

was killed. He was an irreconcilable and was a promoter of trouble in the island of Jolo. His death will leave the island pacified, and no trouble is being anticipated from the other leaders.

Continued trouble is being experienced by the Germans in German Southwest Africa (p. 696), which is akin to that of the Americans in the Philippines, except that the Germans appear to be getting the worst of it. Press despatches of the 19th from Berlin report that

Germany's troops engaged in an effort to crush the rebellion of the black natives of German Southwest Africa have met with a serious reverse in battle. The tribesmen overwhelmed an advance column of the kaiser's troops. News of the rout came to-day in a dispatch from Colonel Loutwein, governor of German Southwest Africa. The fight took place March 13 near Owikokorero with the Tetjo tribe of Hereros, whom Commandant Glasenapp was pursuing. The enemy's loss is not known, but twenty dead natives were seen. Commandant Glasenapp, with a number of his staff officers and 36 cavalrymen, advanced ahead of his main body and overtook the enemy's vanguard, which had unexpectedly received reinforcements. Glasenapp was forced to retire after hard fighting, losing 7 officers and 19 private soldiers killed and 3 officers and 2 private soldiers wounded. Commandant Glasenapp is now taking measures to attack the Hereros position in force and probably will ask for reinforcements from Major Estereff's column. The news of the German reverse made a disappointing impression in Berlin, since it involved the most severe losses the Germans have yet reported and because it was hoped that the worst was over. In view of this latest fight it is regarded as possible that still further reinforcements will be sent to Southwest Africa.

Horrible reports of butcheries in connection with this German war against the natives of Southwest Africa are spreading in Germany. Press despatches of the 16th from Berlin tell of letters from German soldiers in German Southwest Africa which—

give details of the ghastly treatment of German settlers, 113 of whom were killed outright or tortured to death in the district of Okahandja alone. Women and children mutilated and left to die slowly were frequent spectacles. The expeditionary columns on coming in sight of a farmer's house would see the heads of its former occupants fastened to the roof. The letters of the soldiers express longings for revenge and a determination, as one writer says, "to kill

everything black." That causes some papers to urge the government to telegraph instructions to Col. Leutwein, the governor of German Southwest Africa, that he order the soldiers to restrain themselves and conduct the war in a civilized manner. Cbl. Leutwein himself comes in for criticism, as it is alleged that he left insufficient numbers of troops in the exposed districts and was misled by the temper of the natives, having frequently had at his own table chiefs who are now in rebellion and who are wearing decorations and swords of honor bestowed on them by the governor in behalf of the Emperor.

The reported savagery on the part of the natives is believed by some Germans to be retaliatory. One of these is Bebel, the Socialist leader in the Reichstag, who announced in that body on the 19th that after Easter the Socialists will interrogate the ministry on the subject. In making this announcement Mr. Bebel said, as reported in the dispatches, that the German campaign against the Hereros of German Southwest Africa—

had taken on a character prejudicial to Germany's interests and honor, since all Hereros were killed and no prisoners were taken. He referred to a letter from a veterinary surgon, Dr. Baumgart, in the *Leipscic Neueste Machrichten*, asserting that no quarter was given and that every black was shot down, Dr. Baumgart himself boasting that he had massacred wounded men, like a cannibal. "Therein can be seen," Mr. Bebel continued, "how far even our educated people are becoming brutalized. Let us not deceive ourselves with the belief that the present occurrences in Southwest Africa only make a demoralizing impression on the troops there. The descriptions sent home must also have a demoralizing and brutalizing effect on the German people." Mr. Bebel did not deny that the Hereros also perpetrated cruelties, but he intimated that the reports on the subject sent to Germany were purposely colored. The tales of horror circulated by the German press were at least partly untrue, "like the alleged murder of two women, who are still living." "The reports of the Rhenish Missionary society," continued Mr. Bebel, "show that things are by no means as bad as represented in the newspapers friendly to the colonial office. Those reports show that the Hereros spare the whites who prove to be non-Germans, like the English, Boers and Danes. It appears, therefore, that some of our countrymen have so maltreated the Hereros that they have generated a fanatical hatred against Germans in general. Samuel Maharaero, chief of the Hereros," continues the mis-

sionary report, "has given orders that no harm be done to non-Germans, missionaries, women and children, but that German men be shot down mercilessly. The missionaries further report that the Hereros begged pardon of white women wounded by stray shots in fights, saying they did not wish to hurt defenseless women. There is no word of truth in the assertions that the missionaries made common cause with the Hereros. On the other hand, many Hereros took refuge in mission stations, which apparently were regarded as places of safety."

Replying to Mr. Bebel, Dr. Arendt a ministerialist, questioned the veracity of the letter the former had quoted, and responded with the appeal that appears to be customary in all countries when any exercise of governmental power is criticized as unjust. He said:

The House must wait until the rebellion is subdued and then try to ascertain the facts. At any rate, all sides agree that the Hereros have devastated, plundered and destroyed in a frightful manner. Our only concern now is to help our countrymen without inquiring into the causes of the rebellion.

In the British Commons a positive test of ministerial strength (p. 793) was made on the 21st. The Liberal leader, Campbell-Bannerman, had given notice on the 16th of the following motion of censure:

That this House disapproves the conduct of His Majesty's Government in advising the Crown not to disallow the ordinance for the introduction of Chinese labor in the Transvaal.

On the 17th the Premier, Balfour, announced that the motion would be taken up for debate on the 21st. Accordingly on that date the motion was debated, the Premier's opposition to it being based in his speech upon his contention that the ministry were forced to decide whether the Transvaal should be allowed to go through a grave commercial crisis rather than admit Chinese labor. Upon taking a vote the Commons rejected the motion by 299 to 242, a majority of 57 in support of the ministry. This majority is 6 more than was cast for the ministry (p. 729) against Morley's amendment; but 74 less than the ministerial majority returned at the last general elections (vol. iii., p. 441). The ministerial loss was due principally to abstentions from voting. On the 22d the ministry escaped a