

Picquart. Regarded by friends of Dreyfus as the only conscientiousman in the military crowd, he appears to have fallen under the military ban. A prosecution was instituted against him in the ordinary criminal courts, upon a charge of revealing documents concerning the national defense. His trial was to begin on the 21st, but the public prosecutor then moved an adjournment, on the ground that a military prosecution had been ordered by the war department on charges of forgery and using forged documents in connection with the Dreyfus case. Picquart's lawyer strenuously opposed this motion as an attempt to thrust Col. Picquart into the clutches of the military ring, but the judges granted the adjournment. This was not done, however, until Picquart had made a speech, in which he implied that Picard, a detective in the Dreyfus case, who was said to have hanged himself, and Henry, one of the forgers, who, upon being arrested, was supposed to have cut his throat, had really been murdered by military conspirators. Col. Picquart said: "This is perhaps the last time I shall speak in public. I shall sleep, perhaps, in the military prison of Cherche Midi. Therefore, I wish to declare that if I become there a victim of the strangling cord of Le Mercier Picard, or the razor of Col. Henry, it will be murder, for I have no idea of committing suicide."

Next in importance to the army scandal in France is the army scandal in the United States. The investigating commission of nine appointed by President McKinley has not yet been completed. Of the original appointees, Gens. Gordon, Schofield and Manderson and Messrs. Lincoln and Lamont had declined last week; and of the subsequent appointees, not all have yet accepted. Among the men who have accepted are Col. Sexton, of the G. A. R.; Dr. W. W. Keene, of Philadelphia; Granville M. Dodge, of New York; Charles Denby, of Indiana, and Evan P. Howell, editor of the Atlanta Constitution. Gen. Stephen M. Weld, of Dedham, Mass., to whom one of the vacancies on the commission was offered, declined it; and President Gilman, of Johns Hopkins university, after having accepted, changed his mind and withdrew.

One of the newly developed facts

regarding army mismanagement is that at the beginning of the war the inspector general's department was virtually abolished. The army officers in charge of that department were promoted at the outbreak of the war, and no one was assigned to their places. Consequently, throughout the period of hostilities, no inspection tour was made. Another significant fact is reported from Lexington, Ky. During Secretary Alger's visit there on the 20th, Gen. Sanger plainly charged that there had been rottenness in the management of the departments of the quartermaster and the surgeon general. On the same occasion Gen. Wiley charged criminal neglect in the furnishing of supplies at Chickamauga. Among other things, he said that the reason the troops drank unboiled water was because no water boilers were supplied; and directly to Secretary Alger he used these words: "You worked the men to death at Chickamauga. Why, sir, these men were drilled from five to six hours each day in the hot sun, and when they fell there were no stretchers or litter bearers to carry them away; nor were there any ambulances at hand in many cases, and the poor fellows were forced to lie in the boiling sun without attention. It was cruel to them, and it was criminal negligence not to have a sufficient number of litter bearers and stretchers. The reason these men were not on hand is because every available man for the doctor or nurse had been taken away from their commands and placed in the division hospital."

The peace commission has been completed by the appointment of the Spanish members. They are Senor Rios, president of the Spanish senate; Senor Abarzuza, the Spanish ambassador at Paris when Spain was a republic; Gen. Cerrero; Senor Villaurrutta, the Spanish minister at Brussels, and Senor Garnica. The French government has offered the use of the conference room at the foreign office in Paris for the sessions of the commission.

While preparations for final peace between Spain and the United States are in progress, the evacuation of Puerto Rico under the protocol has begun. No delay has been interposed by the Spanish commissioners, and several towns have been turned over to American garrisons. The embarkation of Spanish troops for Spain began on the 20th.

In Havana, the American flag was raised for the first time on the 20th. It was floated from the flagstaff of the Trocha hotel, the headquarters of the American evacuation commission.

The Cuban republic has called an election to be held on the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th of September, for the selection of representatives to frame the Cuban constitution. All male persons more than 21 years of age, residing in the territory now occupied by the Cuban authorities, are qualified voters at these elections. The representatives elected are to assemble by the 10th of October. In view of the election and the constitutional assembly to follow, President Maso has issued an address in which he urges gratitude to the United States as the protector of Cuba, and describes the American people as "our ally of yesterday, our host of to-day, our friend always."

The situation in the Philippines does not appear to be materially altered. Though the national assembly of the Philippine republic met on the 15th, as intended, but little news of the proceedings has reached this country. The only important action so far reported is that the assembly resolved to reject a proposal for a joint Spanish-American protectorate over the Philippines. It is opposed to any continuance whatever of Spanish rule in the islands in any form. Three parties are said to be represented in the assembly. One favors annexation to the United States, another favors absolute independence, and the third advocates autonomy under American protection.

President Aguinaldo has addressed and signed the following letter to the American people:

Manila, Philippine Islands, Sept. 19. —The Filipino government desires to inform the American government and people that the many rumors circulated regarding the strained relations between the Filipino and American forces are base, malicious slanders of the enemy of both parties, are without any truth and are circulated for the purpose of prejudicing the appeal of the Filipinos for their release from the oppression and cruelty of Spain. The relations of our people and yours have been and will continue to be of the most friendly nature, and we have withdrawn our forces from the suburbs of Manila as an additional evidence of our confidence in the great American republic.