FIGHTING FILIPINOS.

Brave Men Who Are Bearing the White Man's Burden.

GRIZZLED VETERANS.

Otis, Lawton, King, Miller and Others Have Excellent Records.

BY CAPTAIN GEORGE L. KILMER, LATE U. S. V.

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Even the Spanish war with all its suddenness caused no greater surprise than the revelation it made that the ranks of the American army are filled with fighters equal to every crisis. The whole nation knew that the chief of the army was a soldier "hardened by a hundred battles," but the brigadiers and colonels and lieutenant colonels few, outside of army circles and perhaps the garrison towns, knew even by name.

At one time it seemed that all but a lucky minority would rest on the laurels of the past, and a feeling like that in the breasts of the men of the Light brigade on the morning of Balaklava day came over the gallant fellows left behind when the expeditions sailed for Cuba and the Philippines last June. Before the Light brigade was ordered into the slaughter pen of Balaklava, Lord Scarlett's heavy brigade was sent against a whole division of Russian cavalry. Seeing that, Lord Cardigan of the Light brigade said to the officers about him: "Well, the Scarlies have the lead as usual today. We are out of it!" But the dragoons, lancers and hussars did not stay out of it, and soon turned the tables on the "Scarlies," who are seldom mentioned in connection with the Balaklava heroism.

Regular soldiers don't love fighting half as well as the civilian army, tales of blood and bronze, but if there is any effort deserving the honor of the flag they born to be in it or are not to be relegated to the position of soldiers "but boys." Hence, if Aguinaldo will fight, he may count upon meeting some of the Americans until that called with Dewey surrended Lizarre and Toral and sent Governor Rios to Spain in mourning. There is no dead wood in the American army, even if it was the pick of it which Shafter took to Santiago.

Lawton, who was one of Shafter's division leaders, is now in the Philippines in war harness. Lawton, mind you, is a pioneer will not accompany that of the men who took Manila from the Spaniards and have kept it from Aguinaldo's Filipinos. When the news came across the water that the insurgents had risen against the Americans and President McKinley was asked if he had send any instructions to Commanding General Elwell S. Otis, he said tersely: "No, and I don't intend to. General Otis is a soldier and will know what to do under any circumstances."

No doubt many people feared that Otis would parley with the insurgents while some may have dreamed that he would actually surrender, since the armed Filipinos outnumbered the Americans two to one, but General Otis is not that kind of man. An example of his mettle when he has any army work to put through was given years ago on the plains in a contest with Sitting Bull's savage Sioux. Otis was then lieutenant colonel of the Twenty-second infantry, and after a wagon escort between Glendive creek, Montana, and the army camp on Tongue river had been stampeded and turned about by overwhelming numbers of hostiles he set out to carry the much needed supplies to the garrison at Tongue river. Colonel Nelson A. Miles at that time commanded the garrison. Otis' train proceeded with some skirmishing and reached Clear creek, the point where the previous escort had met the Indians and been defeated. Again the savages were on hand and had fired the prairie so that the wagons were compelled to retreat through the flames. The savages were prepared for a determined attack, but the escort charged again and again, driving them back for miles and then continue the train forward.

The second day on Indian creek encountered a band of the braves, and, breaking the customary rounds, dispatched a package on the hillside and ran under. The package proved to be a threatening communication from Sitting Bull. (It leaves us follows:

Yellowstone.

I want to know what you are over traveling on this road? You stole all the buffalo meat I killed last year in Montana. I want you to turn back from here. If you don't, I will take you back. I was sent to look what you have got here and you turn back from here. I can't tell you more.

SITTING BULL.

I throw all the Indians you kill and cut your scalps off. When you would write an send as you can.

Otis' communication with the savages whenever it was possible to do so was by means of Indian scouts. He died one out to tell Sitting Bull that he (Otis) intended to take the train to its charge through to Tongue river, and if the Indians wished to fight about it he would accommodate them at any time. The train then moved on, the Indians surrounding it, keeping up the firing at long range. After proceeding some distance a flag of truce was seen in the Indian lines, and the Indians sent in word that they were hungry, tired of war and wanted to make peace. Sitting Bull invited Colonel Otis to meet him outside the lines with an escort for a "talk." Otis said no, but he would meet Sitting Bull inside the lines of his own troops. Sitting Bull did not come in to the council, but sent three chiefs to represent him, and upon their pledging the faith of their tribe Otis distributed a small quantity of hard bread and bacon to the Indians, telling them at the same time that he had no authority to treat with them nor to make peace with them. If they desired to surrender, they must go to the main camp at Tongue river. Meanwhile Colonel Miles, commanding at Tongue river, had become alarmed over the excessive delay of his train and advanced with a whole regiment of infantry to meet the wagons and their escort. He met the expedition just two days after Sitting Bull's threatening message, but found that, with Colonel Otis in command, his alarm had been groundless.

Although born to some family distinction and wealth, Colonel Otis is an American of the ragged democratic type. He graduated from Harvard the year the civil war broke out and immediately enlisted as a private soldier. Soon promoted to captain, he fought gallantly through the war and was so severely wounded that he could not take up the practice of law, which he had expected to make the profession of his life. Returning to the army he was commissioned in the Twenty-second infantry, then stationed on the plains. It is said that when he first joined the regulars the West Point officers treated him as a raider with his accessorily because he did not belong to their gilt edged class. He then made a remark, which has often been quoted in the army since, that "a soldier is a soldier whether from the ranks or from West Point."

Another trait of his which should endear him to the American people equally the personality of General Sherman, with whom Colonel Otis was a great favorite. When Otis became colonel of the Twenty-second infantry, it was assigned to a garrison at Fort Brown, Texas. Soon after he arrived there the post was leveled to the ground by a terrible hurricane. Otis set to work with the men of his regiment to rebuild the post and did not call upon the war department for assistance. He gave Sunday the rest and visit himself, the same as the private soldiers, and meanwhile commanded at drill and some parades.

There is another Otis at Manila who has now risen some eighteen and is a soldier of sterling fame. He is the regular brigadier General Harrison G. Otis, a well known newspaper man of the Pacific coast. Commencing life as a private soldier in the regulars in the civil war and was several promotions for gallantry and soldierly conduct. A story is told of him at the beginning of the Spanish war, which has been printed in such travelers, but in the original form this Harrison Otis characteristic. After he was lieutenant colonel of the second and not on the outbreak of the war he was left in charge of the Second Oregon's enlistment rendezvous. Now, when a general visits the headquarters of a regiment it is customary for the senior to salute him as the junior officer passes out of the room. The rule is for the man on duty at the door to announce to call out enough for "the commanding officer of the regiment" to come to the general. Otis was the senior officer. He was the general and the senior officer. Otis was the senior officer. He was the general and the senior officer. Otis was the senior officer. He was the general and the senior officer