

it can die from the minds of the patriotic people whose good fortune it was to witness the same.

Some of the companies are to be disbanded, according to reports. Some are to be removed from Chickamauga Park to Knoxville, and Lexington, on the plea of the place where they now are is unhealthy, but the true cause is the wire pulling of politicians, who desire the soldiers near their cities, in order to get the revenue that comes to the community by reason of their presence. It is a noticeable fact that those soldiers who have had no friends to continually send them nick-nacks of various kinds with which to gorge themselves, that they are usually free from sickness; while those who have so many things sent them, or the money with which to buy same, are the ones who are or have been sick. The park is a healthy place, and there is really no more sickness than exists among an equal number of individuals living in a city, or elsewhere. Success to our navy, and army. May the inspring Stars and Stripes forever "wave over the land of the free and the home of the brave," to the end that the free institutions of our government be perpetuated forever, and be enjoyed by the inhabitants of this wonderful country.

A word as to preaching the Gospel, which work claims our attention now, and is the cause of our being here. Every department of missionary labor is progressing nicely. The Elders throughout the South are being very successful in gathering the honest in heart into the fold. The Elders rejoice in their labor of love, and as a rule are feeling well. This mission is bound to grow and increase, until the Lord's work is finished in this part of His vineyard. The people of this land are as a whole, very hospitable and kind to our Elders, who are doing a great work among them. All people who have relatives or friends in this mission, have cause to rejoice, because they are in a good country and where religion interests nearly everyone. Your newsy and interesting paper comes regularly to hand and is much appreciated by all its readers. Thanking you for the same, I remain yours for the triumph of truth and righteousness, GEO. E. HILL.

FOR INDEPENDENCE.

Chicago, Sept. 23.—The Tribune's special from Manila, dated August 30, via, San Francisco, Sept. 23, says:

Aguinaldo and his chiefs have made a plea to the powers for recognition of belligerency and independence. Angonillo, his agent, who was a passenger on the steamer China, is on his way to Europe to submit the question to foreign arbitration. Before proceeding to Europe Angonillo will stop in Washington and attempt to impress the administration with his appeal. No mention of the United States nor any American force is made in the document which he carries. The appeal is as follows:

To the Foreign Powers: The revolutionary government of the Philippines, which was constituted according to the scheme explained in the proclamation dated June 23rd, in which the true causes of the revolution were set forth, has demonstrated that this popular movement is due to the unanimous desire for just laws by a people who aspire to progress and perfection and which can only be obtained by one road to liberty.

This revolution actually dominates the provinces of Cavite, Bantangas, Mindoro, Tayabas, Laguna, Morong, Bulacan, Bataan, Pampanga, Nueva-cija, Tarlac, Pagasman, Infanta Zambales and the capital city of Manila.

In these provinces there reigns good order and perfect tranquility, laws are administered by authorities who were elected by the people according to the regulations of organic decrees of June 18th and 23rd.

The revolution has also some 9,000 prisoners of war and these are treated with all the usages and regulations of civilized warfare and humanitarian sentiment. On a war footing we have 30,000 combatants organized in the form of a regular army.

In this condition the chiefs of communities in the before mentioned provinces, desirous of interpreting the sentiments that animate those by whom they have been chosen, having proclaimed the independence of the Philippines, have requested the revolutionary government to entreat and pray of the foreign governments the acknowledgement of the belligerency and independence of the Philippines.

To prove the complete security in which the Filipinos now live, how they are both willing and able to govern themselves, the accompanying document signed by the chiefs, is submitted with this appeal. Exercising the authority invested in me as president of the revolutionary government of the Philippines and in the name and as representative of this people, I implore the aid of all the powers of the civilized world and beg them earnestly to proceed with the formal recognition of the belligerency of the Philippines and independence of the government.

The powers are the means designated by Providence to maintain the equilibrium between people, supporting the weak and checking the strong and thus by this means there will be realized complete justice and indefinite progress of humanity.

