DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1900.



A Rich Region, With Immense Timber Resources-The Sugar and Rice Lands-Something About the People and Th Jr. Americanization -The Tagalogs and Their Characteristics -Among the Negritos or Uncle Sam's Pigmies-How they Live in the Tree-tops and Shoot With Polsoned Arrows-A Word About Otis and His Conduct of the War-General Grant Not a Candidate for the Vice Presidential Nomination.

rate of the city of New York is over twenty-two per thousand. This has been during a year's fighting in a tropical country. It shows that the troops have been well cared for, and that they have been well fed. The feeding of the troops has, in fact, been a wonder the troops has, in fact, been a wonder to the foreign army men here. One of the French military officers who was sent here to watch the war said that the most surprising thing to him was that the soldiers on the firing line were supplied with fresh beef killed in Chl-cago, more than 7,000 miles away."

DIDATE.

the possible candidates?"

"I am not a candidate," replied Gen-eral Grant. "I have no expectation of political preferment, though, of course, I should like such a nomination, just as any other man naturally would. 1 am certainly doing nothing to secure it. I am out here merely because I thought

Manila, February 2, 1900. I mot Gen. Fred Grant today as he came in from the field to consult with Gen.Otis about the operations in northern Lucon, and later on had a chat with him about his work and the people among whom he has been campaigning. Gen. Grant came here almost immediately after leaving Puerto Rico. I saw him last at Ponce, having traveled with him from San Juan around the island. He looks today the picture of health, and he tells me that he has been well ever since he came to the Philippines. He has been in the field and on the firing line since last July, and has been campaigning in both the northern and southern parts of Luzon. GEN. LAWTON AND THE FILI-

PINOS, Our first words were about Gen. Lawton, whose body by the time this letter is published will have been interred in the United States. Said Gen.

Grant: "The death of Gen. Lawton was a great loss to the army, and I believe it was also a great loss to the Fülipinos. Gen. Lawton was their friend, although he fought them to the death. He was big-hearted and generous, and he often cautioned me that I should be careful cautioned me that I should be careful in my treatment of the people. He wanted the wrongdoers and the rebels punished, but in such a way that the natives here might realize that the government was just and strong." "You were not near General Lawton at the time of his death, were you, general?" I asked. "No; I was in the mountains of the porth. He was killed at San Mateo.

north. He was killed at San Mateo, within a short distance of Manila. He was in the front and was as usual paying no attention to the bullets flying about him. It has seemed to me that he was not careful enough in such matters. He enjoyed the action of batthe and was anxious to push the war to a finish. He thought it was almost ended, and had advocated the increase of the army that peace might come just as soon as possible."

AMONG THE TAGALOGS.

"Tell me something, general, about the people among whom you have been campaigning."

You mean the Tagalogs, I suppose, replied General Grant. "There are, you know, many different races here with different characteristics. The Tagalogs are the strongest race in Luzon, and they are the most civilized of the Fili-pinos. They make up the greater part of the population of Manila, and there must be at least a multice and a balf must be at least a million and a half of them on this island. They are the richest of the natives and they occupy the best lands.

"How about the holdings of lands here, general? I have thought the eswere all small.

Copyrighted, 1900, by Frank G. Carpen- the bulk of the taxes should not be lava. In some sections there is a thin given over to us. The Spaniards have so strata of limestone over the lava. This

FRANK G. CARPENTER

"The most of the mountainous regions

are covered with a dense growth of vegetation and those which have any

depth of soil are heavily timbered. I saw large tracts of magnificent trees

saw large tracts of magnineent trees, including many varieties of valuable hard woods. I saw houses and furni-ture made of the wood; it is in many cases as hard as iron and it takes a polish like mahogany. I can't tell you the varieties. You must remember that I was more interested in watching out for the same Elibelean who witch he

"The Spaniards appreciated the value of this timber." continued Gen, Grant, "and were making arrangements to get it out to use in shipbuilding at the time

tion. The sugar lands can be made to

yield a larger product per acre, and with good machinery more sugar could

be got out of the cane. A number of modern sugar mills might be estab-

accustomed them to oppression and ex-tortion that they cannot realize that we do not want to do as they did. "Still, I am well pleased with the re-sults," General Grant went on. "In Ba-corr for landsnow where there are M. coor, for instance, where there are 14,-000 people in the principality, I established a civil government in July and schools in September and October. The latter are doing very well and the peo-ple seem to be well satisfied with the operations of their government. They appear to be grateful and I think I have persuaded them that we are their friends rather than their enemies." "Do you really think, general," I

asked, "that they can be made good American citizens?

