issued on the 15th for the withdrawal from China by the end of April, of all American troops except a legation guard of 150 men.

The American troops as withdrawn from China are to go to the Philippines, where the American force is weakened by the expiration of enlistments and the scarcity of recruits. Of the operations there, but little is now reported. The week's event that is made most of is the surrender of the Filipino General Mariano Trias, of whom Gen. MacArthur says that his prestige in southern Luzon "is equal to that of Aguinaldo's." Gen. Trias immediately took the oath of allegiance. "This indicates," reports Gen. MacArthur, "the final stage of the armed insurrection." It appears that during Gen. Otis's regime, Trias was offered the American governorship of the province of Cavite as a bribe to desert his countrymen, but at that time he refused all overtures. Another important capture is that of Gen. Diocino, whom MacArthur describes as "the most troublesome insurgent general in Panay." Havoc has been raised with Philippine shipping by the wholesale destruction of vessels under American military or-

ders, 300 vessels of various sizes having been recently seized and destroyed. Most of them are native craft, but leading Manila firms also are among the sufferers. One of the Philippine dispatches is peculiarly significant. It tells of the reconcentration, in imitation of Weyler in Cuba, of the inhabitants of the Island of Marinduque. After closing the ports and confining the inhabitants to six towns, the Americans, says this dispatch, published in the Chicago Tribune of the 1th, "devastated the interior." The result, adds the dispatch "is that every one" except 200 armed Filipinos, "is now begging for peace."

Some further progress appears to have been made in setting up American local governments in the Philippines, and the war department at Washington has defined the standard flag for the division headquarters in the archipelago. This flag is to be made of—

khaki colored silk or bunting, measuring three feet on the staff and four feet six inches fly, cut swallow-tailed 12 inches to the fork, bearing in the center two circles overlapping each other, one-third radius, resembling the figure eight, one foot six inches high, and of corresponding width. The symbol to be in red, bordered in white one and one-half inches, and edged in blue three-quarters of an inch, surmounted by a red scroll bearing the device, 'Division of the Philippines,' embroidered in blue letters. Total length of lance to be nine feet, including spearhead and ferrule.

Our Cuban relations are still in suspense, the special committee of the constitutional convention not having reported on the American demands. Intense feeling, however, has been stirred up in Cuba by these demands. Correspondents who insist upon the importance of making the adjustment in accordance with them, nevertheless admit the bitterness of Cuban feeling, and blame the American authorities at Washington for lack of tact.

Recurring to the difficulty between Great Britain and Russia, the irritating incident over the British occupation of Chinese land claimed by Russia, comes doubtless at an awkward time for Great Britain; and hints from responsible quarters are not lacking that Russia appreciates it. For while the Boers continue to worry the British army in South Af-

rica, the British ministry is obviously in no condition to deal decisively with any first-class power. Great expectations, therefore, were raised in London, as we reported last week, over the rumor that Gen. Botha wished to surrender. At the time of that report it was known that Lord Kitchener had granted Botha an armistice until the 14th to enable him to confer with other Boer generals. Nothing was known then, nor is anything known yet, of the details of the Kitchener Botha negotiations. The British authorities have made public only the fact that negotiations were in progress and that they have collapsed. Their collapse was divulged by a statement that Mr. Chamberlain, secretary for the colonies, made on the floor of the house of commons on the 20th, from which it appeared also that the negotiations for surrender had been initiated not by Botha, as had theretofore been implied, but by Lord Kitchener, and pursuant to instructions from the British ministry. Mr. Chamberlain explained that Botha had informed Kitchener that he did not feel disposed to recommend the British terms of surrender to the consideration of the Boer government, and that through its chief officers the Boer government agreed with his views.

#### NEWS NOTES.

—Frederick E. Coyne has been appointed postmaster of Chicago to succeed Charles U. Gordon.

—An act of the Tennessee legislature, signed on the 14th by the governor, forbids coeducation of the white and negro races in that state.

—By a vote of 250 to 163 the British house of commons on the 13th defeated a bill for the relief of congested districts in Ireland by means of compulsory land purchases.

—Mayor Samuel M. Jones, who is the no-party candidate for reelection as mayor of Toledo, was indorsed on the 16th by the democratic convention by a vote of 193 to 139.

—The Chase, Robeson, Merchants', American Linen, and Metacomet cotton mills, of Fall River, operating 350,000 spindles, closed down on the 18th pursuant to a mutual agreement to curtail production.

—There are reports of rioting in many cities of Russia, under circumstances which suggest the possibility of a premeditated revolt; but the cabled details give no satisfactory account of the matter.

—Wu Ting-Fang, the Chinese minister to the United States, delivered a