

baffled; but of the facts the public is kept in ignorance. The only important exception comes out through parliament. On the 5th, the secretary for war, Mr. Broderick, announced on the floor of parliament that Gen. Kitchener had a few days previously granted permission to Gen. Botha to send a cipher message to Mr. Kruger and to receive a reply in cipher. Through this concession the Boer commandant in the field was able to communicate confidentially with the Transvaal president in Europe. The result was disclosed at a meeting of De Wet, Botha and other Boer leaders, who, after consultation, issued a proclamation to the burghers declaring that Mr. Kruger is still loyal to Boer independence, and that armed resistance to the British invasion will continue. This episode implies that the British have been trying to negotiate peace without independence, and have failed.

Independence day was celebrated in the Philippines by the formal inauguration of American civil government there. Commissioner William H. Taft, appointed civil governor by Mr. McKinley, pursuant to the Philippine amendment to the army appropriation bill of last February (vol. iii, p. 762) was escorted by Gen. MacArthur and Gen. Chaffee to the Plaza Palicio, Manila, where he took the oath of office as first civil governor.

In his inaugural address, Gov. Taft said:

This ceremony marks a new step toward civil government, the ultimate step of which will be taken by congress. Of 27 provinces that have been organized five are still in a state of armed insurrection and hence will remain under the control of the military governor. There are 16 provinces entirely free from insurrection which the commission lacked time to organize. The conditions under which the municipal governments will have their first test are trying. Four years of war and the ravage of cattle and locust pests have pauperized the country and crippled agriculture. With to-day's change to civil government you must stand alone, not depending on the army to police the provinces. Congress has delayed to pass provisions for the sale of public lands and the mining franchises—all that is necessary to give the country the benefit of American and foreign enterprise. Our most satisfactory ground for expecting the success of this experiment is the universal desire for education. Without

assuming to express an opinion on the Puerto Rico cases I venture to state that the supreme court decision will be of benefit to the Philippines, as the application of a high protective tariff in connection with trade and manufacturing conditions in the United States would be a hardship. The conduct of the civil and military branches of the military government under independent heads is a delicate matter, depending on the fullest cooperation of the military and civil arms. I believe that there will be the same cooperation in the future as in the past. While profoundly grateful it is with no exultant spirit, if with confidence, that I begin my new duties. I rely upon the cooperation and energy and ability of those sharing my responsibility.

A feature of this address was an announcement by Gov. Taft that on the first of September the Philippine commission would be increased by the appointment of three native ministers—Dr. Wardo Detavera, Denit Legarda and Jose Luzuriaga. It was also stated that before that date executive or cabinet departments would be established as follows: Interior, Commissioner Worcester; commerce and police, Commissioner Wright; justice and finance, Commissioner Ide, and public instructor, Commissioner Moses.

As part of the inaugural ceremonies at Manila, the following dispatch from Mr. McKinley to Gov. Taft was publicly read:

Upon the assumption of your new duties as civil governor of the Philippine islands, I have great pleasure in sending congratulations to you and your associate commissioners and my thanks for the good work already accomplished. I extend to you my full confidence and best wishes for still greater success in the larger responsibilities now devolved upon you, and the assurance not only for myself but for my countrymen of good will for the people of the islands, and the hope that their participation in the government which it is our purpose to develop among them may lead to their highest advancement, happiness and prosperity.

Other colonial celebrations of American independence day took place in Guam, Tutuila, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

The Puerto Rican celebration included the passage by the colonial legislature and the signing by the colonial governor of a resolution looking to the immediate establishment of

free trade between Puerto Rico and the United States. This action has reference and is pursuant to the act of congress of April, 1900, for the government of Puerto Rico. The act provides (No. 105 of The Public, p. 5) for a tariff on commerce between Puerto Rico and the United States, of 15 per cent. of the Dingley act rates, until March, 1902, unless Puerto Rico shall sooner establish her own system of taxation. The Puerto Rican resolution mentioned above recites this limitation, and then proceeds:

The Puerto Rican assembly, in extra session, and acting pursuant to the instructions of congress, does hereby notify the president of the United States that by virtue of the Hollander act and other acts, it has enacted and put into operation a system of local taxation to meet the necessities of insular government, and it hereby directs that a copy of this joint resolution be presented to the president of the United States, and it requests that Gov. Allen deliver the resolution to President McKinley to the end that proclamation may be made by him, and if it shall seem wise and proper to the president of the United States, the assembly requests that his proclamation be issued July 25, as that day is being established a legal Puerto Rican holiday to commemorate the anniversary of the flying of the American flag. Gov. Allen purposes bringing this resolution to Washington and presenting it to the president in person.

#### NEWS NOTES.

—A bank failure at Odessa has caused a financial panic in South Russia.

—The fortieth annual convention of the National Educational association met at Detroit on the 9th.

—Turkey has paid to the United States the amount of the indemnity claim of the latter against her, \$95,000.

—The American Library association has been in convention during the current week at Waukesha, Wis.

—Prince von Hohenlohe, formerly chancellor of the German empire, died in Switzerland on the 5th of old age. His age was 82.

—Pierre Lorillard, head of the great tobacco establishment founded by his father, Peter Lorillard, died at New York on the 7th, aged 69 years and worth \$25,000,000.

—Gen. Gomez, of Cuba, was entertained at dinner at the white house by President McKinley on the 3d, and by W. E. D. Stokes at the Union League club, New York, on the 6th. He returned to Cuba on the 10th.