

has placed or is placing himself in communication with the home government, having in view the consideration of a surrender. This would go to show that he appreciates the situation and is willing to capitulate if he obtains consent from Madrid. It is a most wise and humane thing to do; and if such permission is withheld it will relieve the commanders of an awful responsibility and increase that now resting upon the home government to a fearful extent. It is to be hoped that that government will be held to strict accountability, as doubtless it will be. The bombardment will begin at noon tomorrow if in the meantime no word of surrender comes from the Spanish capital.

THEY NEED ASSISTANCE.

The Saints in Park City are anxious to rebuild their meeting house which was destroyed by fire recently. But in order to do so they need aid. They are doing a good mission in their locality and it should be a pleasure to help them to rear a hall where they again can gather and proclaim the Gospel. Their former meeting house cost \$5,000. There was an insurance of \$1,000. Probably a smaller and less expensive building than that destroyed would answer the purpose, and it should not require a great effort on the part of the people in the State interested in the good work to assist the Park City Saints to build a suitable place of worship.

ON THE WRONG TRACK.

The Tribune of Friday, July 8 contains a communication from General Penrose, in which he alternately takes the "News" itself and then some one presumably connected with it to task for an editorial article which appeared in these columns on Tuesday last. The article was entitled "Brave Boys are They," referring to the work of our troops in front of Santiago. The chief objection which the general seems to urge is that the volunteer soldiers are individually praised at the expense of the regulars. If he will read the article once more and carefully, he may be induced to take a different view, the one taken in the Tribune article inclining too much to obliquity for the production of a military man.

To be sure the word "volunteers" was used and "regulars" was not; but it is to be hoped the general will give us credit, notwithstanding the general ignorance imputed, of having intelligence enough to know that there were and are many soldiers of the regular army on the field spoken of, and that of necessity many of them figure in every action. Because of receiving praise all the time, they need no special praise, while those who have been

usely untried but being tried are not found wanting, being more than anything else the cynosure of the occasion, demand something in the way of a separate mention. The general has singled out two sentences which alone answer the purpose of an objection, and overlooked all the rest of the matter which would nullify such objection, and upon this he makes an appeal to the public for an unfriendly judgment against this newspaper. Undoubtedly the volunteers were mentioned in contradistinction from the machine soldiers against whom they were fighting; why not? Further along, is not the whole American troop brought into the reckoning by the statement that "for the first time the personality of the Anglo-Saxon was brought in contact with that of the

descendants of ancient Rome," the result being the demonstrated superiority of the former? A little further along even that expression is broadened out into a reference to the personal bravery and coolness of the American people, and so on.

The point sought to be made was that the experiment which the whole world was watching to see the result of was a success, the experiment being the bringing of an improvised army in battle against seasoned ("machine") soldiers. Everybody knew what the result would be if our regular forces had been pitted against the more mechanical fighters with the odds in favor of the latter being not too great; but nobody knew exactly how the new recruits, gathered hurriedly together and indifferently drilled and prepared for the struggle would deport themselves. We all know now, and this paper took particular pains to join in the glad acclaim which went up throughout the land because of having shown the world that we don't need to impoverish our people to maintain great standing armies; that a small one will do because—and a loftier tribute could not be paid the regulars—the new trooper is a regular as soon as he faces the enemy. In an issue of the "News," a few days before the publication complained of, the editorial statement was made that the fighting in front of Santiago demonstrated one thing clearly—that there was no such thing as raw American soldiers, they were veterans from the beginning; and this has been its attitude all along since the contest began. It is hardly a just criticism to make that because a certain quantity is not named every time a certain other quantity is spoken of, the former is thereby excluded; in many cases—and particularly in this case—the context of the matter itself and the general tone of the publication are a guidance which speak as plainly as though specific mention were made.

A man of General Penrose's high standing should not be in such haste to condemn or to ignore the natural trend of a newspaper's articles and base his objections upon detached sentences wrenched from their connections and a strained and unreasonable conclusion placed upon them. This paper has ever held him in the highest esteem and was always glad to afford him any courtesy within its power to bestow. Its columns would cheerfully have been opened to any communication he had to make upon this or any other subject, so that he was not compelled to go elsewhere to obtain a hearing. No matter that his conclusions savor more of hastiness than of deliberation, he could have had the benefit, or otherwise, of them in his own language at the proper place for it. That he saw fit to go elsewhere is his undoubted right, and that he went out of his way to cast wholly uncalled-for reflections upon writers for this paper will not be noticed at all.

In conclusion, there is but this to say: If the general will kindly withhold further criticism of this paper until he finds something in it derogatory of the arms and achievements of the United States, all hands will be better satisfied.

THROUGH A GLASS, DARKLY.

A sample of how shortsighted newspapers sometimes become is found in the following extract from the Baltimore Sun:

"The married ladies of Mindoro, it seems, wear nothing above the waist and very little below it. The costume is light and airy to a degree, as the climate demands, but it promises little for American manufacturers. One yard of

calico would meet the demands of fashion for a belle's outfit in Mindoro. The men wear even less, and the children, as a rule, wear nothing. From an economic or protectionist point of view the Philippine Islanders, therefore, are likely to be unprofitable, since they need little and buy less. The 'home market' they would afford would not be worth the cost of one warship."

There are several things to be taken into consideration. Customs would never change if populations never did, and that of Mindoro and many other places so long neglected is about to undergo a gradual but steadfast transformation. The superior customs will displace the inferior, and thus we may soon look forward to the dusky men and women of our distant lands becoming as completely and expensively attired as those by whom we are now surrounded. This is an age of progress, not of stagnation and least of all retrogression. Besides, there are not likely to be any restrictions upon traffic between the United States and one of its colonies.

GOOD WORK AMONG SOLDIERS.

The soldiers in the principal camps, although subjected to many temptations for which home surroundings formerly were a shield, have not been without the benefit of religious influences, and perhaps much of the bravery displayed by them in the face of death on the battlefield is due to this fact. D. L. Moody has charge of the work and Ira D. Sankey is going from camp to camp holding services of song. The movers of this religious enterprise are the members of an organization known as the Christian Commission laboring in connection with the international committee of the Young Men's Christian association.

Some time ago, the Christian Herald, New York, contained a letter from Tampa describing the conditions there and the result of the work among the soldiers. The writer says:

"Never was Tampa so wicked as now. Never was vice so rampant. Nearly every restaurant has been turned into a saloon and every saloon is also a restaurant. Rumshop advertisements in the Tampa newspapers are as large as those of the big dry goods stores in the metropolitan journals. The town is what is known as 'wide-open.' All this is only to be expected of any town near a large military encampment.

"But, at the same time, never was Tampa so good and virtuous and Christian as now. Never have so many and such crowded gospel meetings been held. Never have so many and such famous evangelists been heard here. Despite the vice and the drinking and the rowdyism, there are huge audiences at the church meetings every evening, and many sincere conversions—soldiers surrendering to Christ before going to battle and to possible death.

"General Wade, commanding the army here, has heartily endorsed the Christian movement. It is conducted in the field by Gen. O. O. Howard, Major Whittle, and Dr. Dixon. Said General Wade to me: 'I am thoroughly in sympathy with this Christian work. It is much better for the boys to be in attendance at such services as those you are holding, than to be lounging about the streets. It does them good and, as your meetings are held in the evenings, does not interfere with duty or discipline.

"As already described in this journal, the Christian work is under the direction of Mr. Moody. Awaiting Mr. Moody's arrival it is conducted nightly by the evangelists mentioned above.