

schools inaugurated by the Chilean government might attract the peon. It has not done so to any extent, and today of the 3,000,000 people in Chile less than one in four can read and write.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

#### LETTER FROM GEORGE BACHMAN.

The following letter was received from George Bachman, with the Utah batteries at Manila, by City Recorder Bachman. Although its publication discloses nothing particularly new, it is of interest:

Manila, Aug. 22nd, 1898.

Dear Brother Gus:—Your favor of June 28 came to hand Aug. 8, and I was pleased to hear from you and to learn that all was well with you at time of writing. I see that you received my two letters written from Honolulu and I hope you received my two letters written since my arrival here. As you are no doubt, ere this, aware, we are now in the city of Manila. I suppose you have read in the papers descriptions of our doings and of our engagements with the Spaniards from time to time, and I will not attempt to describe same. The first shot fired by the Spaniards at the United States troops was on the morning of July 31st about 6 o'clock, and the last on Aug. 13th about 11 a. m. I was at the front when the first and last shots were fired, and a number of times in the interim. I have heard the shells from the cannon and the bullets from the muskets crash and whistle a little closer to me than I care to have them again, and I've seen men drop dead by my side, a sight which I do not care to witness again; yet from the description I see in the papers we have seen nothing here that would in any way compare with the battles fought at Santiago de Cuba. It is impossible to describe a person's feelings when he for the first time hears a shell pass close to him or when in the dark he stumbles over the corpse of a fallen comrade. Of course it does not effect all alike; still I believe all are effected to a greater or less degree. The Utah batteries have been very fortunate not having lost a man and only one man wounded, and that very slightly—they have also won a name for bravery among all the troops and General Greene is quoted as having said: "If we had left the d—Mormons alone they would have taken Manila themselves." We have had a few hardships to pass through, such as being on duty in the trenches for 24 hours at the time in a constant down-pour of rain and sometimes our meals have been a little farther apart than what was comfortable for a healthy stomach. We have also had to drag pretty heavy loads through deep mud on account of the scarcity of draft animals—yet I believe we have had a comparatively easy campaign, and have no great cause for complaint. We are now situated in comfortable barracks.

The city of Manila is divided into two parts known as Old and New Manila. Old Manila is that part surrounded by a wall and moat like all castles and cities of old. The streets are very narrow and the houses are built up against each other; the wall that surrounds the city is very thick and seems almost impregnable. On top of the wall are mounted scores of cannon but they are all of a rather ancient model, yet they would be very effective even now.

New Manila is not surrounded by wall or any kind of fortification. It reminds one of many European cities except that many of the houses are

built of bamboo and the roofs are covered with the leaves from tropical plants. We have the rainy season here now and have had ever since we came. There is hardly ever a day that it does not rain, and it sometimes rains without ceasing for several days.

The heat is not so great on account of the rain, yet it is warm enough to make one uncomfortable day and night. The health of the boys is good. I don't think we have one sick man in the battery. My health is good and I hope this will find you and yours in good health also.

There has been some talk of sending us back soon but we have no official authority for the rumor. They can't do it too soon to suit the most of the boys.

Give my best regards to all the folks. Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain with best wishes,

GEORGE.

#### LETTER FROM LIEUT. G. W. GIBBS

Extract from a Manila letter received by Mrs. Gibbs, from her husband, Lieutenant G. W. Gibbs:

Headquarters Battery A, Utah Light Artillery, Camp Dewey, August 8th, 1898.—Since a week ago Sunday, when we had our first engagement with the Spaniards, we have been in the trenches under the fire of the sharpshooters with now and then a cannonade from their heavy guns. We are not allowed to fire back unless they attempt to advance on our works. From our present position we can throw our shells right into Manila, but the idea seems to be that peace will soon be declared, and the commanders are waiting for dispatches to that effect. In order that we may not wantonly destroy the city of Manila. Meanwhile ours is not a very pleasant position, for it rains all the time and it is pretty hard to be constantly dodging bullets. We have lost about twenty-five killed and there are about forty-five wounded, but so far only one man in battery B of the Utah boys has been wounded. It seems the Lord was on our side, for we were in the thickest of the fight.

