

state authority, is not a specification of the making of treaties as a method by which the constitution may be amended. No power of attorney can sanely be supposed to authorize the agent whom it appoints, to enlarge his own authority inconsistently with the express provisions of the power.

It is well that this is so, in view of the sort of treaties which some of the opera bouffe "sovereigns" allowed at large by that solemn farce, "International Law," would cheerfully make, "dirt cheap," to please their "great and good friend" at Washington, and which enough senators could be "persuaded" into ratifying, to please their great and good dispenser of embassies, commissions, judgeships, and other "good things." Were it really to be held the law that anything so created into a "treaty provision" (though it contravened the express prohibitions of the constitution, and professed to remove the limitations imposed by that instrument upon the powers granted by it and as a part of the very definition of those powers) must be submitted to and obeyed as a "supreme" law overruling and destroying the fundamental charter, why—and this may as well be understood now as later—that impudent pretense by our faithless servants would not be accepted by their masters, the people, but would be branded and punished as simply "treason by treaty." Those Americans who are not degenerates would, under loyal leaders, see to it that the republic received no harm.

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NEWS

Lord Roberts is reported now as having begun a great forward movement. All his divisions, except one and a single brigade of another, are in motion. They number some 40,000 men. But instead of moving north toward Pretoria, they have moved southeast toward Wepener. The Boers caused this diversion by attempting to secure the ripened harvests to the east and southeast of Bloemfontein. They extended a line southward, by way of Thaba N'Chu, from Brandfort, which is somewhat to the north of Bloemfontein, to Wepener, through these rich grain dis-

tricts, and at the latest authentic reports had maintained open communication the whole distance. This line menaced Lord Roberts's right flank and compelled him to turn his front from north to east. Considerable fighting occurred in the neighborhood of Wepener during the week, but reports regarding it are meager as well as contradictory and confusing. Nothing important and authentic has been reported at the hour of this writing (April 26), except that on the 25th the British had entered Dewetsdorp, a few miles northwest of Wepener, without loss or opposition, and that the investment of Wepener had been abandoned by the Boers upon the approach of Lord Roberts's army. They have, however, made good their retreat, in spite of Lord Roberts's plans to entrap them. It now appears that their force at this point, instead of being 20,000, as was supposed, was hardly more than 4,000. The Boer retreat is over the Ladybrand road along the Basuto border.

Lord Methuen's operations west of Bloemfontein were suddenly and almost disastrously checked on the 20th near Boshof. He was moving north toward Hoofstad, when he received orders to return to Boshof; and in making this retrograde movement he barely escaped a trap in which he would have lost his entire convoy. Three days later Boshof, to which Methuen withdrew, was reported as under bombardment and investment by the Boers; and on the 24th the Boers reported that it had been recaptured by them and that the British were retreating to Kimberley.

The condition at Mafeking appears to be unchanged. It is still invested; and Warrenton, the most northerly point that the Mafeking relief expedition from the south has yet been able to reach, is being savagely attacked by Boers. A British force which has leave to pass through Portuguese territory (see page 9), has arrived at Beira, on its way to the relief of Mafeking from the north. There is no news of importance from Natal, except that the Boers are mysteriously active.

The American war in the Philippines has been exceptionally bloody of late. In fights occurring during the week that ended on the 21st, 378 Filipinos and nine Americans were killed. The Filipinos were then aggressive, says the Associated Press

correspondent at Manila, in almost every province of Luzon. This indicates a revival of organized fighting. For official mail advices of January 1, given out at Washington on the 24th of the present month, announced the complete collapse in the region of Manila and the provinces north of it, of organized resistance to American control. These advices told, indeed, of the occupation at that time of the southern provinces of Luzon by a Filipino army equal to any that had been organized for the Filipino cause; but said that it had subsequently been disintegrated. Such severe fighting, therefore, as the unusual casualties of last week imply, would indicate that the war has broken out afresh. Later news tells of further fighting, and of an American proclamation giving warning that unless guerrilla warfare ceases all the towns that harbor guerrillas will be burned.

American casualties in the Philippines since August 6, 1898, inclusive of all official reports given out at Washington to April 25, 1900, are as follows:

Killed .....	473
Died of wounds, disease and accidents .....	1,225
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Total deaths .....	1,698
Wounded .....	2,092
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Total loss .....	3,790
Total loss reported last week....	3,770
Total deaths reported last week.	1,678

The presidential campaign in the United States is noticeably advancing. In Illinois on the 24th the middle-of-the-road populists nominated a ticket upon a platform declaring that "land, labor and money constitute the three fundamental principles of national life and greatness," and advocating the initiative and referendum and the imperative mandate. The republicans of Ohio met on the same day. They were addressed by Senator Hanna in a speech asserting the purpose of the administration to take no backward step in the policy regarding the "island possessions;" and on the following day the ticket was nominated, and a platform, previously prepared at Washington, was adopted, with the exception of an anti-trust plank, which the convention inserted, and a Puerto Rican plank, which it struck out. The democratic state committee of New York has called the state convention of that party to meet at New York city on the