

and up to date there has been seventeen men die. The hospital force is thirty-six men including cooks.

"The hospital is in the quarters of the Spanish officers. It is a two-story building with fifteen large rooms. The city is surrounded by a stone wall 30 feet high by 20 feet thick and is mounted with seventeen century guns. Outside of the wall is the native villages built of bamboo and thatched with grass. They are raised from the ground on four legs about 6 feet high. The native women all smoke cigars and cigarettes; in fact every one smokes from six years up. Out in the bay, are lying the wrecked Spanish war vessels. Six of them are within a stone's throw of each other and shows how terrible the battle must have been. The natives here have looted and wrecked all they could lay their hands on, and what they have not taken our soldiers have secured as relics.

"On the 24th of August was the first fight I ever saw. It started this way. The only thing they have to drink here is a native gin called anisel. It costs two cents a glass, and three glasses will make a man drunk. Some of the boys who came over from Manila loaded and raised a row. The insurgents tried to disarm them and the fun started. The Fourth cavalry regulars were called out, and when we got to the head of the column we found Corporal Anderson shot through the right leg, and Private Hudson dead. Both belonged to our battery. A little later two more were brought in, shot through the legs. The insurgents lost three men and a number wounded.

"In concluding his letter the writer expresses the hope of being in Salt Lake before Christmas, and declares that he has not the remotest idea of making his home in the Philippines.

A letter has also been received from Ed. Kenner, of this city, in which he complains of having received no letters from home, although not less than a dozen have been sent him. Like nearly all the others, he has had enough of the Philippines, and will hail with delight the day of release. The water has to be boiled before it can be drunk, the climate is execrable and all there is that is worth seeing does not require much time. The boys' health is, however, very good.

SEVIER STAKE TABERNALE BURNED

Richfield, Utah, Oct. 15.—Last night the Sevier Stake Tabernacle in this city was completely destroyed by fire. The fire started at 6:15 and at 8:30 the entire building was a mass of burning timbers and tall, ghastly, barren walls. The loss of the fire to the people of this Stake is fully \$40,000 with not one cent of insurance. The cause of the fire cannot be found out but the general impression is that some villain who had some feeling against Contractor J. H. Bowman had set the place on fire to make himself even for the past supposed insult.

The short story of the disastrous conflagration is about this: At 6:15 Dwight Meteer was returning to his work from supper; on his way he passed the Tabernacle, and when he passed he noticed a spark fly from the southwest corner of the building. He investigated the cause and found that the fire had just broken through the roof, and but one gallon of water at the place would have extinguished the flames. The building was so near completion, however, that all the inside scaffolds and extras had been removed. An alarm was at once given, but before the chemical engine could be obtained the whole inside of the building was ablaze. The fire was fully fifty feet from the ground and had gained such

headway that the only thing left to do was to save what lumber there was piled around the building and to protect as far as possible the adjoining buildings.

A wind was blowing from the southwest, and burning shingles were blown for more than a mile and fully forty corrals and haystacks in the northeast corner of town were started burning but no serious losses are reported from the cause except from damage by the water. The entire job of plastering would have been completed tonight in the building, the building was wired throughout for electricity, the carpenters had started to laying the flooring, and in fact the building would have been turned over from the contractor in about 45 days. It is now thought that the walls of the building will not be fit for use again, while the original cost of erecting them was \$30,000, the people of this Stake have paid in cash for the last contract \$10,000, both amounts being a total loss.

The place where the fire started can only be reached by climbing to the top of the main tower and from there crawling over the ceiling. It is thought that a slow combustible had been placed there the night before by someone who had some feeling against the contractor.

There have been three men seriously injured on the building since it was started last May, and there was considerable trouble in the building when it was first started eight years ago.

The bondsmen of Contractor J. H. Bowman, of Salt Lake City, are only held for \$8,000, and it is not known at this time whether or not they can be held for that amount.

The members of the Church in this Stake have been kept poor all summer in order to meet their several payments and to have it all destroyed in not more than two hours seems very discouraging to say the least. It is not known what will be done in the matter of rebuilding. There was no insurance whatever on the building, and if no money can be recovered from the bondsmen of the contractor, it is doubtful whether the building will be started again or not.

