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LOUIS F. POST, Editor.

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The Spanish fleet in Manila Bay was composed in part of wooden vessels and in part of steel armored vessels. This was to the Spanish authorities and newspapers a convenient distribution. It enabled them before the battle to speak of their powerful fleet of armored vessels, and after the disaster to bewail the weakness of their fleet of wooden ships.

In view of the revelations of the monthly treasury statement for April, it must have required extraordinary self-control for Mr. Dingley to tell congress and the country, as complacently as he did when introducing the war revenue measure, that if the war had not come upon us the Dingley tariff law would now be filling the treasury.

The Dingley tariff law was intended, according to its promoters, to increase the customs income. Either that, or it was not intended for any purpose whatever. While it was on its passage, that was the great virtue which its sponsors claimed for it. And when after months had gone by the custom receipts still lay low, Mr. Dingley and his protection confreres begged the country to suspend judgment until the effect of the anticipatory importations had passed off, and they would then see a rise in customs revenues such as never was. Well, it is nearly a year since those anticipatory importations were made, and not only has the Dingley law been in force a full three-quarters of a year, but Mr. Dingley himself says that if the war had not come to impose extraordinary burdens upon the treasury, the Dingley bill would only have

begun to do its perfect work. Yet what are the facts as revealed by the treasury statement for the month just closed?

Let us see.

It is true that internal revenue receipts were \$3,371,824 more than they were for the corresponding month of the year before. But it was not for an increase in internal revenue receipts that we were told by Dingley and his friends to look. They refused to impose any taxes which they thought would increase the internal revenue receipts. For the result of the Dingley bill in replenishing the treasury they told us to look to the item of customs receipts. Turning then to that, what do we find? Behold! The customs receipts for April of the present year were less than for April of last year by \$10,260,374.75.

Nor does this appear to be exceptional. The customs receipts for March of the present year were \$7,383,424.52 less than for the same month last year. On the whole, these receipts seem to be decreasing. They certainly have not shown any signs of increase. For the ten months from July 1, 1897, to May 1, 1898, they were \$15,989,664.75 less than during the corresponding ten months of 1896-97, when the Wilson-Gorman law was in force.

If total revenues under the operation of the Dingley bill have not declined, it is because the internal revenue receipts, which were not coddled by that bill, have increased slightly more than the customs receipts, which that bill was professedly intended to augment, have fallen off. Jerry Simpson was about right in saying that the war is a godsend to Mr. Dingley. It turns public attention away from the terrible failure of his much-vaunted tariff legislation.

In a moment of extreme weakness the Chicago Tribune, the republicanism of which in the strict party sense will not be doubted, gives a tricky financial scheme of the administration "dead away," and, incidentally, but with a friendly purpose, fixes a decidedly unpleasant responsibility upon the Cleveland administration. Here is the way of it. Speaking of the efforts of the un plutocratic democrats in the senate to divest the war revenue bill of its interest-bearing bond feature, the Washington correspondent of the Tribune says:

The chances are, therefore, that the senate will pass the bill substantially as it came from the house. Should the contrary prove true, the administration will possibly be forced to resort to the trick played by Grover Cleveland. A gentle hint to the bankers of Wall street would be quite sufficient to induce them to make a raid on the gold reserve and reduce it below the statutory limit. Thereupon Secretary Gage would be at once authorized, under existing law, to sell bonds to get more gold, and the greenbacks which would be the net result of the transaction would become a part of the cash balance and could be used to pay current expenses.

Note the important confessions in this statement. They relate to the famous "endless chain" of two years ago, when greenbacks, put into the treasury in exchange for gold, were shoved out again in payment of current expenses and then taken back in exchange for more gold, until the gold reserve for the redemption of greenbacks was reduced below \$100,000,000, whereupon Cleveland purchased gold with interest-bearing bonds issued over the head of congress under the pretended authority of an obsolete law. In this way, it will be remembered, several hundred millions of interest-bearing bonds were saddled upon the people upon the flimsy pretext of keeping up a gold re-

serve which, as a matter of fact, congress had never authorized.

At that time the "inherent unsoundness" of the greenback system was charged with the responsibility for this "endless chain," though there were people shrewd enough to suspect that in some manner Cleveland himself gave that chain a turn whenever he thought it might serve the purpose of his financial friends. That suspicion is now confirmed by the confession of the Chicago Tribune. According to the extract quoted above, the "endless chain" was in fact a "trick played by Grover Cleveland." His mode of playing it, according to the same confession, was to give "a gentle hint to the bankers of Wall street," which was "quite sufficient to induce them to make a raid on the gold reserve."

But that is not the whole extent of the confession. Cleveland's trick—so the Tribune calls it—is to be resorted to by the present administration if the anti-bond senators do not fall into line and consent to the utterly unnecessary, utterly unjustifiable issue of \$500,000,000 of additional interest-bearing bonds. In the event of the stubbornness of the anti-bond senators, so says the Tribune correspondent, "a gentle hint to the bankers of Wall street would be quite sufficient to induce them to make a raid on the gold reserve," whereupon "Secretary Gage would be at once authorized under existing law to sell bonds to get more gold," thus setting in motion the "endless chain" and enabling the administration, in spite of congress, to issue interest-bearing bonds without limit.

The rascality of the bond ring is equalled only by the effrontery of its newspaper agents.

The best brief statement we remember to have seen of the case for Americans who believe in making the United States a strong military and naval power, was recently published by one of the Chicago papers over

the signature of Peter S. Grosscup, United States district judge for the northern district of Illinois. In a speech at a public banquet in Chicago Judge Grosscup had declared his belief that at the end of the present war the United States would find that it had a warlike mission in the world; and as the report of his speech, and that of a subsequent interview on the same subject, did not accurately reproduce the judge's views, he undertook to set himself right in a communication, which, as we have said, is the best presentation of the subject from his point of view that we remember to have seen. For that reason it will bear re-printing here almost in full. With nothing omitted, therefore, which is essential to the argument, Judge Grosscup's communication is as follows:

A few facts, commonly understood, should preliminarily be recalled. The first is that America and Europe, with the latter's colonial dependencies on other continents, dominate to-day the moral purposes and the trade of the world. This domination is not a diminishing one. Europe is divided between those races generally known as Anglo-Saxon, including the British, German, Dutch and Scandinavian peoples, and those races known as the Latins and Slavs. The Latins, including the French, the Spanish and Italians, are a remnant of the Roman empire, itself conquered by the progenitors of the Anglo-Saxons. The Latin race, though still pre-eminent in many fields, is a diminishing race. The Anglo-Saxon, pre-eminent in all the arts and ambitions that make this age powerful, is an increasing race. It is the only race that has, since the beginning of time, correctly conceived the individual rights of men, and is, on that account, more than anything else, surviving, by fitness, the other races.

