MR. McKINLEY'S LETTER

Accepting the Renomination for President of the United States.

Synopsis of the Letter.

In his letter accepting the republican nomination for president, addressed to Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, chairman of the notification committee, on Sept. 8, President McKinley treats of the Philippine question at length, reviewing the events leading up to the present situation.

It seeks to show that the present situation has been forced upon the nation by circumstances and that there has not been a time since the destruction of the Spanish fleet when we could or should have left the Philippines.

He asserts that his policy will be "to establish in the islands a government suitable to the wants and conditions of the inhabitants and prepare them for self-government."

He severely criticises Mr. Bryan's plan for a protectorate, asserting that it would be prolific of dangers and that [illegible]

[illegible]

Review of the Situation.

[illegible]

The Treaty with Spain.

[illegible]

New Duties to Meet.

[illegible]

... the beginning the Ruler of nations has plainly written the high command and pledge of civilization.'

Commission's Powers Defined.

"On Oct. 28, 1898, while the peace commission was continuing its negotiations in Paris, the following additional instruction was sent:

"'It is imperative upon us that as victors we should be governed only by motives which will exalt our nation. Territorial expansion should be our least concern; that we shall not shirk the moral obligations of our victory is of the greatest. It is undisputed that Spain's authority is permanently destroyed in every part of the Philippines. To leave any part in its feeble control now would increase our difficulties and be opposed to the interests of humanity. * * * Nor can we permit Spain to transfer any of the islands to another power. Nor can we invite another power or powers to join the United States in sovereignty over them. We must either hold them or turn them back to Spain.

"'Consequently, grave as are the responsibilities and unforeseen as are the difficulties which are before us, the president can see but one plain path of duty, the acceptance of the archipelago. Greater difficulties and more serious complications—administrative and international—would follow any other course. The president has given to the views of the commissioners the fullest consideration, and in reaching the conclusion above announced in the light of information communicated to the commission and to the president since their departure he has been influenced by the single consideration of duty and humanity. [illegible]

Indemnity for the War.

[illegible]

... with the form of government proposed by the American commissioners that the latter submitted the proposed scheme to me for approval, and my action thereon is shown by the cable message following:

"May 5, 1899. Schurman, Manila: Yours 4th received. You are authorized to propose that under the military power of the president, pending action of congress, government of the Philippine islands shall consist of a governor-general appointed by the president; cabinet appointed by the governor-general; a general advisory council elected by the people; the qualification of electors to be carefully considered and determined, and the governor-general to have absolute veto. Judiciary strong and independent; principal judges appointed by the president; the cabinet and judges to be chosen from natives or Americans or both, having regard to fitness.

"The president earnestly desires the cessation of bloodshed, and that the people of the Philippine islands at an early date shall have the largest measure of local self-government consistent with peace and good order.'"

Conference with Filipinos.

"In the latter part of May another group of representatives came from the insurgent leader. The whole matter was fully discussed with them and promise of acceptance seemed near at hand. They assured our commissioners they would return after consulting with their leader, but they never did.

"As a result of the views expressed by the first Tagalog representative favorable to the plan of the commission it appears that he was, by military order of the insurgent leader, stripped of his shoulder straps, dismissed from the army and sentenced to twelve years' imprisonment.

Views of the Commission.

"The views of the commission are best set forth in their own words:

[illegible]

... complete immunity for the past and absolute liberty of action for the future to all persons who are now or at any time since Feb. 4, 1899, have been in insurrection against the United States in either a military or civil capacity, and who shall within a period of ninety days from the date hereof formally renounce all connection with such insurrection and subscribe to a declaration acknowledging and accepting the sovereignty and authority of the United States in and over the Philippine islands. The privilege herewith published is extended to all concerned, without any reservation whatever, excepting that persons who have violated the laws of war during the period of active hostilities are not embraced within the scope of this amnesty. * * *

Thirty Pesos for Each Rifle.

"'In order to mitigate as much as possible consequences resulting from the various disturbances which since 1896 have succeeded each other so rapidly, and to provide in some measure for destitute Filipino soldiers during the transitory period which must inevitably succeed a general peace, the military authorities of the United States will pay 30 pesos to each man who presents a rifle in good condition.'

