

the American admiral, Kempff, telegraphed from his station at Chefoo, near the mouth of the Gulf of Pechili, that a small force of Russians and Americans, on their way to Tientsin had had an engagement with the Chinese army and been unable to break through the line. This relieving force appears to have been repulsed and to have returned to Taku. The fighting in Tientsin was believed to be still in progress on the 21st; but on the 23d, the second relieving force entered the city, having first silenced the Chinese arsenal and broken through the Chinese lines. As its loss was small and no accounts of injuries sustained by the foreign residents of Tientsin have yet been made, the preceding rumors of a terrible life and death struggle and a destructive bombardment were not improbably grossly exaggerated.

Peking is still cut off, and a mystery hangs about the allied relieving expedition under the British Admiral Seymour, who was reported last week as having been obliged to return. But he had not returned. Dispatches of the 22d told of his entering Peking simultaneously with the large Russian force which was mentioned last week as marching upon Peking; and these were quickly followed by others which told of his being surrounded half way between Tientsin and Peking. There was one, also, to the effect that he had been killed. On the 24th a dispatch reported that no word had been received from him for 12 days. Japanese reports of the 26th had him captured, and an American report of the 27th told of his having heliographed news that he is besieged in Peking. As we write there comes a report of June 28, from Chefoo, saying that he has been relieved, but had failed to reach Peking. On the 25th Admiral Kempff reported to Washington that since communication with Peking was interrupted on the 10th he had received from there but one communication, which was dated June 12th. In the same report he verified the news given in these columns at pages 122 and 150, of the departure of an allied relieving force sent from Taku to Peking. He said of this that—

a force of 100 Americans, uniting with a total force of 2,500 men of all nationalities represented here, went June 10 to open the road and to relieve Peking. This movement was by permission of the Chinese govern-

ment. The last news from the expedition was dated June 12, when the expedition was at Lang Fang. The railroad had been destroyed behind it since.

The American regiment ordered from Manila to China, as reported last week, was detained at Manila by the typhoon until the 27th, when it was dispatched in two transports convoyed by the gunboat Princeton. The armored cruiser Brooklyn had sailed on the 26th from the Philippines for Taku. Brig. Gen. Chaffee is assigned to the command of the American land forces in China, and directed to proceed to Peking by way of Taku. He is to sail from San Francisco on the 1st with the 6th cavalry.

The European powers are rapidly increasing their forces in China. They are massing them at Taku. The British are now expected to send 10,000 men from India. Of this quota one regiment embarked at Calcutta on the 25th. Japan purposes sending 15,000 within a fortnight. It is estimated in London that the foreign powers will soon have not less than 40,000 men upon the ground. The number already massed at Taku on the 24th was 8,000. Jealousies have begun to appear, as is cautiously intimated by a military correspondent at Taku, who says that the operations of the allies are suffering from defective organization and the want of a recognized head.

While the allied powers are thus preparing to march upon the Chinese capital, the viceroy of the southern provinces of Hunan and Hupeh has made an appeal to them, through the Chinese minister, to suspend further military operations until Li Hung Chang, now on his way from the south, can reach Peking and consult with the empress and the emperor with a view to averting war. The appeal lays responsibility for the assaults upon foreigners in China upon the lawlessness of the Boxers, whom it charges also with assaults upon the Chinese as well. Replying to this appeal Secretary Hay has notified the Chinese minister to this country that there can be no delay in the dispatch of American troops to Peking; and it is understood at Washington that a similar reply has been given by the European powers to the Chinese representatives accredited respectively to them.

So completely have Chinese affairs occupied the attention of the press, and so reticent is Lord Roberts, that there is only scant news from the war in South Africa, although the end of that conflict is nowhere yet in sight, and an important British movement is evidently in progress. Lord Roberts appears to have turned his attention from the Transvaal to the eastern part of the Orange Free State, where the Boers have been giving him no end of trouble. Within a few days they have again cut his communications on the railroad a little to the north of Kroonstad, giving him one of the fiercest engagements he has recently fought. For the purpose of crushing the Boers in the Orange Free State he has organized four separate armies to sweep them into a net. One advances from Heidelberg, in the southern part of the Transvaal; one from Heilbron, in the Orange Free State, somewhat east of the main line of the railroad; one from Lindley, about 40 miles further south; and one from Winberg, east of the railroad at Smaldell. These points lie nearly in a straight line from north to south, and the movement is a converging one in an easterly direction. Gen. Buller cooperates by effecting a junction with the Heidelberg force and holding the railroad that runs from Johannesburg to Ladysmith, thus completing the net within which the Boers to the south of the Vaal, supposed to number 8,000 in arms, are to be encircled. He has advanced northward along the railroad as far as Standerton. This encircling movement is regarded in London as destined to be the decisive campaign of the war.

In the Philippines the latest report of fighting bears date the 24th, and tells of an engagement on the 14th in which a detachment of 100 Americans was repulsed and driven back to the coast with a loss of seven killed and 12 wounded. This engagement occurred on the Tagayen river. Troubles in the island of Samar were reported at the same time, together with information that reinforcements had been sent there.