The next fact is that events foreshadow, with certainty, the breaking up of Asia. The first quarter of the twentieth century will probably break up these hitherto stagnant peoples and throw them into a modern atmosphere, and will undoubtedly cleanse and advance them as only a clean, wholesome civilization can. Into this field the moral purposes and commercial courage of the Anglo-Saxon are bound to project themselves. They are of the inevitable movements of mankind which doctrinaires and statesmen cannot, if

they would, hold back. Neither the trading instinct nor the conscience of mankind is the result of statecraft; they are irresistible forces. Statesmanship is impotent to do more than to measurably encourage and fortify them or discourage and repress them. Expansive America means a placing of all our advantages, physical and sentimental, on the side of the encouragement of our commercial and moral purposes; repressive America means the purposed and stubborn withholding of such advantages.

The policy in favor of little America would plant our harbors with torpedoes and mines and place across their entrances our warships, and there stop. Trade might go on with her fleets of merchantmen, for that could not be helped, but the government would furnish her no succor on the high seas, and no home ports away from our shores. Our emblem under such a policy ought to be the mud turtle, reaching out its head and arms in fair weather and when enemies are absent, but drawing back into its shell, signless of powers of aggression, in the presence of danger.

Expansive America, on the contrary, would put in every port of the world a consulate on a front street and conspicuously housed. The flag covering our trade and our principles would beckon, not slink. The existence of this republic and what she stands for commercially and morally would be constantly brought, by emblem and by act, to the populace, as well as to the foreign minister. Half of the population of the earth is about to become new purchasers in the markets of civilization. Are we willing to absent ourselves from these markets?

This war has demonstrated that if we wish to participate in future history and commerce to the best advantage; aye, if we wish only to hold our own, we must have our warships, the sea policeman, in every public water, with American sea stations in convenient neighborhoods.

What Judge Grosscup evidently aims at is universal trade. Nothing could be better. But, unfortunately, his conception of trade is that it consists in selling, and not at all in buying. He would consequently have the United States put on sea armor in order to open the markets of the world to American goods. Yet universal trade could be established ever so much easier, ever so much more peaceably, ever so much more success-

fully, by simply allowing Americans freely to buy foreign goods. For trade is neither a matter of buying alone nor of selling alone, but of buying as well as selling; and if Americans were allowed to buy foreign goods freely, foreigners would have to buy American goods.

We do not ignore the implied point that Americans could not sell in foreign markets without a navy at their backs, if those markets were closed to them by the navies of other nations. But foreign markets could not be effectually closed if our markets were fully open. The impulse to buy precedes the impulse to sell. Men are anxious to sell, that is to say, only because it is through selling that they are enabled to buy. Our first step toward universal trade, therefore, is not to establish a great navy to open foreign ports to our sellers, but to freely open our own ports to our buyers.

All the principles of complex international trade are simply exemplified by the transaction of the country boy who carries an egg to the cross roads store and barter it for candy. To drop into the military metaphor of those for whom Judge Grosscup speaks, the boy "invades" the store with his egg, because he wants the store to "overwhelm" him with its sugar sticks. If this nation received foreign goods as freely as the country storekeeper receives the boy's egg, we should find a market for our goods as reliable as the storekeeper's market for his candy. We should not then need to keep a navy to force foreigners who really want our goods to buy them, any more than the storekeeper has to employ a constable to force the boy to buy his candy. Neither should we have to keep a navy to defend our sellers in foreign parts from the sellers of other nations. But, just as the country boy would get his sugar sticks at the handiest store which offered him the most or the best sugar sticks for the fewest eggs, so would foreign buyers get their goods of us if we offered them good bargains. The way

to the realization of Judge Grosscup's ideal of universal trade is not through the destructive power of navies, but by tearing down our own commercial Chinese wall. When our people are allowed by their own laws freely to buy of other people as they wish to, other people will soon see to it that we have an opportunity to sell to them.

Senator Mason, of Illinois, is doubtless a very objectionable person, and he may be actuated by corrupt motives in his senatorial policy, but he is not incapable of saying true things once and again. His professed views as to the terms on which the present war should be terminated are, for example, unquestionably sound from the democratic point of view, whatever may be his motives for entertaining them. Mr. Mason says that "we should drive Spain from this hemisphere forever, and give the people of Cuba a chance to govern themselves." He would give the people of Puerto Rico the same opportunity. "These are the terms of peace," he adds, "that I would exact of Spain, and when we see those people possessing the same liberty for which our forefathers fought and bled, that would be all the compensation I would ask for the insults that Spain has heaped upon us." In this statement of his views Mr. Mason represents what ought to be the sentiment of the American people, and what we believe is so in fact; and if he faithfully holds to this position, he will be given the benefit of a good many doubts as to his political integrity.

It is instructive to compare medieval customs with the strictly modern customs of our own sensible Anglo-Saxon race; and in no respect will such a comparison prove more enlightening than in connection with taxation, that prolific cause of tyranny and revolution. In Spain, for instance, the prevailing riots are attributed to the octroi duties. It is reported that the rioters, though originally excited to action by the

defeat of the Spanish squadron in Manila Bay, are vigorously demanding the repeal of those duties.

To appreciate this, it must be understood that octroi duties constitute a time-honored system of raising revenues by taxing imports. Like all such systems they have often been utilized by special interests for purposes of protection. They differ, however, from our tax on imports in one notable but immaterial respect. Instead of being levied upon imports across national borders, they are levied upon imports into cities from the surrounding country. At the entrance to those cities in which these octroi duties are imposed, all dutiable articles are subjected to the tax; and so burdensome has it become to the city poor, who are thus forced to pay high prices for the necessaries of life, that with them the octroi is exceedingly unpopular. It has been the cause of many a riot in continental Europe besides the present riots in Spain.

But how much worse, let us ask, are the medieval octrois of Europe than our own tariffs—whether for revenue or for protection? How much worse are they, for example, than the system of duties which Mr. Dingley has constructed so elaborately for the purpose of compelling the poorer people of the United States to bear the pecuniary burdens of our war against Spain? Not a whit. We boastful Saxons also have our octroi duties. Nor are they confined to the custom house system. In America the octroi principle is carried to the point of taxing the poor man's horse—the bicycle—in every city where bicyclists sleepily allow it; and our English cousins have driven the free African natives to desperation by taxing their huts. Unfortunately for us, a comparison shows up the medieval Spaniard and the African savage to our disadvantage. They try to abolish their octroi taxes in the only way available to them, which is by means of riots; but we patiently submit to our multitudinous octrois, even though we could completely

wipe them out by means of the bloodless ballot.

The continental railway lines on the American side of the Canadian border have decided to enter upon a railroad war rather than any longer to concede to the Canadian Pacific the privilege of carrying passengers and freight across the continent at lower rates than those which they themselves demand. They claim to have lost by this concession no less than \$15,000,000 last year. When it is remembered that the length of haul is several hundred miles farther by the Canadian Pacific than by the American roads, this complaint furnishes food for popular reflection. It is one of the great big facts which go to prove the truth of the contention made by Mr. Cowles in his recent book on "A General Freight and Passenger Post," and by Jay D. Miller in his essay on "Finance and Transportation," reviewed on page 4 of the second number of *The Public*, that distance is not an important element in the cost of railway transportation.

