

## THE ARMY INVESTIGATION.

The Letter of the Secretary of War Requesting Investigation of His Department.

### SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION OUTLINED.

**Letter from the President of the Commission to Secretary Alger Indicating the Several Points on Which the Commission Seeks to be Informed—Some Specific Questions.**

Washington, Sept. 28.—The letter of Secretary Alger to the president asking for an investigation of the war department has been made public, as follows:

War Department, Washington, Sept. 8, 1898.

To the President: I have the honor to ask that a board, consisting of from five to seven members of the most distinguished soldiers and civilians that can be selected be appointed by you, with full power to investigate thoroughly every bureau of the war department in connection with the mustering, clothing, supplying and arming of troops, transportation, the letting of contracts and chartering vessels, and all expenditures of every kind, as well as orders issued by this department—indeed, that everything connected with the army be thoroughly investigated for your information.

[Signed] R. A. ALGER,

Secretary of War.

**Letter to the Secretary of War.** At the conclusion of the morning session of the war investigating commission the following letter to Secretary Alger, outlining the scope of their work, was given out.

To the Secretary of War: Sir—Pursuant to authority conferred upon us by the president, we have the honor to request that you direct the adjutant general, the quartermaster general, the commissary general, the surgeon general, the chief of ordnance and the chief of engineers to furnish us as soon as practicable information as to the condition of their several departments at the time of the declaration of war with Spain, and the operations of those departments from that time until the present.

#### Some Specific Questions.

To Secretary Alger the commission has addressed six queries for his reply.

1. Plan of campaign proposed immediately after the declaration of war; was it intended to move at once on Havana, or that the campaign should be postponed until the autumn.

2. When was the Santiago campaign determined upon?

3. Why was Tampa selected as the base of operations?

4. Why were summer camps organized at Fernandina, Jacksonville and Tampa?

5. Why was the Porto Rican campaign determined upon?

6. Why were the troops held on transports after embarkation at Tampa and not permitted to sail for several days?

#### Other Information Desired.

We desire the information to include the following, viz:

First. The times and places of the mobilization of the regular and volunteer troops.

Second. The organization of these troops into the various sub-divisions of the army, the personnel of the brigade, division, corps and army commanders, and of their staffs, whether appointed from the permanent establishment, from the national guard or from civil life.

Third. The amount and kind of camp and garrison equipage and other supplies that were on hand at the beginning of the war, the amount subsequently purchased, when and where delivered to your department, and when and where actually issued to the troops.

Fourth. Similar information in regard to furnishing the troops with arms and accoutrements.

Fifth. Which of the volunteers were armed and equipped in the various state camps and which in the general camps.

Sixth. Upon whose recommendation or judgment the various general rendezvous were selected, and the reasons for such selection.

Seventh. Full particulars relative to the transportation of troops by sea, giving an account of the provisions made for the accommodation and care of the sick and wounded.

Eighth. An account of the quantity, quality and kind of food furnished the troops, and in case that any of them failed of being plentifully and seasonably supplied, state the reasons therefor.

Ninth. As to proper tentage, beds, linens, medicines, food and other necessary equipment and supplies for the use of the hospital corps of the army. If there was any lack of these things at any time, state the reasons therefor.

Tenth. Whether the medical staff was efficient and sufficient at all times for the proper care of the sick and wounded, and if not state the reasons therefor.

Eleventh. Such information relative to the conditions and operations of the ordnance and engineering departments as will be of value to us in our investigations.

We have outlined briefly a portion only of the information that we trust will be able to give us. It will be satisfactory to have it communicated to us in writing, or by the chiefs of the several bureaus in person, with the submission of such records confirming the statements as they may be pleased to hand to us.

To aid you in complying with this request there is submitted herewith a list of special questions to which, as far as possible, answers are required.

Very respectfully,  
GRANDVILLE M. DODGE,  
President.

### DEWEY'S ACTION UPHELD.

**His Seizure of the Filibustering Steamer Abbey Approved by the Secretary of the Navy.**

Washington, Sept. 28.—The official account of the seizure, by Admiral Dewey, of the filibustering steamer Abbey, as reported in the press dispatches, is contained in the following cablegram, received from the admiral at the navy department:

Admiral Dewey's Dispatch.

"Manila, Sept. 27.—Having received information that the American steamer Abbey left Macao September 21 with a cargo of arms for Batangas, I sent the McCulloch. She arrived at Batangas on the 23d and found her in the harbor, having arrived three days earlier and landed cargo. There were only Filipinos on board. They refused to give any information, and had no papers whatever. Seized and brought her here where we are now



ADMIRAL GEORGE DEWEY.

holding her. This steamer was formerly the Pao, and is registered as an American vessel. The United States consulate at Canton have information that she had made one voyage of the same kind already.

[Signed] "DEWEY."