I was more interested in watching out for the angry Filipinos who might be hid behind the trees with their guns than as to how the trees would cut up for lumber. I could see in passing that the timber is of immense value. About Subig bay, for instance, there are thou-sands of acres of virgin forest which have never been touched. This timber is easily got at, for the bay will ad-mit the largest steamers. They might, in fact, sall into it upside down if such a thing were possible, and their masts would not graze the bottom. It is, I am told, about 1,300 feet deep, and a great depth is found even at the shore line. The Oregon had to put out about fifty fathoms of chain when it came to anchor at a swimming distance of the land." American citizens?" "Not at once," was the general's re-ply, "but I believe we can Americanize them much sooner than our people think. You must remember that this country has for years been overrun with a large class of brigands and thieves, who have intimidated the peo-ple, and it will be some time before they can be taught self-reliance and independence of thought. We shall first have to wipe out the thieves, show the people that they have rights, and that we intend to protect them in the that we intend to protect them in the exercise of them."

"Do you ever hear the people express regret that the Spaniards have been driven out?

"No, I think the natives were glad to see the Spaniards go." CAMPAIGNING AMONG THE NE-

GRITOS.

"Tell me something of the Negritos, general. I suppose you met with some of them while in the north?" "Yes, I did," replied General Grant. "You see them occasionally in the Tag-alog towns of the interior. They live in the woods, and usually in the moun-tains. I came across a number of their little villages in crossing the mountains during my last campaign when I was the out to use in shipbuilding at the time the war began. They have graded a lit-tle railroad up one of the valleys and the rails lie beside the track ready to be laid. There is, I should say, about three or four miles of this roadbed." "I should think the timber would offer some opportunities for American capital," said I. capital," said I. "The trees could be easily got down to the little rivers and into Subig bay, from where they could be shipped to any part of the world." "How about the other parts of the country? What are the chances for agricultural development?" "In some sections they are very good. The wroduct of rice and sugar could be during my last campaign when I was chasing Aguinaldo. They are savages and their settlements are usually lit-tle more than hamlets. They build their houses in among the trees, rais-The product of rice and sugar could be largely increased with scientific cultiva-

ing them high off the ground on poles, and I saw many houses built high up in the branches of the trees. The houses are huts made of poles, with walls and roofs of grass and paim leaves. They take the palm leaves which are long and wide and plait them with the mountain grasses. The grass in that part of the country grows from six to ten feet high. It often reached above my head while I was riding through it on horseback. It is very strong, and, with the palm leaves, it can be woven into a very close mat. "As we came to these villages the

of modern sugar mills might be estab-lished here to grind cane for the small planter. They could pay the people as much for the cane as they now get from raising and grinding it and still make a big profit off the increase in the product. There is more good land here then is cancerable supposed. I went over than is generally supposed. I went over people scampered away like so many monkeys. They were afraid of us, and a low pass in the mountains north of Subig bay and found myself in a thrivusually hid themselves behind trees or ing agricultural valley inhabited by about 80,000 people. It was from twenty to thirty miles wide, having a rich soll rocks, peering out at us and ready to run if we showed any intention of coming near them. Some of the men were armed with bows and arrows, and we | and luxuriant crops. There is a great had been warned that their arrows are deal of rice and many co

250 or at most more than 275 deaths altogether. We lost more men in one day at Santiago than we have lost here

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NOT A VICE PRESIDENTIAL CAN-"How about the vice presidency, gen-eral? When I left home they were discussing your name among those of

in a year and more. Our death rate it my duty as a soldier, and as long as up to January averaged more than for-ty to the thousand, taking every kind of death into consideration. The death shall be ready and anxious to go home."

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"That is so of nearly all the property held by the natives," replied General Grant. "There are some large estates which belong to the church and to foreigners. There are some also which be-long to the mestizos, the descendants of natives who have intermarried with foreigners."

"Give me some idea of the Tagalogs, General Grant," said I. "How do they

The Tagalogs are much like the Malays in appearance," replied General Grant. "They have about the same features and many of the same char-acteristics. They are, I believe, a cross between the Malays and the aborigines. They are a cleanly people, both as to their persons and houses. They are not so well educated as I had supposed, considering their churches and other advantages. I have found, in fact, very little education outside of Manila, and am trying to remedy this by establishing schools wherever I go.'

AMERICANIZING THE FILIPINOS. "How can you do this?" I asked. "I thought the whole island was in a state of war." "It is easily done wherever we have

driven out the insurgents and have held the country for any length of time. What I have done as soon as I have taken possession of a municipality was to give its people a civil government, a police and schools, I would call the principal citizens together and tell them I wanted them to manage their affairs hereafter for themselves. I would have them choose an alcalde, or presidents, who should govern them as the head man of the town, and ap-point under him tenientes, who should be the heads of the divisions of the municipality. A municipality here includes more than the town itself. It is a district. You might compare it to one of our counties and the divisions in it to the townships. The presidente is the head of the whole and the tenientes are the heads of the townships. After these men have been elected they meet in council and pass ordinances as to taxes. revenues and the general government of the municipality. They appoint the police and collect the taxes on meats, markets, etc. They issue all licenses, and, in fact, govern the town."

"How do the people like it?" They say they are pleased with it. and they take hold of it. It is very hard, however, to make them understand that

poisoned. They did not attack us and we did not bother them.'