(Signed.) EMILIO AGUINALDO.
Bacoor, August 6, 1898.

Aguinaldo's action is based on the following action of the chiefs:

The undersigned chiefs of the communities which comprise the provinces in which the revolutionary government is established elected as representatives of the people in the manner described by the decrees of June 18 and 23 and having been confirmed by the president and taken the oath of office, have met in general assembly and solemnly proclaimed Philippine independence. With this proclamation they make the following declaration:

With an improvised and unprepared army the Revolutionists have shown great bravery, giving examples of brilliant feats of arms and exercised a self control which finds no parallel. After practically terminating the war they did not give way to excesses or illtreat the enemy. On the contrary they conducted themselves as becomes a noble and humane people. They put down their arms and returned to their regular occupations. These facts clearly prove that the Philippines were not created for slavery, but possess a perfect idea of order and justice. They shun savage life and love the arm of peace. Furthermore, surprising as it may seem, the Philippines are giving proof of their ability to make laws in harmony with the march of time. They know how to respect and obey the law—an indication that their national habits are inclined to progress. They are not ambitious for power, honor or riches; they are solely influenced by a just desire for liberty and self government. They are inspired by the highest patriotism to sacrifice both life and fortune. This admirable characteristic proves clearly the necessity of giving them liberty and independence. Not only do they desire it, but they

stand ready to defend their liberty until death.

The Filipinos are convinced that liberty will result in the progress and perfection of the people and will enable the country to contribute to the progress of humanity. To accomplish this end the Filipinos fight to the death and will not recede from any obstacle that may oppose their progress and we are firmly convinced we will obtain justice in the end. Neither the unjust imprisonments the tortures, assassinations and other acts of tyranny committed by the Spaniards on the peaceful, inoffensive Filipinos cause them to deviate from the humane paths which they have chosen. The Spaniards consider themselves absolved from all obligations to us, because foreign powers refused to acknowledge our belligerency. The Spaniards did not consider that education national honor and humanity are above laws written and unwritten. No, the Filipinos will never retaliate in like upon the Spaniards and they only seek independence, with honor, liberty, just laws and a desire that their name shall be coupled with humanitarians.

In view of the above statement the undersigned, expressing the desire of their committee, hereby solemnly proclaim to the whole world the independence of the Philippines. They acknowledge Emilio Aguinaldo as president of the Revolutionary government and they hereby request the said president to ask for recognition of belligerency and the formal acknowledgement of independence, not only because the acts involve an obligation of justice, but because no one should be allowed to contravene natural laws, or suppress the legitimate aspirations of a people striving for liberty.

Done at Cavite, August 1, 1898.

Leandro Ibana, Secretary of Inter-

lor.
Emilio Aguinaldo and 180 leaders in the provinces enumerated.

FATAL EXPLOSION.

Pittsburg, Pa., Sept. 23.—An explosion of fire damp occurred at the Umpire coal mines near Brownsville, Pa., at 8:30 today. Fifty men are entombed. Two have been taken out dead.

The explosion was caused by an accumulation of gas.

There were 130 men at work at the time and all but about fifty escaped without injury. Five men are believed to have been killed and a large number are still entombed.

Rescuing parties are now trying to reach the unfortunate men. Hundreds of women and children surround the mouth of the pit.

The mine is owned by the Umpire Coal company.

Brownsville, Pa., Sept. 23.—Fifty-four men were entombed in the Umpire mine of Snowden, Gould & Co., one mile from Brownsville, by an explosion of gas at 8 o'clock this morning. Two dead bodies have so far been taken out. The dead are:

James Hall,
John Bennett.

Searching parties are making efforts to reach the entombed miners, but their progress is slow and there is great danger of another explosion, which might bury them also under tons of rock and earth.

Immediately following the explosion of gas, there was a second explosion of fire damp. There were 140 men in the mine at the time of the explosion, work having been begun for the day a short time previous. Of these 58 were in entries N. 9 and 10.