**His Action Approved.** The navy department very promptly approved Admiral Dewey's action, as indicated by the following cablegram, which was sent him:

"Washington, Sept. 27.—Your action in seizing American-owned vessel Abbey approved. She is amenable to martial jurisdiction for any violation of neutrality.

[Signed] "LONG."

### FANNY DAVENPORT'S DEATH.

**The Noted Actress Passed Away, After a Long and Tedious Illness, at Her Summer Home.**

South Roxbury, Mass., Sept. 28.—Fanny Davenport died here Monday night. Her last hours were painless and peaceful and closed a long and tedious illness of six months, varied by alternate hope and discouragement.

Her husband, Melbourne McDowell, who was playing "Antony and Cleopatra" at Brockton, was hastily summoned to her bedside in the afternoon. She was surrounded by nearly all of her family.

Though the sick woman was not told of the expected end, the arrival of her husband gave Miss Davenport a hint of the seriousness of her condition. She was cheerful, however, throughout the evening, and chatted with her relatives about her affairs. Shortly before 10:30 the end was presaged by an increasing weakness. Miss Davenport was in the midst of a conversation with Dr. Noyes when she suddenly ceased speaking, and in a few moments she had breathed her last.

Dr. Noyes said that Miss Davenport's death was due to dilatation of the valves of the heart, induced, he believed, by overwork.

### CAR GATES TO BE ABOLOWISHED.

**They Were a Success in All Save Pleasing the Customers of the Road.**

Chicago, Sept. 28.—The Chicago & Alton railroad will cease using car gates. It placed them on its passenger coaches June 1, 1893, making it necessary for passengers to show their tickets to be cancelled before boarding the trains. The object was protection against accident and seeing the passengers boarded the right trains.

The system did everything it was expected to do. Passenger revenue, especially on short-distance travel, was greatly increased. There has not been a single accident, nor have passengers boarded the wrong train.

The system, it is said, has been more effective and less expensive than the depot gate system generally used in all large cities throughout the country. The customers, however, were dissatisfied with it, and in deference to their wishes General Passenger Agent Charlton announced yesterday that the car gates will be withdrawn October 1.

**Mrs. Bryan Called to the Bedside of Her Husband.**

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 28.—A special to the Times from Lincoln, Neb., says:

"Mrs. William Jennings Bryan received a telegram yesterday calling her to the bedside of her husband, Col. Bryan, who is sick in Washington. The message received by Mrs. Bryan gave no information as to the seriousness of the colonel's illness. She departed for Washington last evening."

## COLORADO FOREST FIRES.

**Incalculable Damage Being Done on the West Side of the Great Divide.**

### PEOPLE ARE FLEEING FOR THEIR LIVES.

**In Addition to the Present Loss in Houses, Implements, Stock and Other Improvements, the Great Water Shed is Being Irreparably Damaged—The Ute Indians Blamed for the Fires.**

Idaho Springs, Colo., Sept. 30.—Forest fires burning on the west side of the divide are beyond control, and people are said to be fleeing for their lives.

**Loss of Life Not Yet Known.**

How many, if any, have perished can not be known, as there is no way of getting direct information at this time. A light breeze gives the mighty sea of fire a new impetus, and onward it goes, burning everything before it, with no chance of saving livestock or property. Cattle are known to be perishing, and bear and deer and other animals are running to the east side of the divide.

**Irreparable Damage to the Water Shed.**

The damage will be tremendous. The timber losses amount to more than money consideration. These forests cover the headwaters of mountain streams, where the snows are retained for many months. From such sources the streams have been kept carrying a volume of water sufficient to irrigate most of the lands of the state west of the divide. With the disappearance of the timber the flow of the streams will be lessened.

**Attributed to the Utes.**

There seems to be a settled opinion among the ranchers that the forest fires were started by Ute Indians with malicious intent. They say the forcible ejection of the Indians and their return to the reservation, more than a year ago, because of their slaughter of game, made them bitter against the whites. They are now playing even the settlers think, and at the same time driving some of the game into Utah, where they can hunt without being molested by game wardens.

**The Gore Range on Fire.**

Henry Grom, one of the ranchers living at Toponas, Egeria park, arrived here from the burning country. He said: "The Gore range is on fire for more than 100 miles. The fires have been burning there for some time, and for the past few weeks have been getting worse. Fires are also seen in Grand county, near Kremmling. The ranchers are fighting the flames and when I left were experiencing great loss in all kinds of property."

**The Extent of the Fires.**

The fires which are reported cover most of the northwestern part of the state, and extend through the counties of Routt, Rio Blanco, Grand, Larimer, Garfield, Eagle, Pitkin and Summit. They are doing great damage to every interest of that section.