American papers of high degree in the fraternity of good manners, which took advantage of a personal quarrel on the floor of the house of representatives to compare the bad manners of American statesmanship with the good manners of the European article, might now employ their columns usefully in explaining the manners of European statesmanship as exemplified last week in the lower house of the Spanish cortes.

The railroad ring holds its own in congress, war or no war. It has just secured the defeat in the senate of an amendment to the postal appropriation bill reducing railroad charges on postal matter 20 per cent. The pretense was that the railroads cannot afford to carry mails below the present rates. But what are the facts? The railroads are paid eight cents a pound for less service in connection with mail transportation, than express companies render in connection with

packages for three cents a pound. If the railroads can afford to carry express packages at rates which enable the express companies to live, at three cents a pound, why can they not carry the mails for less than eight cents? Why not, especially as, in addition to eight cents a pound, they are allowed a rental for mail cars which is high enough to furnish new cars every year? Why not, indeed, except that profits are dear to the railroad soul, if it has a soul, and lobbying at Washington is not cheap?

The proposed amendment to the federal constitution, which has just passed the senate—the amendment changing the time for the inauguration of the president and the beginning of new congressional terms from March 4 to May 4—is a good amendment to defeat. Not that there is any objection to giving President McKinley two months more in office than he was elected for. That would be too trifling a matter to consider. Nor yet that it is desirable to retain the 4th of March as inauguration day and the beginning of congressional terms. Quite the contrary. A change ought to be made. But it should be one which, instead of putting the day further away from the elections, would bring it nearer to them.

When the government was founded, there were neither railroads nor telegraphs, and a long period between the election of presidents and congressmen and their induction into office was necessary. But the reason has gone, and the rule should go with it. What we need now is to put the president into his chair, and congressmen into their seats, as soon after their election as possible. The people's voice should be heard as soon as it is spoken. Must congress have until the 4th of May at its second session to prepare the appropriation bills? Then let those bills be prepared by a congress fresh from the ballot box. If we are to amend the constitution in this respect, then let us so

amend it, while we are about it, as to require each new congress to begin work early in the December immediately following its election, and the president to take his seat not later than the beginning of January.

Without exception the best contributions to the lighter, or fact gathering, literature of the labor problem, are Wyckoff's experiences among the workers, which have for several months been appearing in Scribner's; and the best of the whole series are the papers on the army of the unemployed, two of which have appeared in Scribner's for April and May. Wyckoff has an attractive literary style; he is a close and shrewd observer; his attitude is strictly judicial; and, though he could not have felt in its fullness the degradation and hopelessness which he describes, for he must have been conscious all the time of his ability to step out of the ranks of dependent workers, he nevertheless manages to make his readers appreciate what that feeling must be. This is in part because he has thrown himself into his assumed character of a dependent workingman as completely as possible, and in part because in that character he has associated upon terms of intimacy with men who were actually what he only appeared to be. Mr. Wyckoff has intimated that his isolated experiment, as he himself calls it, is of little value in comparison with the statistics on labor subjects which show in bulk what he describes only in limited detail. In this he is mistaken. His papers, those on the unemployed, for example, are infinitely more valuable in throwing light upon the fact of inadequate opportunities for employment than whole bundles of labor statistics.

It is altogether probable that the labor arbitration bill which Congressman Grosvenor has fathered in the lower house will, as he assured the members, in no wise harm labor organizations. His own explanation that in no very important particular can the bill be enforced if it becomes

law seems to be true. So, being ineffective, it is harmless. But labor organizations will find it to their interest to go slowly along this line of statutory prohibition of labor disputes. From arbitration laws which cannot be enforced the step may be short to those which can be; and when arbitration laws which can be enforced once get upon the statute books, on that day will labor organizations be doomed, and workingmen be more completely than ever at the mercy of powerful employers.

About the worst thing that those people can do who wish to keep up the impression that the Chicago anarchists were fairly convicted and justly hanged, is to talk about the case. Judge Gary, who presided at the trial, demonstrated this when he undertook to defend the conviction in an article over his signature in the Century. More than one reader of the Century who until then had supposed the conviction to have been just, was awakened by Judge Gary's article to a realization of its wickedness. That the conviction was wicked was the only possible inference, so utterly weak was that article in its attempt to make out a case. The same weakness appears in the anniversary accounts which some of the Chicago papers are now giving of the Haymarket tragedy. The more that is said about that tragedy by those who procured the conviction of the anarchists, the more clearly does it appear that Gov. Altgeld was right when he gave as his reason for pardoning the anarchists—those of them who, instead of having been hanged had been sent to Joliet—that their guilt was unproved and their conviction had been secured by fraud.

Ever since the first brief reports of the victory at Manila bay, the sensational newspapers have irritated the public with trifling and sometimes deliberately false news, purporting to have come from Manila. It remained for the Chicago Record.

through its capable staff correspondent, John T. McCutcheon, who accompanied the American fleet, to give not only a graphic but the first full and trustworthy description of the battle and what immediately preceded and followed it. To have read about the battle of Manila bay in the faked extras of other papers and then in the calm but interesting dispatch evidently from an intelligent eye witness, which the Chicago Record published on the 9th, was to appreciate one of the differences between hustling sensationalism and dignified journalism.

COULD WAR HAVE BEEN AVOIDED?

As we tried to explain two weeks ago, when considering the justifiableness of the war, its righteousness cannot be discussed with absolute peace men, nor with ideal anarchists, nor with mere "patriots," for the reason that the first are opposed to all war, the second are opposed to all war which is not both in substance and form strictly defensive, and the third are hot for war whenever the flag flies. But apart from men of this type are many who, though open to conviction as to the righteousness of particular wars, are yet not satisfied that the present war might not, with justice, have been avoided. They doubt if all peaceable means were exhausted before the gauntlet of battle was thrown down.

It is probable that those who entertain this doubt, look upon the destruction of the Maine in Havana harbor as the cause of the war. If that had been its cause they would be right. The question raised by that catastrophe was one of fact: Was Spain responsible for the explosion? If she was not, then the Maine episode gave us no cause for complaint; if she was, then the only possible remedy would have been such as arbitrators might have awarded. War would have been no remedy. It could not have restored a single life, and in its event would have left the question of fact still an open one. Distinctly, the question of the destruction of the Maine was a question for arbitration; and as Spain offered to submit it to arbitration, this war, if its cause were the destruc-

tion of the Maine, would be on our part as unholy a war as ever one nation waged against another.

But the Maine episode was not the cause of the war. It was simply an irritating incident in a situation already strained nearly to the bursting point. If "patriotic" fools cry: "Remember the Maine!" that proves nothing but their own folly. Their cry bears no more relation to the cause of the war than the "rebel yell" bore to the abolition agitation which precipitated our civil conflict. Sensible folks should distinguish between a battle cry and a casus belli. Back of the dramatic Maine incident was a condition from which there was no escape save through war. The explosion of the Maine, if it had any effect at all, had the effect of delaying rather than hurrying on hostilities.

Consider the situation.

Cuba, lying at our very doors, nearer to us than some of our own territory, had been outraged by Spain for a period which, without going farther back, was coincident with the close of our civil war—a period at the least of more than a generation. Against these outrages the Cuban people had rebelled 30 years ago; and after a war lasting nearly 12 years had forced from Spain a treaty which recognized the justice of their rebellion.