OUR PHILIPPINE DWARFS.

"What kind of looking people are the Negritos, general?" I asked. "They are a race of dwarfed negroes," replied General Grant, "The word 'negrito' means 'little negro.' The Negritos we saw in but few cases came up to my shoulder, and some were pigmies in They have woolly hair, which stands out in curly masses over their heads, faces as black as those of the African negroes, thick lips and flat noses. Most of them were in breech cloths, the women wearing a strip about two feet long about the thighs and waist. Both sexes are puny and sickly looking. They have enormous stom-achs, made so by their living almost entirely on roots, vegetables and fruits. The stomachs reminded me of the 'banana stomachs' of the peasant chil-

dren of Porto Rico. "Will we have any trouble in con-quering them?"

"I see no reason why we should both-er with them at all," replied the general. "They are comparatively few and are so weak mentally and physically that it would be difficult to make American citizens out of them. They are nearthe Hottentot than the Amerier to can Indian in the scale of possible civil-ization. All they would need would be a small reservation, and if well treated they would bother nobody."

"How about the Igorrotes?" "I don't know much about them," said Gen. Grant. "They are in the north-eastern part of Luzen. My campaign-ing has been chiefly in the south and northwest. They are, I am told, en-tirely different from the Negritos, and though savage, are a fine race."

IN NORTHWESTERN LUZON. "What kind of a country did you find

"What kind of a country did you find in northwestern Luzon, general?" "The whole of Luzon is a land of mountains and valleys. The northern part is made up of ranges of mountains with fertile valleys between them. The valleys are usually well cultivated, be-ing covered with thes folds code ing covered with rice fields and sugar plantations. Some of the mountains are tremendous. They rise up from the sea, in places sometimes reaching an altitude of five or six thousand feet. They are of volcanic origin and the sides of many of them are covered with

The people raise water buffaloes, chick ens and pigs. There are many such valleys in Luzon and also much undeveloped country. There is really no book which gives an adequate idea of the Philippines. Much of the country still awaits the advent of the prospec-

coanut groves

"How about mines?" I asked. "I cannot tell you. It is said that there are large deposits of coal and some gold, but so far I have seen none. The chief minerals are found on some of the other islands."

THE PHILIPPINES AS POSSIBLE

"Do you think, general, that the islands are worth what they are costng us? "I think so, and even were they not I do not see how the United States could have taken any other course. If after matters are settled the Filipinos want to be freed from the United States it

becomes a political question which the people at home can decide. At present they have fired on the flag of our country, and we cannot tolerate that. Our national honor demands that we have the arrangement of the matter to our own satisfaction. "Personally, I think the people will soon become loyal and contented. I believe they will in time govern them-

selves, as a part of our own people and that one or two States can be added to the Union from the Philippines, with as loval citizens as those of any of the States we made from the territory which we got from Mexico. There are from eight to ten millions of consumers here, and the islands will furnish a good market. They will also be a base from which we can push our commercial relations with China and the rest of the Far East. These isl-ands are on the trade routes of Australa, China, Japan and India, and every ship that passes will at some time stop here for coal and food supplies see no reason why the Philippines will

THE LENGTH OF THE WAR. "How has it happened that the war has lasted so long? Many people in the United States have wondered why the ame ground has had to be fought over so many times.

"One reason was the nature of the warfare," said Gen. Grant. "The Fili-pinos would fire upon us, and we would go out and punish them. Then, as we had not enough troops to occupy all the places, we had to fall back. In a short time they would again attack us, and we would go out again and repel This was the case all summer. them. As more troops came in we began to advance to the north. We have now occupied the whole of that region, and believe that the war will soon be ended for good OTIS AND THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

"How about Gen. Otls and his con-

duct of the war "I now think that we are very for-

tunate in having Gen. Otis here. I did think when I first came there were some ways in which his administration of affairs might have been bettered, but the results have shown me that he was right and I was wrong. He has done might and i was wrong. He has done mighty well with the material he has had on hand. We came over here with the idea of keeping Manila only, and with no expectation of carrying the war into the whole country. After the Spanish war was over the insurrection came, and just then the volunteers, whose terms had expired, wanted to return home. They had the volunteers, whose terms had expired, wanted to return home. They had the right is do so under the law and the army had to be reorganized. This was when we were in a state of slege. Then the rainy season came on and during it we could do but little. As a whole the war has been carried on without a single disaster. We have not lost a company, have not been driven out of a single most par from a single activity. company, have not been driven out of a single post nor from a single position. Considering the time and the large number of soldiers under arms there have been very few casualties and comparatively little loss of life. In the whole campaign we have lost fewer men than in some of the commercitie mortant hattles of the Civ

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The navy department has decided that this huge nighting machine is to go to France during the Exposition as one of a small but powerful fleet that is to represent the United States, at the world's naval rendezvous at Havre. The picture we present is from a snap shot of the big battleship, which has just gone into commission.

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