**PELAGIC SEALING.**

**A Few Figures that Show How Pelagic Sealings is Decimating the Once Numerous Herds.**

San Francisco, Sept. 29.—An authentic report regarding the pelagic sealing fleet has just been received in this city. Among the packers that have made the largest catches were the following: Enterprise, 553 skins; Minnie, 400; Sandiego, 670; Theresa, 320, and Otto, 722. These skins, being exiled from the United States, are shipped to England.

In consequence of the persistent work of the packers, who are fast exterminating the seals, the North American Commercial Co.'s catch this season is only 18,000 skins, as against 100,000 annually for 20 years, up to within the last eight years, when pelagic sealing commenced. The same inroads have been made in the seal herd on the Japanese side of the ocean, where the rookeries, on Commander islands, leased to the Russian Seal Skin Co., are located. This company has taken this year 7,600 seals, as against an average of 50,000 seals annually for 20 consecutive years, up to the inauguration of pelagic sealing.

**Made It Unanimous.**

Convention Hall, Saratoga, N. Y., Sept. 27.—Theodore Roosevelt was at 7:42 o'clock declared nominated officially as Albert H. Oxley, in the city court on the charge of manslaughter. At the request of Prosecuting Attorney Bartley, the case was continued until Saturday without any testimony being taken, and bonds were fixed at \$3,000.

**ROOSEVELT FOR GOVERNOR.**

**The Popular Rough Rider the Choice of the Saratoga Convention for Governor of New York.**

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**Made It Unanimous.**

Convention Hall, Saratoga, N. Y., Sept. 27.—The nomination of Col. Roosevelt was made unanimous. The convention speedily made these nominations:

Lieutenant-Governor—Timothy L. Woodruff, renominated.

Secretary of State—John T. McDonough.

Comptroller, Wm. J. Morgan.

State Treasurer—John B. Jaekel.

Attorney-General—John C. Davis.

State Engineer—Edward A. Bond.

All but Davis were nominated by acclamation.

The following committee was appointed to be an advisory board for the state committee: Thos. C. Platt, Chauncey M. Depew, Frank H. Hock, Edward Lauterbach, Frank S. Witherbee.

The old emblem was readopted for the party and the convention adjourned sine die.

**GREAT PACING EVENT.**

**John R. Gentry and Joe Patchen Matched for a Race at the St. Louis Fair Next Week.**

St. Louis, Sept. 28.—The world-famous pacers, John R. Gentry and Joe Patchen, are matched to go a mile, best two in three heats, on the beautiful mile track of the St. Louis Fair association during the great St. Louis fair.

The race will take place on Wednesday, October 5. These king pacers have recently gone the route in magnificent form, showing great speed and time, proving the exceptionally fine condition in which these fast travelers are at present.

This race will certainly prove a brilliant attraction at the fair, and lovers of high-class racing will, no doubt, turn out in multitudes to witness the contest.

President Robert Aull is one of the best-known enthusiasts of the harness horse in America, and his enterprise and appreciation of a match race of this exceptional character will go a great way toward adding new interest to the attractions of the fair, and in every way proving its worth as a progressive and thoroughly energetic institution, guided by keen business judgment and high-class methods.

**The Spanish and American Peace Commissioners Met at Breakfast.**

Paris, Sept. 30.—The United States peace commissioners held a morning session, after which, accompanied by the United States ambassador, Gen. Horace Porter, they drove to the foreign office, where the commissioners met and breakfasted with the Spanish commissioners. In addition to the minister of foreign affairs, M. Delcasse, had invited the three heads of the French foreign office, the first secretaries of the embassies and Gen. Hegron, secretary of the Elysee palace.

### MYSTERIOUS SPIONAGE.

**Detectives Following a Woman with Instructions to Arrest Under Certain Conditions—Dr. Nancy Guilford.**

Liverpool, Sept. 28.—Detectives awaited the arrival here yesterday morning of the steamer Vancouver, from Montreal, and upon the landing of her passengers followed a woman who came ashore from the steamer. The officers maintain the greatest secrecy regarding this person, refusing to give her name or to discuss the case beyond that she is suspected of having committed a murder in Canada. The woman boarded a train for London, Inspector Lamont following her in the next compartment, with instructions to arrest her if she went to a house which the Canadian police had informed the English authorities would probably be the destination of the murderer.

It has been reported in New York

that the woman known as Dr. Nancy Guilford, of Bridgeport, Conn., has been arrested in Liverpool, charged with being concerned in the murder of Emma Gill, of Southington, Conn., whose body, cut in several pieces, was found some time ago in the Yellow Mill pond, near Bridgeport, Conn.

**Arranging for Arrest Pending Extradition.**

Stamford, Conn., Sept. 28.—States-

Attorney Fessenden immediately on

learning of the supposed arrest of

Mrs. Guilford in London, communicated with Gov. Cooke, and upon his

request the governor asked the state

department at Washington to have

the United States embassy at London

arrange for the provisional arrest

of the woman until she could be