

from the common wealth, without giving anything in return, competition plays no part.

EDWARD HOWELL PUTNAM.

## EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

### THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Manila, June 21.—Although there are plenty of people here, the population isn't much greater, if as great, as it is in the States, counting people who think for themselves. We have a very pernicious custom house that hits most everybody; and although the duties are not nearly as high as they are in the United States, it pinches so badly that there are very few protectionists, even among those who were so before they got here.

The American population is made up largely of ex-soldiers. I suppose I don't need to explain to you what sort of people go into the army. Folks here do get lazy, probably from the climate, which is not conducive to hard work or study, and we get so we don't care.

The fate of the Islands, or the government, seems to be a little uncertain as yet. We can't find out whether the Islands are going to be sold, kept, or turned over to the natives. The worst course of the three would be preferable to the uncertainty that is hanging over them at present, for then folks would know what to look out for. As it is, nobody will branch out, or invest, and there is nothing doing beyond the barest necessary work that has to be done. Many people here would like to start ranches, but if the Islands are going to be turned over to the Japs, they realize that the Japs will soon freeze them out; and if the Islands are to be turned over to the natives, I doubt if there are many Americans who could stay here.

As a class, the natives don't like us, and as a class the Americans don't like the natives any more than they like the Negroes of the South. There are exceptions, of course. But all this talk about benevolent assimilation is rot—"there isn't no sich thing," as Nasby would say.

Some of the Filipinos have intelligence, but not many of them. They are great folks to stay home. Those who have traveled have learned, but few have traveled. When the American troops, in 1899, were advancing on Mololos the Filipino Congress, instead of arranging supplies or trying to get their forces together to make a stand, was debating the question as to whether a colonel's uniform should have two red stripes on the sleeve, or one gold band on the shoulder, or some such equally important question. Most of the Filipinos are like people in other places; as long as they get enough to eat and don't have to work too hard, they are contented, and don't get restless. Very few are ambitious. It is easy to make a living, and they have but few wants, which are easily satisfied. Such a thing as a failure of crops is almost unheard of, and there is no winter, therefore no incentive to saving; consequently they spend their money quick, and live from hand to mouth.

If there is an American or other white man who thoroughly understands the native, I haven't heard of him. The native is a study. They are all sup-

posed to be Roman Catholics; and I guess they are, in so far as they are anything at all. They haven't got religion so bad but that it will all come off later on.

We don't hear much more about the invasion of China. I expect the authorities in Washington, or wherever it came from, have seen a great white light. It is said the Chinese have a well drilled army of about 200,000 now, armed with the best guns and drilled by Germans and Japs, and that in a few years they will have an army of a million. What the United States has to fight China for I am sure I don't know, and I am equally sure that they will not find it as easy to walk over China as it used to be. Since the Japs licked the Russians people seem to have a good deal more respect for yellow men. If the Chinese can make a better use of the earth than the white people, I don't see but what they are entitled to it; and everybody knows (who knows anything on the subject) that the Chinaman is a worker, sober, and minds his own business—qualities that win in the end.

THEODORE SIDDALL.

## NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Wednesday, August 15.

### Russian Conservatives Demand Constitutional Government.

Disorders continue (p. 441), while parties are crystallizing. On the 10th the Grand Duke Nicholas, uncle of the Czar, while putting troops through blank firing practice, was nearly killed by bullets which whistled about his head. As precautions are taken against the troops having any ball cartridge in their possession except when on patrol duty, the occurrence is not believed to have been an accident. One of the Grand Duke's aid-de-camps is quoted as saying: "It was no more an accident that was the firing of the charge of grape from the saluting battery at the Winter Palace on the occasion of the ceremony of blessing the waters of the Neva by the Emperor a year and a half ago" (vol. vii, p. 678). On the other hand it is believed that the troops, even when not prepared to go to the length of mutiny, are becoming less and less disposed to fire on their brethren the peasants. It is reported that 2,000 soldiers have notified their officers that it will be useless for them to give orders to shoot down the peasants. On the 11th trial was begun by court-martial at Helsingfors of the Sveaborg mutineers. At the first sitting two lieutenants and five soldiers were found guilty, and all were shot, and buried in a common grave. On the 14th began at St. Petersburg the trial of the Kronstadt mutineers.

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A correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, writing