"Under their instructions the commission, composed of representative Americans of different sections of the country and from different political parties, whose character and ability guarantee the most faithful intelligence and patriotic service, are now laboring to establish stable government under civil control, in which the inhabitants shall participate, giving them opportunity to demonstrate how far they are prepared for self-government.

Report of the Commission.

"This commission, under date of Aug. [illegible], makes an interesting report, from which I quote the following extracts:

"'Hostility against Americans [illegible]

[illegible]

... have become aggressive, and even threatening toward our army.'

"Here is revealed the spirit of the insurgents as early as July, 1898, before the protocol was signed, while we were still engaged in active war with Spain. Even then the insurgents were threatening our army.

"On Aug. 13 Manila was captured, and of this and subsequent events the Philippine commission says:

"'When the city of Manila was taken Aug. 13, the Filipinos took no part in the attack, but came following in with a view to looting the city, and were only prevented from doing so by our forces preventing them from entering.'

"Aguinaldo claimed that he had the right to occupy the city; he demanded of Gen. Merritt the palace of Malacanan for himself and the cession of all the churches of Manila, also that a part of the money taken from the Spaniards as spoils of war should be given up, and above all that he should be given the arms of the Spanish prisoners. All these demands were refused.

Could Not Leave Manila.

"There has been no time since the destruction of the enemy's fleet when we could or should have left the Philippine archipelago. After the treaty of peace was ratified no power but congress could surrender our sovereignty or alienate a foot of the territory thus acquired. [illegible]

Attacked Before Treaty Passed.

[illegible]

Merritt Fears a Crisis.

[illegible]

"No government can so certainly preserve the peace, restore public order, establish law, justice and stable conditions as ours. Neither congress nor the executive can establish a stable government in these islands except under our right of sovereignty, our authority and our flag. And this we are doing.

Under a Protectorate.

"We could not do it as a protectorate power so completely or so successfully as we are doing it now. As the sovereign power we can initiate action and shape means to ends and guide the Filipinos to self-development and self-government. As a protectorate power we could not initiate action, but would be compelled to follow and uphold a people with no capacity yet to go alone. In the one case we can protect both ourselves and the Filipinos from being involved in dangerous complications; in the other we could not protect even the Filipinos until after their troubles had come. Besides, if we cannot establish any government of our own without the consent of the governed, as our opponents contend, then we could not establish a stable government for them or make ours a protectorate without the like consent, and neither the majority of the people nor a minority of the people have invited us to assume it. We could not maintain a protectorate even with the consent of the governed without giving provocation for conflicts and possibly costly wars. Our rights in the Philippines are now free from outside interference and will continue so in our present relation. They would not be thus free in any other relation. We will not give up our own to guarantee another sovereignty.

No Question of Imperialism.

"There were those who two years ago were rushing us on to war with Spain who [illegible]

[illegible]

A Word About Opportunity.

[illegible]

Affairs in Luck.

[illegible] ... Porto Rico ... is the ... Mayflower. It was built by Watson on the Clyde for the late Ogden Goelet and cost $800,000. It is 321 feet over all and 274 on the water line. The beam is thirty-six feet six inches and the hold thirty feet deep. The government paid $500,000 for it. It was assigned to Sampson's squadron in the war of 1898, and did considerable work.

THE FEAR OF DEATH.

A Haunting Dread Which Grows With the Accumulation of Riches.

The fear of death apparently grows with the accumulation of riches. It is strange that while an ordinary man, who is poor, is not more afraid to die than most people, yet he often develops a haunting fear of death after he has become rich and spends large sums of money and leads an unhappy life in trying to avert his coming fate.

There is one instance in an Englishman, John Islip, who made a fortune out of silver in Mexico, and who drove himself mad through worrying about his death. After exhausting all the safeguards London could offer he bought a small rocky island near Brychil, on the west Irish coast, taking with him one faithful servitor. Here in feverish haste, he had four stone pillars raised, and a small, one story cabin, with three rooms, rather like a houseboat, slung on chains from iron girders that crossed the pillars, and swung clear of the ground. Once inside this he shut himself up, with some books and a pet jackdaw for company, and never left his swinging house till his death.