But Spain proved treacherous. Instead of observing the treaty in good faith, she totally disregarded it in its spirit, and soon allowed even its letter to be ignored. True, she abolished slavery, as the treaty required; but that was inevitable. Slavery had been doomed by the rebellion itself. Conditions were so changed by that struggle, that slavery could not persist, and in formally abolishing it two years before the time fixed by the treaty, Spain simply made a virtue of necessity. In other respects, however, the Cubans soon found themselves no better treated by Spain than they had been before the rebellion.

At last, three years ago, they rebelled again, and Spain, relentless as ever, poured 200,000 troops into the island to subdue it, meantime resorting to a barbarism which the English crown had neither dared nor wished to resort to under similar circumstances when her American colonies revolted a century before, that of

shooting in cold blood the rebels whom she captured in battle.

Failing by this bloody method and by the overwhelming numbers of her troops, to put down the rebellion, Spain then drove non-combatants into the towns, like cattle to the slaughter pen, and left them there to starve, as they did to the appalling number of two hundred thousand! In a word, for savage and wholesale cruelty the behavior of Spain to our neighbors across the Florida strait is unparalleled in modern times. Yet this barbarism continued until the year of grace, 1898, with the permission, to its dishonor, of the government of the United States.

Thus far the facts are familiar to everybody.

Now, what were the possibilities of bringing about a change for the better in this intolerable state of affairs by means of negotiation? Negotiation had begun under Cleveland's administration. Over and over again was Spain admonished that the island must be pacified, and over and over again did Spain assure our government that peace would be speedily restored. Each campaign was to put an end to the rebellion. But at the close of each campaign the Spanish were weaker and the revolutionists apparently stronger than ever, while the medieval cruelty on the part of the Spanish did not abate.

At last, more than a year ago, the Cleveland administration had by diplomacy brought Spain to the point of conceding to Cuba an autonomous government, like that of Canada. But this concession looked at the time like another piece of Spanish treachery, and subsequent events have proved it to be such. Though offered more than a year ago to pacify the Cleveland administration, autonomy was not formally decreed from the throne until last November, and the cortes, without whose approval the decree is so much waste paper, has not approved it yet. All the fuss and feathers connected with the organization of an autonomous government in Havana is for foreign consumption. That government has, and all the circumstances indicate that it was intended to have, no legal validity. But by appearing to concede it in Feb-

ruary, 1897, Spain satisfied the Cleveland administration, and by promulgating the decree in November, 1897, she diplomatically entertained the McKinley administration. So our negotiation for a period of more than two years resulted in tying our government up, while the Spaniards went on shooting captured rebels and starving reconcentrados.

It was obvious long before this that the only possible settlement of the Cuban difficulties, which could insure peace in the island and relieve this country from perennial disturbance, was the independence of Cuba. As soon as the Cubans had demonstrated their power to hold 200,000 Spaniards in check, every other basis of settlement was by the conditions themselves absolutely thrust aside; and all our negotiations for the pacification of the island, which did not contemplate its independence, were wasted. Nor would even a bona fide offer of mere autonomy have been sufficient. Independence, and nothing short of independence, was the condition of pacification. But Spain would not listen to any proposition looking to independence. Her reply to this government upon that point was emphatic.

Not only did Spain refuse to listen to propositions looking to independence, and warn us that rather than consider them she would welcome a declaration of war, but while negotiations were in progress, and as an evident menace to this country, she started a war fleet across the Atlantic. That the fleet was forced into the Cape Verdes by stress of weather makes no difference; its departure from the Canaries under the circumstances was in fact, and was intended to be, a hostile demonstration toward what was then regarded by Spain as an inferior naval power.

This was the culmination. We were forced to act. And in acting we were forced either to make an ultimatum upon the basis of Cuban independence, or, under the threat of Spanish invasion to suffer an indefinite continuance of Spanish sovereignty and inhumanity in Cuba. Congress decided upon the former. It declared the independence of the people of Cuba, and demanded the relinquishment by Spain of her authori-

ty in the island. Congress could have done nothing short of this without yielding the point of Cuban independence altogether. The declaration was not an act of war, except as all declarations of liberty are acts of war against tyrants. But Spain, treating it as at least an invitation to war, peremptorily withdrew her minister from this country, abruptly dismissed our minister from that country, and insolently notified us that her fleet was on its way across the Atlantic to meet ours.

How much further could negotiations on our part have been carried?

THE GENERAL PROPERTY TAX.

In these bellicose days, with "patriotism" at white heat, it is hard to fix the mind upon such tame subjects as local taxation; yet these are no less important than the more exciting subject of war, and in the long run will be found to be more so. War is worse than useless if the only benefits it may confer are to be frittered away in methods of taxation which are as destructive to liberty as the oppressive governments that war is waged to overthrow. If men are to be deprived of their rights, what difference can it make to them whether this is done through political bondage to foreign powers, or tax bondage to domestic financial interests? The foregoing observation is not preliminary to a warning to the people of this country to be on their guard against the further bondage of bonds which threatens them, though that warning is sadly needed, but as an admonition to keep up their interest, even in war times, in the subject of local taxes, those taxes which are infinitely more prejudicial to popular rights than are the burdens of a national debt.

In this connection Lawson Purdy, of 111 Broadway, New York, has issued a pamphlet on recent results of the property tax, which is full of information and intensely interesting. From the experience of New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri and West Virginia he shows with great clearness how effective the so-called "general property" tax is in shifting the burden of taxation from those who

ought to bear it to those who ought not—from the rich monopoly classes to the middle classes and the poor. The "general property tax" is a system which professedly aims at equality of taxation through the taxation of all kinds of property. In New York, where it is in vogue, and has been made increasingly stringent with a view to reaching intangible personal property, there appears upon the tax returns to have been an enormous falling off since 1870 in the value of personal property, especially in cities. It is absurd of course to suppose that there has in reality been such a falling off. Personal property has in fact increased. The apparent falling off means that intangible personal property is escaping taxation, with the effect of throwing heavier burdens upon the owners of personalty of the tangible sort. The owners of stocks and bonds escape, because they can hide that kind of property; but the owners of horses, cows and the like must pay, because such property cannot be hidden. The same condition that obtains in New York is shown by Mr. Purdy to prevail in the other states named. It is universal and should long before this have taught honest advocates of the general property tax that they are on the wrong scent.

If it is desired to put the burden of taxation upon the classes that profit especially by such property as stocks and bonds—and that certainly is the object of stringent personal property taxation—the way to do it is to abandon personal property taxation altogether, and levy all our taxes exclusively upon monopoly privileges. Taxes upon these privileges, if properly laid, cannot be escaped; and they fall upon the stock and bond classes. The interests of those classes are buttressed by monopoly.

