

ing that "the parks are for the people," and the whole people are entitled to the full enjoyment of their advantages. His first order regarding them was to remove all the "Keep Off the Grass" signs, and this was followed by a notification to the park caretakers that the people have a right to walk on the grass, sign or no sign. It is there for the comfort of feet elsewhere confined to hard and hot pavements. The experience of other cities where like freedom is enjoyed shows that the grass is not injured by the roving of people across it "dispersedly" instead of in beaten lines.—Editorial in *Cleveland Plaindealer* of July 4.

"Mayor Johnson's orders that there shall be no shooting of firearms on Fourth of July will be strictly enforced," said Chief Corner Wednesday. "All persons violating this rule will be arrested. Persons shooting firecrackers off any place but in the street and those who put torpedoes on street car tracks, will also be arrested."—*Plaindealer* of July 4.

The white wings system of street cleaning was handsomely illustrated Friday. All the wild litter of the Fourth had completely disappeared before nine o'clock in the morning. When the old system was in vogue the rubbish would have blown about for days before being carted away.—Editorial note in *Plaindealer* of July 6.

#### FROM A SOLDIER IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Extracts from a letter written by an enlisted man in the Philippine islands, under date of May 18, 1901, to his cousin.

Firstly, as the ministers say: Take a fool's advice and stay away from the Philippines, and above all, Manila. From about the first of December till the middle of April the climate is all that could be desired,—balmy days and cool nights; but from then till about the first of July it is so hot as to be almost unbearable. Then comes the rainy season, which lasts till about the middle of November.

The first year over here is not so bad on one's health, but after that the blood begins to thin and the system gets run down more or less, and disease has an excellent chance to get hold. If typhoid does not strike you, you are sure of malaria fever or some stomach trouble. I may be speaking plainly, but I want you to see this thing as I do, and as I have

found it by conversation with those who have lived here some years.

Regarding consumption, I will simply give you an instance which came under my own observation. We are allowed to enlist natives in our regimental bands, and ten native musicians applied for enlistment in our band. Out of the ten examined six were in the incipient stages of consumption, and I have noticed that a large proportion of the natives have that cough which so readily stamps one as a victim of the dread disease.

So I say, for your health's sake, stay away. Of course, way up in the mountains in the interior, the conditions are different; but it will be many years before American women are allowed up that way.

Manila is not a cheap city by any means. Board such as you would desire is high. You would have to pay \$50, gold, a month, and then pay extra for your laundry work. Of course I don't know what teachers receive in Minnesota, but \$40 in the states is better than \$75 here. Some things are cheaper than in the states, but others are correspondingly high. You can save more money where you are.

Reviewing the whole ground, I say stay where you are.

I have not received my commission yet. I took my examination in March, and passed with a general average of 85 per cent. But there are so many applicants who have political influence that I am afraid I'm doomed to be "left." I haven't "pull" enough to get on the city sewer gang. If I don't get the shoulder straps I shall serve out my enlistment and then return to the states. My present enlistment expires on January 26, and as soon as I can get a transport I'm off for 'Frisco.

We are having our share of work over here trying to impress on the minds of these natives the fact that Uncle Sam wants them to be "nice."

I had just come in from a four-days' trip yesterday. Had charge of 20 men escorting a wagon team loaded with provisions up in the mountains about 50 miles. And it is no pleasure when you don't know what moment you are going to get a volley poured into your party from a clump of bamboo. So far as I can see, these colonies of ours are far from being pacified. So long as we retain them, just so long will the government troops be needed to suppress the numerous bands of ladrones.

We expect to start out on an expedition next week against a band of insurrectors who are raising a little

disturbance about 75 miles from here. From all accounts we will be about 40 days.

#### THE LATE ALBERT L. JOHNSON.

Editorial in *Cleveland Plaindealer* of July 4.

The news of the unexpected death of Albert L. Johnson was not only a grievous shock to his many friends in this and other localities but it was painful news, as well, for the community at large that has taken a lively interest in the projects of this vigorous young promoter and investor, and has learned to look upon him as one who meant well for his fellow-men.

If Albert Johnson had lived in the days of chivalry he would have led on field and in foray. He was fearless and aggressive with a touch of the romantic in his make-up that prompted him at times to display the variety of his unusual gifts. Yet this driver of a 12-horse snow plow, this reinsman of a spirited four-in-hand, was cool, long-headed, quick to see a business advantage, and ready for any commercial venture, no matter how great its magnitude.

Active, virile, with a big man's contempt for all that is petty and mean, Albert Johnson placed his mark high up on the gauge of human endeavor, and died, his work but half done, his mind filled with great projects that others must carry to the conclusions that he so eagerly anticipated.

News article in *Cleveland Plaindealer* of July 4.

Expressions of sincere sympathy were heard on all sides yesterday when the news of the death of Albert Johnson became generally known. From the official walks of life, from the bench, from the social world and from the realms of labor came tributes to the generous hearted nature, the simple character and the almost phenomenal powers of mind and body which made him preeminently a leader of men.

At the city hall there was a shade of gloom about the offices, not only for the loss of the man whom all admired, but out of sympathy for the mayor, his brother. As a mark of respect to his memory and his official connection with the city government as a member of the board of aldermen when that form of city government was tried, the flag at the Public square floated at half-staff. The city officials sent a joint floral tribute of sorrow in the form of a broken shaft.