The Commission has begun its investigation into the administration of the War Department. Generals Wheeler, Boynton, and Lee have been heard. The public will expect that all Generals will be inclined to make as good showing as they honestly can for the Department under which they were conducting their campaign. The spirit of loyalty would demand this much of them. It will also expect to find that there have been exaggerations of evil and unreasonable complaints. Both expectations are met by the testimony as reported in the daily papers. On the whole, the showing of these witnesses indicates a better condition of affairs than the reports in the public press have indicated. General Wheeler insists that the troops had sufficient rations in Cuba, and, if they suffered from want of food, it was because they threw their rations away when they went into action; that the tents were left on board the transports in order to expedite the march; and that the disease in Cuba was chiefly due to climate. But his testimony brings out the fact that the transportation facilities at Camp Wikoff were inadequate, and that when he arrived the tents were without floors, there was a scarcity of nurses, and disinfecting plants had to be provided. General Boynton declares that the typhoid fever at Chickamauga was imported from State camps; but he admits, though apparently somewhat reluctantly, that after General Brooke went to Washington military discipline declined and proper sanitary conditions were not maintained. The public, which desires to know the actual truth, will, however, remember that the press reports both of camps and of battles in the Civil War proved often more trustworthy than the official reports from officers in the field, and while it will make allowance for exaggeration in certain journals, and for the probability of unreasonable complaints in certain quarters, it will still expect that the specific charges made by responsible accusers such as George Kennan, Richard Harding Davis, Poulteny Bigelow, and the men whom they have quoted, will be much more thoroughly inquired into than has as yet been done, if we may judge from the published reports of the proceedings already had.

The Peace Commission

The sessions of the Peace Commission in Paris have gone on uninterruptedly during the past week, and, although the newspapers have been filled with all manner of reports concerning the results of these sessions, it may be authoritatively stated that no trustworthy intelligence either of the course of the discussions or of the results reached has come to the public; all reports of interviews with the Commissioners or letters from them may be promptly dismissed. It is probably true that the Spanish Commissioners expected to go through the time-worn course of diplomatic deliberations; to put forth claims which they did not expect to be conceded, and to have to consider demands from the other side which were simply preliminary diplomatic fencing. The American Commissioners have undoubtedly stated their case frankly, and are probably declining to modify their position on all matters in which they have come to an agreement in advance. The recognition by the Spanish Commissioners that the American Commissioners say precisely what they mean and mean what they say will facilitate the process of reaching a conclusion. General Merritt arrived in Paris during the week, and has undoubtedly furnished the Commissioners with the results of his careful observation of conditions in the Philippines. It is reported that the Spanish Cabinet has been hoping to make an arrangement with some of the Great Powers which should dispose of the Philippines in such a way as to keep them out of American hands, and to
but her desire to hold Egypt is so strong that she is bound to avail herself of any new accession of strength in the naval control of the Mediterranean. Russia's ruling interest is in China, and France's unaided navy is no match for that of Great Britain. It would seem, therefore, that the latter has a decided advantage in the conditions which determine the control of Crete by any one of the Great Powers. It would certainly be best for the tranquillity and progress of the island if such were its destiny.

Affairs in Northern India
There are very few indications of further resistance among the tribes on the northwestern frontier of India. The Afridis and Zakka-Khels show no disposition to come into conflict with the British again, and the former are readily enlisting in regiments of the Indian army. Another cause of the more peaceful outlook is the decline of the fanatical agitation started by the Mad Mullah, who is now discredited. Native levies are heartily co-operating with the British in holding the Khyber Pass, and nearly all the terms of submission imposed have been complied with. The British policy is to strengthen the friendship shown by these formidable tribes for their late enemies, and to use them as military allies. Properly officered, they would be among the most efficient soldiers in the world.

Unrest in Paris
There have been no new developments in the Dreyfus matter during the past week. Public attention has been diverted by the spread of a great strike which may assume alarming proportions. The strike began with the Parisian workmen of the lowest grade—the day laborers—but now includes the masons, iron-workers, stone-cutters, the house-building guilds, the plumbers and truckmen, and kindred trades. Of the two hundred thousand workmen in Paris who have to do with the building of houses, forty thousand are now on a strike—well organized, officered by Socialist or Collectivist leaders, with guards distributed at working places throughout the city to prevent non-striking men from taking the strikers' places, and with flying squadrons of strikers on bicycles moving from point to point in order to reinforce any threatened position. The leaders, meanwhile, are in permanent session. All the buildings in course of construction are guarded by troops; the garrison of Paris has been reinforced, and it is stated that General Zurlinden, the Military Governor, has nearly sixty thousand men under his orders. The situation presents two alarming possibilities: the danger that further delay in the work on the Exposition buildings, now at a standstill, may seriously interfere with the opening of the Exposition in 1900; second, the danger that in the excited condition of public opinion some new incident in the Dreyfus affair may be taken up by the strikers and a labor movement become merged into a political or revolutionary movement.

England and America
Professor Dicey's discussion of the growing cordiality of feeling between this country and England in the current number of the "Atlantic Monthly" is of a piece with the discussion of this subject from the beginning—that is to say, it is free from hysteria, sentimentality, or extravagance. Nothing has been more reassuring as respects the permanent character of the present feeling between the two countries than the sobriety and calmness with which it has been discussed on this side of the Atlantic. Professor Dicey brings out the fact that the sudden expression of cordial feeling in England is not an indication of a sudden revolution, but is rather the coming to light of a progression of feeling going on in that country for many years past. For nearly thirty years, he reminds us, every English statesman worthy of the name has been studious to promote good will between the two countries. All English public men have perceived the great value to England of the maintenance of cordial relations with this country, because England has so much more in common with us than with any other nation; because both countries are devoted to industrial progress; because both are naval rather than military powers; and because the two countries together are destined to become the dominant power in the world. England has also recognized the fact that permanent alliance between herself and any Continental power is extremely difficult; the price which England pays for her world-wide empire is not only great accessibility to attack, but very general envy among other nations. Professor Dicey does not believe that far-reaching policies can be based on sentiment, nor does he