That such taxes can be properly laid is evident. By laying them upon the fundamental monopoly—upon the monopoly of land, which is the monopoly that would absorb all the pecuniary benefits of the abolition of other monopolies—the pecuniary advantages of every kind of monopoly would be subjected to taxation. And this is Mr. Purdy's view, for he advocates the home rule prin-

ciple of taxation lately indorsed by the Ohio senate, under which every county would be allowed if it chose to confine taxation to land values.

STREET CAR MONOPOLY.

Excitement over war questions may have the unfortunate effect of diverting attention from important municipal problems. This must be avoided if possible. It is of vital concern to the American people that they do not allow the present war, as they allowed that of '61, to be made the opportunity of monopoly sharks to secure liens upon public rights.

The price of liberty is eternal vigilance in all directions; and in no direction is vigilance more urgently demanded at this time than in the direction of guarding street franchises. For more than a generation these franchises have been squandered; and now that the public mind has been awakened to the evil, it must be prevented from going to sleep again.

But we should not be content with exacting compensation. That would be merely to shift the advantages of street franchises from one class of monopolists to another. So long as street car companies get street franchises for nothing, they feed upon the public. Through the value of their privileges they then suck the life blood of our communities. But if they were required to pay for their franchises the public as a whole would be no better off. What street car monopolists pocket for nothing when no compensation for franchises is required would be pocketed by real estate interests if cities exacted compensation.

Upon the principle of dividing to conquer, it may possibly be advisable to attack street monopolies first and real estate monopolies afterwards. But even upon that principle, the true method of attacking street car monopolies is not by demanding compensation for franchises, but by requiring a reduction of fares. Under the compensation system, street car passengers—from the millionaire who rides twice a day between his office and his house to the washwoman who is compelled to use the cars as often or oftener—are taxed for each ride, merely to lessen city taxes which otherwise would have to be borne by real estate owners.

Of what use is it to the public—taking a Chicago instance for illustration—to charge Yerkes a good round sum for his street car monopoly, only to reduce the real estate taxes of Marshall Field? Let Yerkes pay for his monopoly privilege in rendering service for lower fares, and shop girls, mechanics, washwomen and the general public will be directly benefited. That is the direction that reform in the way of abolishing street car monopoly ought to take.

NEWS

At the hour of writing last week, no official news had been received from the American fleet in the Philippines since its departure from Mirs Bay, on the coast of China. The reason for this was that the cable from Manila to Hong Kong had been interrupted. It was known only that a battle had been fought and a victory won in Manila Bay. Notwithstanding the suspension of cable communication, however, baseless rumors and counter rumors were afloat daily, almost hourly, until the 7th, when Com. Dewey's dispatch boat, the Hugh McCulloch, arrived at Hong Kong with the commodore's official report. This report, and the cable letter of John T. McCutcheon, staff correspondent of the Chicago Record, who had accompanied the fleet, gave the only trustworthy and complete news of the situation at Manila, down to the 5th. Nothing further had been received at this writing.

Com. Dewey's official report was in full as follows:

Manila, May 1.—The squadron arrived at Manila at daybreak this morning. We immediately engaged the enemy and destroyed the following Spanish vessels: Reina Christina, Castilla, Don Antonio de Ulloa, Isla de Luzon, General Lezo, Isla de Cuba, Marquis del Duero, Elcano, Velasco, Don Juan de Austria, Isla de Mindinao (transport). The squadron is uninjured, and only a few men were slightly wounded. I cut the cable to prevent Spanish communication. The only means of telegraphing is to the American counsel at Hong Kong. I shall communicate with him.—DEWEY.

In a second dispatch Com. Dewey reported that having taken possession of the naval station at Cavite, he had destroyed the fortifications at the entrance to the bay and paroled the garrison; that he controlled the bay com-

pletely and could take the city at any time; that the squadron were in excellent health and spirits; that while the Spanish loss was not known it was heavy and included the captain of the *Reina Christina*; and that the American fleet was assisting in protecting the Spanish sick and wounded, 250 of them being in the hospital within our lines. The commodore added that there was much excitement at Manila, and he promised to protect foreign residents.

The secretary of the navy acknowledged Dewey's dispatches, thanking him and his officers and men in the name of the president and the American people for their "splendid achievement and overwhelming victory," and notifying him of his appointment by the president as acting rear admiral, and of the president's intention to recommend a vote of thanks by congress as a foundation for further promotion.

The story of the battle of Manila Bay, as given by John T. McCutcheon, staff correspondent of the *Chicago Record*, who was an eye witness, is the only complete account that has appeared. What follows is condensed from his report.

The fleet left Mirs Bay, 30 miles above Hong Kong, on the 27th of April at two o'clock in the afternoon. In the evening of the 30th it halted at Subig Bay, on the west coast of the island of Luzon, the most northerly of the Philippines, about 30 miles north of the entrance to Manila Bay. Here the Spanish fleet was looked for, but not being found, a council was held on the flagship *Olympia*, after which, about eight in the evening, the fleet headed for Manila.

As the ships approached the southerly of the two channels which enter Manila Bay, all lights were extinguished, except a shaded stern light upon each ship, and with diminished speed the fleet passed through, the flagship in the lead. The night was not absolutely dark, but shifting clouds at times obscured the moon. The channel through which the fleet passed is five miles wide. The ships steamed through, one following another 400 yards apart, without attracting notice, until the *McCulloch*, which was at the tail of the line, was discovered by means of sparks emitted from its smokestack, the soot in the funnel having caught fire. Five minutes after this misfortune, at 11:50 at night, signal lights were seen on

the south shore, and at 12:15 on the morning of Sunday, May 1st, a fort on that shore fired at the *McCulloch*, but failed to hit. The *Boston*, which was next ahead of the *McCulloch*, and the *McCulloch* herself, replied. Only a few shots were fired, however, on either side, and no damage was done to the American fleet. During the firing, the chief engineer of the *McCulloch* died of nervous shock.

At one in the morning the whole fleet was in the bay, and at daybreak the Spanish fleet was discovered about seven miles southwest of Manila under cover of the batteries of Cavite. The *McCulloch* now retired to guard the two cargo ships, while the rest of the American fleet prepared for action. Part of this preparation consisted in reading to the crews a bombastic and insulting proclamation of the Spanish governor general of the Philippines, which had been published in expectation of the approach of the Americans. Soon after five o'clock the *Olympia*, followed by the remainder of the fighting ships, headed for the Spanish position. The movement was met by a shot from Cavite, which fell short, and by the explosion of two mines harmlessly at one side and to the rear. No more mines were exploded. The American fleet moved on in its course, and when within about two miles of the enemy, it fired a broadside into the Spanish fleet.

Each American vessel fired as it passed the enemy, and then, steaming on in the same course for a convenient distance, turned back on a line parallel to this course but somewhat closer to the enemy. This maneuvering continued, a broadside being delivered each time that an American vessel passed the Spanish position, until the fleet had moved five times in front of the Spanish and was within 1,500 yards of them.

