

For some purpose not yet divulged, the United States is preparing to send the battleships Oregon and Iowa to the Philippines. Accompanied by four colliers and two supply ships, the Oregon and the Iowa are to proceed down the Atlantic coast on the 27th, and around Cape Horn to Manila, touching at Honolulu.

From Hawaii latest advices come down to the 14th. The annexation commission was then expected to finish its work and depart for Washington by the 23d. Petitions and memorials from native Hawaiians are being submitted to the commission in abundance. One kind of memorial petitions for the restoration of the queen; another submits to the idea of annexation, but asks for full rights for the natives under the new order of things. The restorationists held a mass meeting on the 12th, at which a memorial was adopted asking for the reestablishment of constitutional government. This memorial sets up the invalidity of annexation, because, first, the treaty of annexation was not accepted by the United States, and second, the joint resolution of congress was not adopted by the people of Hawaii.

For the military government of the different conquests made by the United States in the war, President McKinley decided, on the 17th, in conference with Gen. Miles and Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn, as to the number of troops for garrison duty. According to this decision the army of occupation for Cuba will be 50,000 men, that for Manila 20,000, that for Puerto Rico 12,000, and that for Honolulu 3,000.

From the English and French situation at Fashoda in the Nile Valley nothing official has been heard during the week, though fairly well authenticated rumors have been published. The first of these came from the Constantinople correspondent of the London Daily Mail. He telegraphed on the 16th that news had been received at Constantinople of the occupation of Fashoda by the French expedition under Major Marchand, assisted by 10,000 Abyssinians under Ras Makonnen, the principal general of King Menelek. The second rumor escaped from government circles in London, and was to the effect that Fashoda had been taken by the Anglo-Egyptian troops,

and that the Egyptian flag was flying there. This rumor was explained by a report of the London Daily Mail on the 19th, which said that France had diplomatically declared Maj. Marchand's expedition to Fashoda to have been quite unofficial, and that the whole matter would be arranged by the friendly transportation by Gen. Kitchener of the French troops at Fashoda down the Nile to Cairo.

Equal good fortune appears to have attended England in the adjustment of her difficulties in China. The Peking correspondent of the London Times telegraphed on the 20th that as a result of British protests the Chinese foreign office had authorized the conclusion of the New Chwang railway loan with a British syndicate. This is the loan with which Russia interfered, as reported in these columns on the 13th of August.

Wholly apart from its relations with England and Russia, the Chinese government has recently given indications of the effect of the revolutionary influences that have been at work in the empire. Within a few days a series of imperial edicts have been published. To Chinese officials they are said to have been startling. In one of these the emperor, directly addressing the Chinese people, makes a long explanation of his new policy. He says he has decided to adopt the good features and reject the bad ones, of Western civilization, believing it to be on the whole superior to the existing order in China. Another of the edicts announces the establishment of a general postal service, and asks the people to cooperate with him, assuring them that thus they will aid in strengthening the empire. Still another requires officials to render and publish monthly accounts of receipts and expenditures. Most important of all these edicts, however, is one which extends to everybody a right heretofore restricted to privileged classes, that of directly memorializing the throne. It is our own venerated right of petition, in which is the germ of democracy. The emperor has directed that his edicts be published throughout the country, so the people may understand the efforts he is making for their welfare.

The circulation of these progressive edicts has been succeeded by rumors in Peking that the dowager empress has regained ascendancy over the emperor, who is still a mere boy.

That might imply a return of Li Hung Chang to favor, and the triumph of the reactionary over the progressive influences that have inspired the emperor's democratic policy.

The demand made upon the Turkish military commander of Crete by the British admiral for the surrender of the ringleaders in the massacre at Candia, reported last week, has been complied with. Forty-three of these ringleaders were delivered to the British admiral on the 15th. From this it was inferred that the disarmament condition of the ultimatum, reported last week, would be complied with, and on the 18th this inference was realized. It was then announced that the sultan had ordered the military commander to accede to the demand for disarmament. Disarmament was temporarily delayed, however, by the military governor, who insisted that the surrendered arms be delivered on board a Turkish warship; but the British admiral demanded that they be delivered to a British guard, and the governor gave way. The surrender began on the 19th. On the 21st it was learned that the Mussulmans were surrendering only their obsolete arms; they had not yet brought in any Martini rifles.

American politics is beginning to take shape for the fall campaigns. In California the gubernatorial campaign is in full blast. The principal issue is the railroad power, but both sides are discussing the merits of the single tax, owing to the fact that the democratic candidate for governor is a single tax advocate. The voters in Washington have the same question before them in a more definite way. There as in California, the democrats, populists and silver republicans have made a fusion; but the joint platform of the Washington fusionists contains a plank which reads: "We demand the submission to the people of Washington state, of a constitutional amendment that will permit exemptions from taxation of personal property and improvements in and upon land." In New York, Platt and Roosevelt have come to an understanding which seems to assure Roosevelt's nomination for governor by the republican convention. The democrats of Wisconsin have made an innovation in campaigning. It having been customary heretofore for the candidates and stump speakers of both parties to travel in campaigns