

In this report the number of wounded is not given. Together with other losses since the 7th, it raises the grand total to about 23,000.

The volksraad, or legislature, of the Orange Free State met on the 4th at Kroonstad. It was opened with an address by President Steyn, who predicted an early termination of the war through the intervention of France, Russia and Germany. About the same time a ballot was being taken at Bloemfontein upon a name for the Orange Free State when it shall have been conquered by the British. Brandesia, in memory of a former president, was adopted.

The neutrality of Portugal has been brought under discussion since the Delagoa arbitration noted last week, by an extraordinary act on Portugal's part. She has consented to the passage of British troops through Portuguese East Africa to Rhodesia, north of the Transvaal. The matter having been questioned on the 4th in the Portuguese chamber of deputies, the minister for foreign affairs explained it in these terms:

The transport of British soldiers by railroad from Beira to Umtali was requested by Great Britain and consented to by Portugal because the British government thereby only exercised a right recognized in the treaties between the two countries. The outbreak of war has not abrogated these treaties, which were concluded and signed prior to the war by Portugal in a spirit of loyalty. I have informed the Transvaal of this resolution. Portugal has loyally adhered to its duties and neutrality, and its resolutions have been communicated to all interested parties.

President Kruger has formally protested, notifying Portugal that the Transvaal government considers the shipping of British troops to Rhodesia through Portuguese territory to be tantamount to hostile action.

American government in the Philippines appears to be in quite as bad condition as Agoncillo's story, published last week, implied. The Associated press reports of the 8th from Manilasay that "reports of encounters between the American troops and the insurgents continue to arrive from many points." Among these encounters was one within five miles of Manila, where a Filipino outpost in full uniform was attacked. Another occurred in Laguna prov-

ince, where an American detachment was driven for refuge into a church and held there until reinforcements arrived. There was another in Cagayan province, another in the island of Panay, and still another in the island of Samar.

The effect of this sort of constant harassing warfare is forcibly indicated by the frequent requests Gen. Young, commanding northern Luzon, has made for reinforcements. He says that his force is inadequate, that his men are exhausted by the necessity for constant vigilance, that he is unable to garrison the towns in his jurisdiction, and that the Filipinos are returning to the district and killing the American friendlies. Gen. Bell, who commands southern Luzon, makes similar representations. He complains that owing to the inadequacy of his force he merely holds a few towns without controlling the territory.

At his own request, Gen. Otis has been relieved. Private interests, he explains, require his immediate return. Gen. MacArthur is to succeed him as military governor. Regarding the situation he cables that he believes that by May 1 matters at Manila "can be placed in quite a satisfactory condition," although "a large repressive military force must be maintained for some time." Pending Gen. Otis's return a resolution has been introduced in the lower house of congress, by Congressman Levy, of New York, asking for information from the secretary of war upon which to base a congressional investigation into the manner in which Gen. Otis and the American military officers have been conducting the war in the Philippines.

A sensational report of a military murder comes from Manila, Gen. Funston being the accused. It is to the effect that the Filipinos captured three of Funston's native scouts near San Isidro, and were preparing to kill them when one escaped and found Funston near by with a scouting party. Funston followed the native to the rescue of his companions, and the Filipinos fled when Funston's party appeared. They left their prisoners behind, but Funston chased the retreating Filipinos and captured two. These he took to the village of San Isidro, and there hanged them. The hanging was without trial or legal form of any kind, and the mat-

ter has been under military investigation, with the prospect, it is reported, that Funston may be court-martialed.

American casualties in the Philippines since August 6, 1898, inclusive of all official reports given out at Washington to April 4, 1900, are as follows:

Killed	467
Died of wounds, disease and accidents	1,186
Total deaths	1,653
Wounded	2,072
Total loss	3,725
Total loss reported last week.....	3,725
Total deaths reported last week..	1,653

No reports of casualties have been published in the press since the 4th.

A further step in the direction of the American crown colony system was taken in congress on the 11th, when the senate amendments to the Puerto Rican tariff bill of the lower house, amendments which made it a full government bill, (See No. 105, page 5), were concurred in by the house. The subject was first disposed of by the republicans in caucus on the 5th. As the caucus was to be binding, the republican members who oppose a tariff between the states and Puerto Rico remained away. They are McCall of Massachusetts, Littlefield of Maine, Lorimer of Illinois, Crumpacker, of Indiana, Heatwole of Minnesota, Lane of Iowa and Warner of Illinois. At a conference held by them they decided not to recede from their former position. At the party caucus a motion to concur in all the senate amendments was adopted with only two dissenting votes. The principal objection made by the two dissentients—Cooper of Wisconsin and Moody of Massachusetts—was to the provision inserted in the bill by the senate requiring all the members of the upper council of the Puerto Rican legislature to be appointees of the president and clothing them with the power to grant franchises. The republican caucus having agreed to support the bill as it came from the senate, the ways and means committee decided on the 10th to report it without amendment. This it did on the 11th. On the same day the rules committee reported a special rule for the bill, cutting off debate at 5 o'clock that afternoon. The vote on this rule was 158 in the affirmative and 142 in the negative. After a sharp debate, the bill was