During the delivery of the fifth series of broadsides, the Spanish flagship, *Reina Christina*, made an attack upon the *Olympia*, and continued it desperately in the face of an awful fire. She was soon compelled to turn, and as she did so a shell from the *Olympia* wrecked her engine room, exploded one of her magazines and set her on fire. She continued her retreat, however, under the *Olympia's* bombardment, during which her captain, Cadarzo, was killed, and the admiral was driven by the destruction of the bridge under him to transfer to the *Castilla*. In less than five minutes that ship also was on fire. Then two torpedo boats made an at-

tempt to take the *Olympia* unawares, under the protection of the heavy cloud of battle smoke. But they were discovered in time, and one was sunk while the other was driven helplessly upon the beach.

At 7:45 in the morning the American fleet drew out of range to take an account of damages, which proved to be insignificant. Not a man had been killed, and no vessel had been injured sufficiently to prevent its going immediately to sea. A rest of three hours was taken, during which the decks were cleaned, the guns readjusted and food served to the men, and then the fleet headed again for Cavite. Very little resistance came now from the Spanish ships; and the forts, which still fought, were silenced in 30 minutes. The one ship that came out to do battle, the *Antonio de Ulloa*, fought after her decks were swept with shell and only her lower guns could be used. But it was useless. In a few minutes she went down with all on board.

That ended the battle. What was left of the Spanish fleet was then destroyed, and at 12:45 the Spanish surrendered. As nearly as could be estimated three or four days later, they had lost 400 killed and 600 wounded, besides their fleet and fortifications.

The American loss was, killed, none; slightly wounded by an explosion of a shell on the *Baltimore*, eight; damages, not more than what \$1,000 would repair. The fleet fired a total of 140 tons of metal during the action, of which the *Olympia* fired 25 tons and the *Baltimore* 35.

On the 2d the Spanish admiral sent word by the British consul to Commodore Dewey complimenting the Americans on their marksmanship, and Commodore Dewey replied with a compliment to the Spanish upon their courage and resistance. On the same day the forts at the entrance to the bay were surrendered without opposition, the troops having fled and only the commandant being in possession. The only Spanish battery remaining on the 5th was in front of Manila.

Commodore Dewey demanded the surrender of Manila, but owing to the danger to noncombatants had refrained from bombarding, though he warned the governor that if a shot came from the remaining batteries he would open fire. He established on the 5th a marine guard at Cavite to protect the Spanish wounded, and detailed the surgeons and hospital corps of the American fleet to care for them.

Mr. McCutcheon confirmed previous reports as to the control by insurgents of the country surrounding Manila.

The McCulloch remained at Hong-Kong only long enough to get dispatches from the United States. It left for Manila on the 8th, carrying a telegraph operator to be put in charge of the renewal of cable communication.

The president's order to Com. Dewey under which he acted in attacking the Spanish fleet in Manila bay was first given out on the 9th. It reads:

Washington, D. C., April 24, 1898.—Dewey, Hong-Kong, China: War has commenced between the United States and Spain. Proceed at once to Philippine islands. Commence operations at once, particularly against the Spanish fleet. You must capture vessels or destroy them. Use utmost endeavors.

(Signed) LONG.

Upon the receipt of the dispatches from Dewey preparations were at once actively made to send troops to Manila to support him. For this purpose the City of Peking, then on the Pacific on her voyage to San Francisco, was chartered, and volunteers from west of the Mississippi are to be sent out.

The president also sent a message to congress asking for a vote of thanks to Dewey and his officers and men. The vote was promptly and unanimously given by both houses, and a bill was passed creating a seventh rear admiraltyship, to which the president might nominate Com. Dewey.

The Spanish ministry on its part intimated an intention to send relief to Manila by way of the Suez canal and the Red sea. This might be done, as a matter of international relationship, for by the treaty of 1883 between the great powers it was provided that the Suez canal should be open to ships of all nations, in time of peace or war, on condition that "no right of war, no act of hostility, nor any act having for its object the preparation or operation of war shall be committed in the canal or any of its approaches or ports of access." But Spain's reported intention of sending an expedition to the Philippines is regarded by experts as too Quixotic to be considered in any other light than as a "bluff."

From Madrid the news has been scant, and owing to the strict censor-

ship now enforced there it is of course untrustworthy. Censorship news is censor's news, and censor's news depends more upon the prejudices of the censor than upon the facts. But from the reports some things may be gleaned which are probably true.

The minister for the colonies appears on the 5th to have appealed to the cortes for an opinion as to a proper line of conduct regarding the war and to have said in this connection that Spain could not cope with the United States. He also placed responsibility for the war upon the European powers, saying that they foresaw it but did nothing to prevent it, though Spain had received assurances that war should not ensue. In an authorized interview on the 9th Sagasta, the prime minister, exhibited the same spirit, though more discreetly. In this interview he attributed the disaster at Manila bay to the inferiority of the Spanish fleet, and complained of the lack of solidarity in the Spanish cortes at this crisis in the affairs of the kingdom, when impoverished Spain is at war with the prosperous United States.

The cortes, however, came to the rescue of the ministry on the 9th, when the lower house adopted the war credits. But this was done after a long and stormy session, in which the monarchists and republicans shrieked threats at one another, and only after it was made clear that the government was hopelessly crippled in prosecuting the war, for want of funds. Nor was that the first stormy session of the chamber. Every day after the disaster at Manila leaked out, the deputies had been boisterous. On the 7th a Carlist was expelled for the session because in speaking he criticised government by a woman and a boy. The republicans and the Carlists voted together against the expulsion.

Frequent reports also have appeared in various forms indicating the intention of the queen regent to quit, but they were promptly contradicted, as was a report that the cabinet intended to resign.

But more significant than anything the Spanish ministry and cortes may do, is what the Spanish people have been doing ever since they began to suspect the Manila disaster, and to feel the pinch of dear bread. Since that time all Spain has been in a riotous state. On the 9th it was reported from Bayonne, France, that mobs were marching in half the cities of Spain and that martial law had been

proclaimed in every great city. The civil guards were said to be useless, as they sympathized with the people, and even the troops could not be trusted.

In the course of the rioting at Gijon, a city of 35,000 inhabitants in the province of Asturia, and on the Bay of Biscay, of which we told on page 9 last week, the soldiery fired upon and massacred the populace; but instead of quieting the riot this increased its violence. The civil guard joined the rioters, cries against the throne were openly made, and the infantry feared to leave their barracks. The artillery tried to recapture a gun that had been carried off by deserters, but was forced back by the mob, whose weapons were hot water, stones, dead animals and rotten eggs. At Murcia, 30 miles from Cartagena, and the capital of the province of Murcia, on the Mediterranean, a mob of miners numbering some 10,000 men and women fired the depot on the 5th and used dynamite. When confronted by troops they refused to disperse and two volleys were fired at them before they ran. The dead and wounded, including women, were estimated at more than 50. On the 6th the storm center of the rioting was here. All authority was defied and the overthrow of the dynasty demanded. Though the fighting was started by striking miners, they were reported on the 6th as forming but a small part of the uprising. At Soria, the capital of the province of Soria, and lying about 200 miles northeast from Madrid, a riot took place on the 7th in which the market house and the barracks were burned. At Badajos, the capital of the province of that name, which lies on the Portugal frontier, and at Alicante, the seaport of the province of Valencia, in the southeast of Spain, outbreaks led to the proclamation of martial law early in the week. But at Alicante the rioting went on, breaking out violently on the 9th. The mob paraded the streets, demanding cheaper bread; they sacked the octroi bureau, burning the furniture and archives, and after being dispersed by the military police they formed again, and, taking possession of the wheat in storage burned the warehouses. The octroi bureau is the department for the collection of taxes upon food brought into the town. It was at Linares, however, that the rioting centered on the 9th. Linares is in the province of Jaen, in the middle south of Spain.