The amnesty proclamation to the Filipinos by President McKinley, announced in our last issue, was officially given out on the 21st over the signature of Gen. MacArthur as military governor. It bears date June 21 at Manila and offers—  
amnesty with complete immunity for

the past and absolute liberty of action for the future to all persons who are now, or at any time since February 4, 1899, have been in insurrection against the United States in either a military or a civil capacity, and who shall within a period of 90 days from the date hereof formally renounce all connection with such insurrection and subscribe to a declaration acknowledging and accepting the sovereignty and authority of the United States in and over the Philippine islands. The privilege herewith published is extended to all concerned without any reservation whatever, excepting that persons who have violated the rules of war during the period of hostilities are not embraced within the scope of this amnesty.

The proclamation concludes with an offer to all who apply: to receive them according to their rank, to provide for their immediate wants, to furnish them passes and free transport to any part of the island, and to assist the destitute by paying 30 pesos (about \$25 gold) to each man who presents a rifle in good condition. Nine imprisoned Filipino leaders at Manila, including Gen. Pio del Pilar, took the oath of allegiance under the proclamation on the 27th, and were thereupon released. Otherwise the proclamation had up to that time been without result.

On the day that this amnesty proclamation was issued about 200 Filipinos met in Manila under the auspices of the American military authorities, to consider the possibilities of an honorable peace, and in the evening of the same day they submitted to Gen. MacArthur the results of their deliberations, which were—

1. Amnesty.
2. The return by the Americans to the Filipinos of confiscated property.
3. Employment for the revolutionary generals in the navy and militia when established.
4. The application of the Filipino revenues to succor needy Filipino soldiers.
5. A guaranty to the Filipinos of the exercise of personal rights accorded to Americans by their constitution.
6. Establishment of civil governments at Manila and in the provinces.
7. Expulsion of the friars.

The meeting was composed exclusively of the patriotic element. Thirty political prisoners were released from jail by Gen. MacArthur to enable them to attend, and Senor Paterno presided. Three days after this meeting, on the 24th, Gen. MacArthur returned his formal reply. He assured

the Filipinos that all personal rights under the United States constitution would be guaranteed their people, excepting the right to bear arms and the right to trial by jury. But he rejected the clause demanding expulsion of the friars, on the ground that that question rests with the Taft commission.

American casualties in the Philippines since July 1, 1898, inclusive of all current official reports given out in detail at Washington to June 27, 1900, are as follows:

Deaths to May 16, 1900, (see page 91) .....	1,847
Killed reported since May 16, 1900, .....	22
Deaths from wounds, disease and accidents reported since May 16, 1900, .....	100
<b>Total deaths since July 1, 1898, .....</b>	<b>1,969</b>
Wounded .....	2,179
<b>Total casualties since July, 1898, .....</b>	<b>4,148</b>
Total casualties reported last week .....	4,099
Total deaths reported last week .....	1,931

As we went to press last week the republican convention at Philadelphia had just nominated William McKinley for president and Theodore Roosevelt for vice president of the United States. Both were unanimously nominated, the only vote against Roosevelt being his own. Before the making of these nominations on the 21st the resolution offered on the 20th by Senator Quay, and reported last week as calculated to reduce southern and increase northern representation in future republican conventions, was laid before the convention. Mr. Quay at once withdrew it. Alabama being then called to name her choice for presidential nominee, she yielded to Ohio, and Senator Foraker, of Ohio, responded with the speech nominating McKinley. Gov. Roosevelt followed, and was succeeded in turn by Senator Thurston, of Nebraska; John W. Yerkes, of Kentucky; George Knight, of California, and Gov. Mount, of Indiana, with seconding speeches. No other nomination was made, and of a total of 930 votes Mr. McKinley received them all. When Alabama was again called, this time to name her choice for vice president, she yielded to Iowa, and Lafe Young, of Iowa, editor of the Des Moines Capital, responded, making the speech nominating Roosevelt. This nomination was seconded in speeches by Butler Murray, of Massachusetts; James M. Ashton, of

Washington, and Senator Depew, of New York. The vote being taken Roosevelt, having no competitor, received 925, the chairman announcing that only 926 delegates were in the hall. The convention, which had opened for the session at 10:30 in the morning, adjourned sine die at 2:14 in the afternoon.

The important event of the week in democratic politics is the Illinois state convention, which concluded its work at Springfield on the 27th. Ex-Gov. Altgeld was received with exceptional enthusiasm when he entered the hall, and not being a delegate he was invited to address the convention, which he did. His influence undoubtedly secured an adherence in the platform to the national platform of 1896, and probably turned the tide from Ortseifen, the gubernatorial favorite of the Chicago faction, to Samuel Alschuler, who was nominated on the second ballot. The platform reaffirms and indorses, "in whole and in all of its parts, in letter and in spirit, the democratic national platform of 1896." Mayor Harrison of Chicago, and Ben T. Cable, are among the delegates at large to the national convention, and ex-Vice President A. E. Stephenson and ex-Congressman George W. Fithian are among the alternates. Owing to the opposition of Mayor Harrison, ex-Gov. Altgeld was not named as a delegate.

The national prohibition convention met at Chicago on the 27th, but had not at this writing made any nominations. The platform adopted on the 27th is confined to prohibition principles, characterizing the liquor traffic as the primary evil of civilization. In harmony with this view it denounces President McKinley for using wine, for maintaining the army canteen, and for permitting the introduction of the saloon in the Philippines.

The Union Reform party of Illinois, having the initiative and referendum as its primary demand, met at Chicago on the 27th and nominated a state ticket with Lloyd G. Spencer as the candidate for governor.

On the 25th a conference of leading anti-imperialists was held at the Plaza hotel, New York, in response to a call of the American Anti-Imperialist league. Ex-Gov. Boutwell,