It was my fortune to be in command of the battery on the night of the 31st, and we all did our duty, and of course the batteries have been credited with the work so nobly done.

If you see Mrs. Young, Dr. Harry Young's mother, you can say this: The officers and men all praise him for the gallant efforts he puts forth in looking out for any of us who are sick or injured. He is not required to do this, but takes it upon himself to be in the trenches every night (as that is the time the Spaniards do all their fighting) to see that none of us suffer for lack of necessary medical attention.

We are all well in the command excepting a few who have colds, but are very tired from the work in the trenches, and will not be sorry when we are through and ordered back to the United States.

We fired fifty-seven shells at the Spaniards on the night of the 31st, and killed about 350 of their soldiers. But I feel that we have done enough killing and would be only too glad to have the war come to an early end.

War is a dreadful thing for civilized nations to engage in, and I shall always be in favor of arbitration. I believe that my greatest comfort nowadays is the little Testament my father carried through the Civil War. When one is as near sudden death as we are here he is inclined to think of the future.

Lieut. Naylor is well and sometimes says he would like to be on Ninth East, and I say, "Me too, comrade;" and then we console each other.

August 10th.—We have received mail twice from home and it is a great comfort to all of us. It is the rainy season here and we are a wet lot of men and tired, too, for we stay in the trenches twenty-four hours at a time. The Spaniards take a shot at anyone who exposes himself, and it is a constant strain on us while we lay here in all kinds of weather.

However, there is a white flag in Manila today and the Spanish general is with our General Merritt "talking up" a settlement of hostilities. Admiral Dewey had his fleet ready to open fire in case the matter cannot be adjusted amicably, and then the bombardment will commence and continue until we have them licked. We all wish we were through but are ready for a fight at any time. Our batteries are the popular command of the camp.

August 11th.—Today we are ordered to place four more guns on the line of trenches. It is rumored that Manila will be bombarded tomorrow. Admiral Dewey will fire from the sea front and our lines will fire from the south side of the town.

August 25th.—Well, we are in Manila and quartered in the Spanish engineers' barracks, a very roomy and pleasant place for the battery boys.

Manila is a very old place; the fortifications were built in 1731 and are very complete in all details. There are paved streets and electric lights; also street cars which are drawn by small horses about the size of shetland ponies.

I am writing this letter on the paper of the insurgent general, who has been obliged to lay down his arms with the rest of the insurgents. They have tried for ten years to get into Manila and it took the boys in blue three hours when we got ready to go in. Write often, as a letter is all this world to us.

G. W. GIBBS.

#### SPANISH COURAGE

Admiral Montojo's report of the Manila engagement, recently received and published by the naval department, discloses the reason of the high esteem in which this gentleman is held by Dewey. It is concise, plain-spoken, undecclamatory. Behind it whoso reads may see the picture of a brave foe, the figure of a gallant old sailor fighting coolly, determinedly never despairfully; firing his guns until there are no gunners left to fire them; passing, when his ship is shot from under him, to another; answering the hail of shell with the few cannon that remain undismounted still, encouraging his personnel; directing rescues; resisting to the last, resisting while his little squadron goes to the bottom about him, and, at the end, when wounded himself, retreating indeed, yet as a lion retreats, his face to the foe. Cervera himself could not have done better and, with entire deference to that hero, might not have done as well. It is men like these and courage like theirs, the royal gift of them, their efforts to do or die, the fashion in which they front death and defeat, that should enable us to discover in Spain some of the luster of the glamour she has lost. —Collier's Weekly.

Judge Henry C. Smith of Helena, Mont., has declined the Silver Republican nomination for associate justice of the supreme court. This makes the second withdrawal from that ticket, the other being Charles S. Hartman, nominated for Congress.