Last Wednesday there was an exceptionally large eagle flew into this city from the mountains east. It soared around and found the building and finally lighted upon the topmost spire of the main tower. It remained there and would not be molested despite the stone throwing by a large crowd which had assembled at the scene of the strange freak.

An old woman of the town, who claims to be a foreseer, gave it out that the matter was an omen that the building would be destroyed by fire inside of three days. The time of her prophesy would have expired yesterday at about 8 o'clock, when the building was a total wreck.

VOLUNTEERS OF THE SEA.

Theoretically the profession of the seavolunteer or privateer, is at least as honorable as that of the land volunteer, and equally deserving of praise and encouragement. It is true, says the British Naval and Military Magazine, that the land volunteer, like the regular soldier, would fight for fame alone, whereas the privateer fights for fame and filthy lucre, but there the advantage of the landsman ends, theoretically. In time of peace the volunteer, at very little cost to himself, devotes a modicum of his time to being trained as an efficient soldier, and in the event of war he would draw his pay, and, no doubt, merit and receive rewards and destinations from government like his brother of the regular army. But in the privateer we have the

glorious spectacle, theoretically of the patriotic citizen, who, at his own proper charges, and without hope of official recognition, equips and mans a vessel, and, with the sanction of his sovereign, inflicts as much injury on the enemies of his country as in him lies by cutting up their commerce, and, in some instances, by capturing their ships of war. True, he often realizes a considerable sum by the scale of his prizes, but a portion of this, at any rate, must go toward recouping him for the initial expenses of the venture, and also toward maintaining the ship and the ship's company in a state of efficiency.

The amount of damage which can by this means be inflicted on a nation which depends largely on its imports for its very existence is enormous. For instance, in the long wars with France during the latter part of the eighteenth and the commencement of the nineteenth centuries, the French appear to have realized that, in spite of the preponderance of our power at sea, our navy was quite inadequate for the protection of our commerce. In the early days of the war the number of English merchant vessels captured by French privateers—or corsairs, as they were called—was very great, indeed, and the total for the entire period of hostilities amounted to no fewer than 10,871, of which 145 were taken during 100 days. When the loss of ships, cargo, men and money signified by these figures is taken into consideration, it will be seen that the damage inflicted on our nation in this way was well nigh incalculable, and it is not surprising that our government should have made extraordinary efforts toward the suppression of these destructive agencies. One thousand and sixteen French privateers were captured by her majesty's ships during that period, twelve by our own privateers, two by shore boats and one by two Indiamen. A comparison of these figures with the number of our merchantmen captured by the enemy shows that the activity of the French in this direction must have been very great, indeed; in fact, not only the channel, but the high seas literally swarmed with their corsairs. In practice, privateering has proved an intolerable evil, inasmuch that the provision of the declaration of Paris, 1856, which lays down that privateering is abolished, has now been acceded to by all civilized nations, with the exception of the United States, Spain and Mexico.

TO MAKE SOUP NOURISHING.

In making soup, the object is to draw all the nutritive qualities of the meat into the water, and to do this the bones must be cracked, so that the marrow will be easily extracted, the meat cut into small pieces, and the whole put into cold water and allowed to heat very slowly. Quick heating would harden the meat and prevent the juices from freely flowing out. The meat must not be put into water and washed before it is cut, as even the immersion for so short a time will draw out some of the nutriment. It should instead be carefully wiped with a clean, damp cloth. After cutting the bones, put it into a kettle, and cover it with cold water, letting it stand a little while on the back of the stove, then bring it forward and heat slowly.—Woman's Home Companion.

The Southern Pacific, together with the other overland roads, will put in effect today (Saturday) reduced fares for the benefit of soldiers traveling between San Francisco and Chicago. They will be given a first-class rate of \$30, to the Missouri river, likewise a second-class rate of \$25. Rates east of the river will also be reduced. Many soldiers are going east on sick leave or furlough.