

prevent the further reinforcement of the relief expedition.

After the rescue of the foreign ministers, Li Hung Chang renewed proposals for peace, under the imperial authority reported last week on page 298. In his proposals he asked the powers to appoint their ministers in China as peace commissioners to negotiate with Chinese commissioners. Our government has prepared a reply which was delivered to Minister Wu on the 22d. At the hour of this writing (August 23) the reply had not been made public.

In South Africa the elaborate plans of Gen. Roberts for capturing the Boers under Gen. De Wet are now conceded to have failed. De Wet had at the time of our last report already escaped the British cordon in the Orange Free State and was being chased by British troops. British dispatches of the 15th reported him as having crossed the railroad between Krugersdorp and Patchefstroom (southwest of Pretoria) and as making to the north to join the Boer force under Delarey, which was holding Rustenburg. Kitchener was then pursuing him. Dispatches of the 16th from the same source told of his eluding Kitchener by marching at night over ground upon which the British dared not venture except in daylight, and on the 18th it was known that he had effected a junction with Delarey. His breach of the British cordon near Bethlehem in the northeast of the Orange Free State and his march from there to Rustenburg in the Transvaal west of Pretoria, are regarded by military experts as one of the finest performances of the kind in modern warfare. De Wet was next heard of in front of Gen. Baden-Powell, whose surrender he demanded. Baden-Powell was reported from British sources on the 18th as having asked him for terms. There the British reports stop short. From Boer sources, however, it was reported at the same time that De Wet and Delarey, after joining forces, had turned upon the British and captured 4,000 prisoners; but this report needs confirmation. On the 21st Gen. De Wet engaged the British in battle within 15 miles of Pretoria. No other news of this engagement is yet at hand. The British garrison at Elands river, which

was holding out last week, has been relieved.

Hostilities are now confined to two points in the Transvaal. De Wet and Delarey roam the western country, to the north of a line drawn from Pretoria to Mafeking; while President Kruger and Gen. Botha are in the mountains at Barberton, the terminus of the branch railroad from the Lourenzo Marques line. De Wet's force numbers about 7,000 and Botha's about 10,000.

From the Philippines there is no news, though a battle at Catubig, on the island of Samar, which occurred on the 15th of April and in which 20 of an American force of 30 were killed (page 56) is reported in more detail. Besides that, an Associated press mail dispatch from Manila, dated July 15, and just published, gives information about Don Pedro Paterno, a prominent Filipino, which is valuable chiefly because it shows that the American censorship is still in full operation at Manila. It seems that Paterno, while a military prisoner, was allowed to leave the jail for the purpose of helping Buencamino to work up the meeting of leading Filipinos of June last, which was held in Paterno's house (reported on page 186), under the auspices of the American military commander, for the purpose of recommending terms of peace, and over which Paterno presided. After the meeting he issued an address proposing Philippine independence under an American protectorate, and inviting a further meeting at his house. Thereupon the American military authorities forbade the proposed meeting and returned Paterno to jail, where he was held as Weyler used to hold Cuban prisoners — "incommunicado." Upon taking the oath of allegiance to the United States he was released, but he has since voluntarily returned to jail, saying he will remain there until all political Filipino prisoners have been set free. Buencamino, however, who was the prime mover in assembling the meeting of June 21, has proceeded, upon the basis of the propositions of that meeting (see page 186) and Gen. MacArthur's reply, to appeal to the Filipinos generally to accept the terms of President McKinley's 90-day amnesty proclamation. It would appear inferentially from the Associated Press dis-

patch in question, that the weight of Filipino sentiment is not with Buencamino in this matter, but rather with Paterno. What is of more importance to Americans, however, is the introductory statement of the dispatch that Paterno's conduct has "received but little comment in the local Spanish press because the press censor prohibited the publication both here (Manila) and in the United States of this man's strange doings."

American casualties in the Philippines since July 1, 1898, inclusive of all current official reports given out in detail at Washington to August 23, 1900, are as follows:

Deaths to May 16, 1900 (see page 91	1,847
Killed reported since May 16, 1900.	48
Deaths from wounds, disease and accidents reported since May 16, 1900	333
Total deaths since July 1, 1898...	2,228
Wounded	2,220
Captured	10

Total casualties since July 1, 1898.	4,458
Total casualties reported last week	4,451
Total deaths reported last week.	2,226

The Philippine question furnishes material for the most important political news of the week—the final action of the Liberty congress which met at Indianapolis on the 15th. When our report of this congress closed on the 16th (page 299) the platform was under consideration. Col. Charles R. Codman, of Massachusetts, read it on behalf of the committee on resolutions, which consisted of 25 delegates (of whom 1 did not vote in 1896, 7 voted for Palmer, 7 for Bryan and 10 for McKinley), and which had unanimously adopted the report. An amendment was moved on the floor of the congress by Thomas M. Osborne, in behalf of the independent party men, striking out the clause advising "direct support of Mr. Bryan as the most effective means of crushing imperialism." After full discussion on the 16th the amendment was defeated and the resolutions adopted as reported, with only 15 dissenting votes. A resolution with reference to the American negro was then added; and after a closing speech by Charles A. Towne, the congress adjourned. The platform and supplementary resolutions will be found in full in the department of Miscellany.