The attendant, who lived in a small house close by, used to row to the mainland a mile and a half when the weather permitted, for provisions. The master spent his time reading and looking out over the Atlantic from the cabin windows. His brain had given way, of course, and he imagined his life stood still while the earth revolved under him. He had no relatives to insist on his entering a private asylum, and he died three years later, in the cabin, worried out of life by the fear of death. His hair was snow white, though he was only forty-three.

Another case was that of a man who made a fortune in speculation and who conceived the idea that all movement and effort wasted the tissues of the body. He went to bed in a quiet country house and hardly moved head or foot for years. If he moved a finger he did it with dread, fearing that he would use up his vitality and shorten his life.

FROM A MONASTERY TO WAR.

Trappist Novice Enlists in the Army for Service in China.

Two weeks ago Oscar Bachstetz was a novice in the monastery of the Trappists at Gethsemane in Kentucky under the name, Fra Stanislaus Kose. At present he is Privte Bachstetz of the Hospital Corps of the United States army, enlisted for service in China or elsewhere for a period of three years.

The son of a wealthy Austrian manufacturer, Bachstetz has been in this country for nine years. He attended college for a year at Quincy, Ill., and when the war with Spain broke out he enlisted in the Hospital Corps and served in the hospital at Jacksonville. While at the hospital of the Alexian Brothers he first became interested in the Trappists, and as soon as he could get his discharge from the army he went to Kentucky and became a novitiate. The Trappists have absolutely no communication with the outside world, and are even forbidden to talk among themselves on any subject whatever. It is said that not three monks at Gethsemane know the name of the president of the United States or that of the governor of Kentucky. An old piece of newspaper which came to him wrapped around a package of religious books Fra Stanislaus Kosea found the first news which had reached him out the outbreak in China. At once he started for Louisville to enlist in the Hospital Corps. As he had not taken the final vows of the Trappist order he was free to go. As soon as his term of enlistment expires he declares that he will return to Gethsemane and remain there for the rest of his life.

Engaged Couples in Canaries.

Some curious customs are in force in the Canary Islands in the case of engaged couples. Not the least peculiar of these is that the lover is never allowed to enter the home of his fiancee during their engagement, but must conduct his courtship from the pavement. The girl is allowed to sit in the window to receive his attentions, but as every one lives in flats in these islands there is often considerable distance between the two, and much craning of necks is necessary. Of course they resort to all kinds of subterfuges to prevent their conversation being overheard, one of which is to speak in a low voice against the wall, which resolves itself into a sort of telephone. It is no uncommon sight to see in the streets of Santa Cruz and Las Palmas the devoted lover accommodated with a chair on the pavement beneath the window of his lady, even officers in uniform submitting to the funny custom.

Sunset Cox's Humor.

The late Samuel S. Cox, familiarly known as "Sunset" Cox, represented both Ohio and New York in congress. He was a man of rare wit and was never at a loss for a rejoinder. On one occasion a certain gentleman interested in a museum went to Mr. Cox, then a representative in congress from New York, to ask his influence in helping to obtain an Egyptian mummy. The gentleman sought Mr. Cox and found him in the speaker's chair temporarily presiding over a session of the house. The caller, who knew Mr. Cox well, opened the interview by saying: "I want a mummy." Mr. Cox said nothing for a second, but let his eyes slowly sweep around the congressional circle, then, waving his hand in the same direction, he gravely replied: "Take your choice." The gentleman ultimately secured a mummy, but it was not one of the American variety.

Beer Drinking in Germany.

No country rivals the Germans in the consumption of beer. More beer is drunk in Bavaria than in any other part of the world. The Bavarians, accoding to statistics, drink 241 quarts of beer per head in a year. In spirits, again, it is the Germans who are the largest consumers, the total amount of whisky, etc., drunk a year being 429,000,000 quarts, while the United States confines itself to 268,000,000 quarts. In France 312,000,000 quarts are drunk yearly.