Here two attacks were made upon the city hall. One was repulsed, with 12 rioters killed and 50 wounded, but a second assault was successful and the rioters took possession. They then looted the house of the tax collector. The cry of the mob was "Down with the taxes!" On the 11th, at Logrono, the capital of the province of Logrono, lying about 125 miles northeast from Madrid, the mob sacked stores and emptied the grain warehouse. It numbered thousands, with women in the van. A bloody attack upon the mob was made by a troop of cavalry, but the women rioters, armed with axes, rallied against the charge, drove back the cavalry, and, followed by the rest of the rioters, chased the horsemen down the street.

The incapacity of the Spanish government in connection with the American war, and the rioting throughout the kingdom, are the opportunity of the Carlists. The earl of Ashburnham, the representative in England of Don Carlos, said on the 6th in the course of an interview that in a short time either Don Carlos would be seated upon the throne or a republic would be proclaimed. The Carlists, he said, are strongest in the country, and the republicans in the city, their total numbers being about equal, but the Carlists have the advantage of better organization and discipline and of being united under one leader, the republicans being divided. They are discredited also, he said, by the anarchist wing of the party. That Don Carlos is actually preparing for an overthrow of the present dynasty is further indicated by one of his American representatives, Costina, who sailed from New York on the 9th to join his leader in Europe. Costina said upon leaving that all the American Carlists had been summoned to meet Don Carlos to assist him in his next effort to get possession of the Spanish throne, and that a Carlist ministry is now being formed.

The disordered conditions in Spain have extended over to Italy, where there are good reasons for believing that a revolution is imminent if not actually under way. News from Italy, as from Spain, is unreliable, owing to the censorship. The Milan correspondent of the London Daily News advised his paper on the 10th that fresh and more rigid measures have

been adopted in the censorship of telegrams, so that reports must be taken with allowance. He added that the rebels are besieging Milan. By another correspondent from a point beyond the Italian border the same paper was advised on the same day of fighting at Milan, in which from 100 to 200 were killed on the 7th, more on the 8th and still more on the 9th, while hundreds were wounded and dying. And, also on the 10th, the Rome correspondent of the London Times telegraphed that matters were steadily growing worse and the government was unequal to the occasion.

From these reports it is clear that the condition is worse than the censored reports from different points in Italy would imply. But even these reports are significant enough. They tell of "renewed rioting" on the 5th at Pavia, a few miles to the south of Milan, where chains were stretched across the streets to prevent cavalry charges; and of "fresh disorders" at Prato, ten miles northwest of Florence, on the 6th. Riots in which the troops fired with deadly effect are reported also from other Italian cities, including Naples, Florence and Leghorn. And Milan had on the 7th all the appearance of a general uprising. Streets were barricaded and the barricades were destroyed by the troops, while many rioters were wounded and others were killed. Martial law had then been proclaimed in Milan, but on the following day the riots grew to such dimensions that the troops were forced to retire. That the condition here indicated is widespread may be inferred from the fact that martial law was proclaimed on the 8th over all Tuscany, of which Florence is the capital, while in Rome all the socialist and republican clubs were ordered to dissolve. The rioters were composed of the poor and working classes, who are admitted to have been for more than a year in a condition which resembles that of the peasantry of France preceding the great revolution of a hundred years ago.

Judging from advices of the 10th from Rome, the Italian cabinet feared an organized revolution and had decided to advise the king to terminate the session of parliament. Matters were said on the 10th to have quieted at Milan, but the information came through censored channels. Sig. Casta, a socialist deputy, had then been arrested, and the city was conceded to have passed through the throes of a revolution. These commotions in Italy have been felt by the

Italians in Switzerland in a way that points to their political importance. At Lausanne on the 10th 1,000 Italian workmen paraded the streets carrying a red flag trimmed with crape and singing the Marseillaise, and advices from Berne say that many Italians have started from Switzerland to the Italian frontier in response to a revolutionary circular.

For a time early in the week, public interest was transferred from the Philippine islands to Cuba. When The Public went to press last week Admiral Sampson's fleet had left Key West under sealed orders, as stated on page 10 of that issue, and was supposed to have gone out either to intercept the Spanish fleet or to secure a landing for troops at Matanzas, Cuba. Later it became evident that its primary object was to intercept the Spanish fleet, which, as reported on page 10 of last week's issue, had left the Cape Verdes. This fleet was supposed to have been sighted on the 5th to the southward of the island of St. Thomas, which lies west of Puerto Rico. On the 6th preparations for receiving the fleet were reported from San Juan, Puerto Rico, and on the same day it was said to be confidently expected at Washington that a battle between the American and Spanish fleets on the Atlantic would soon take place in the West Indies. During the 8th there were persistent rumors of a naval battle in West Indian waters, but nothing definite was reported, except that the Spanish fleet was at San Juan, Puerto Rico. Another report was to the effect that it had been sighted off Martinique, but the American consul at Martinique telegraphed on the 9th that there was no foundation to the report. On that day Admiral Sampson's fleet was reported off Cape Haytien. About this time rumors reached London, based upon dispatches from Portugal, that the Spanish fleet had not crossed the Atlantic at all, but was combining with other Spanish warships at Cadiz to sail as an armada against the eastern coast of North America. On the same day the cruiser Yale, formerly the liner Paris, which had circled Puerto Rico, reported that it had sighted no Spanish war vessels. On the 10th the above rumors were confirmed. It was at the same time explained that while the Cape Verde squadron had been cruising about the eastern Atlantic, puzzling the world as to its whereabouts, the squadron at Cadiz was rapidly preparing for sea, and that when

it was about ready the Cape Verde squadron returned for the purpose of uniting forces and moving upon America. But the Spanish minister of marine denies that the Cape Verde fleet has returned to Cadiz, and a dispatch of the 11th from Port-au-Prince, Hayti, reports unverified rumors there of a battle between Admiral Sampson and a Spanish fleet off the western side of the island of Puerto Rico. According to these rumors Sampson had annihilated the Spanish vessels and on the 11th was bombarding San Juan.

Though Admiral Sampson's primary mission was evidently to destroy the Spanish fleet, an early movement upon Cuba appears to have been also in contemplation.

The first consignment of war supplies from the United States government to the Cuban insurgents reached the latter on the 4th, and was reported first in the United States on the 5th. The delivery was made near Mariel, 35 miles west of Havana, by the tug Leyden. The tug first landed a party of Cubans, who found a body of insurgents and brought them to the beach. As the cargo was being unloaded a troop of 200 Spanish cavalry attacked the insurgents, whereupon the tug steamed off to the gunboat Wilmington, of the blockading squadron, and brought it back to cover the remainder of the work. As the Leyden returned, the Spanish cavalry rode down to the beach and fired upon her with rifles. The Wilmington then fired three shells, the latter of which struck the cavalry column, killing several men and terrifying the horses. Before the column could recover, it was attacked by insurgents carrying the American and the Cuban flags and fighting with machetes. The Spaniards did not recover from their demoralization, but were driven off, leaving 16 dead upon the beach. This movement was followed on the 10th by the departure of the transport Gussie from Tampa, carrying the first regular troops to Cuba, together with a large cargo of additional supplies for the insurgents.

Intense activity prevailed meanwhile at Tampa. On the 9th the secretary of war ordered the mobilization of state troops at Washington, D. C., Chickamauga, San Francisco, San Antonio, New Orleans, Mobile and Tampa. Transports for carrying 25,000 troops were chartered. And on the 10th orders were sent to Chicka-

mauga directing the forwarding of all the troops encamped there, together with a full supply of ammunition for 60 days, to Tampa. The movement began immediately.

Lieut. Andrew S. Rowan, commissioner of the American war department to the Cuban insurgents, who was reported on page 10 last week as having left Cuba on the 1st, arrived at Nassau, in the Bahama islands, on the 9th. He had met the Cuban commander and was carrying important dispatches from him to Washington. Lieut. Rowan was released from quarantine at Nassau on the 10th, and at once sailed for Key West on the British schooner Fearless.

On the 5th the Lafayette, of the French General Transatlantic company's line, bound from Corunna, Spain, for Havana, was captured off Havana by the gunboat Annapolis. She had been warned not to enter the port of Havana, but tried to do so notwithstanding the warning, and was captured after a chase. On the 6th, however, she was released and conducted to the port of Havana on the orders of the navy department. This was out of courtesy to France, which had been promised by the American state department that the Lafayette might land certain passengers, mail bags and the dispatch bag of the consul-general of France. As the vessel left Spain after the beginning of the war, she had no strict right to enter Havana.

In an address to the people of the United States, dated the 5th and published in this country on the 9th, Gen. Gomez, the insurgent commander in Cuba, says he is ready, and knows his government will be, to accept the alliance offered by the United States, but declares that the Cubans need only munitions to win the contest themselves.

Gen. Nunez returned to Washington on the 9th. He had landed a party in Cuba for the purpose of opening communication with Garcia and Gomez.

Belated dispatches from Havana received on the 5th reported the convening of the first Cuban congress under the new Spanish system of autonomy. The congress convened on the 4th. Thirty-seven deputies were

in attendance, and the session was opened by Capt. Gen. Blanco, who delivered a speech in which he said that if the United States were sincere in its expressions of desire for peace and autonomy its guns would now be saluting the first Cuban parliament instead of threatening the lives of its members. The autonomic congress was elected pursuant to the royal decree from the Spanish throne of November 27, 1897, which, however, has not yet been approved by the cortes, without whose approval it is without permanent validity. The royal decree applies to both Cuba and Puerto Rico, and assumes to establish in those countries a system of autonomy like that which prevails in Canada. It provides for a local parliament for each island, to be composed of two chambers. The lawmaking power is vested in the parliament and the governor-general. Lawmaking is limited to subjects affecting local interests, and the parliament has the power to regulate voting and to prescribe the qualifications of voters. Under this decree a provisional autonomic government was organized in Cuba on January 1, 1898, with Jose Maria Galvez as president of the cabinet.

Like the other Spanish colonies, Puerto Rico appears to be in open revolt. Reports reached New York from Kingston, Jamaica, on the 5th to the effect that official dispatches passing through that city reported an anti-Spanish uprising in Puerto Rico and that a revolution was well under way. Reports of the 6th from San Juan, Puerto Rico, told of famine and riots all over the island. Cayey, in the southeastern part of the island, and Rincon, in the extreme northwestern, were reported on the 7th as having risen in revolt. In Lares, close by, the rebellion antedates the Cuban revolution.

IN CONGRESS.

Week Ending May 11, 1898.

Senate.

In considering the post office appropriation bill on the 5th, the senate reduced the number of mail deliveries in cities to four a day, and all appropriations for rural deliveries were voted down by 25 to 22. The bill was so amended, also, as to prevent star route mail contractors from subletting their contracts, and an amendment providing that no further contracts for pneumatic tube service should be made unless authorized by

law was adopted. The consideration of the bill went over pending a discussion of an amendment directing the postmaster-general to reduce the compensation of railroads for carrying the mails by 20 per cent. a year on the basis of the average weight heretofore allowed by law.

The president and general officers of the army were authorized to supply the Cuban insurgents with arms and munitions of war; and the Alaska bill, applying the homestead law to Alaska, was finally passed and went to the president.

The amendment to the post office appropriation bill cutting down the railroad compensation 20 per cent. was debated on the 6th and again went over, while the house bill to authorize the appointment of 15 surgeons was passed.

A message was received from the president on the 9th reciting the victory of Manila bay and recommending that the thanks of congress be given to Acting Rear Admiral Dewey and to his officers and men. A resolution in accordance with the recommendation was immediately passed, together with a bill increasing the number of rear admirals from six to seven in order that the president might nominate Dewey to the new place. A joint resolution was also passed directing the secretary of the navy to present Dewey a sword and medal of honor, and to have struck in commemoration of the battle a medal for presentation to each officer and man who participated. The resolution appropriates \$10,000 to the purpose.

The amendment to the post office appropriation bill to reduce the compensation of railroads 20 per cent. was lost by a vote of 40 to 8.

On the 10th the day was devoted chiefly to consideration of detail war measures, though the house bill restoring Nellie Grant Sartoris to citizenship was passed, as was the post office appropriation bill, and also a resolution submitting to the several states the following amendment to the constitution:

The term of office of the president and vice president of the Fifty-sixth congress shall continue until the fourth day of May, in the year 1901, at noon; and the fourth day of May, at noon, shall thereafter be substituted for the fourth day of March, as the commencement and termination of the official term of the president, vice president, senators, and representatives in congress.

On the 11th the senate defeated the house bill for arbitration between rail-

roads and their employes. Senator Allen denounced the bill as a trap for workingmen.

House.

The bill extending the homestead laws to, and providing for certain railroad rights of way in, Alaska, as amended by the senate and finally agreed to in conference committee, was passed on the 5th. So was the labor arbitration bill. It provides for mediation and arbitration of labor controversies with common carriers. The chairman of the interstate commerce commission and the commissioner of labor, upon the request of either party to such a controversy, are required to endeavor amicably to settle the dispute by mediation. If they fail, the controversy may be submitted to a board of three persons, one chosen by each party and the third by the other two. The arbitration must be begun within five days, and within 20 days after the selection of the third arbitrator the award must be filed in the circuit court of the United States in any district in which the carrier does business. The award is then final and conclusive, subject only to appeal, for one year, and no employer may dismiss an employe nor any employe leave his employment for any reason thus submitted to arbitration, within three months without giving 30 days' notice.

The house did not sit on the 6th, and on Monday, the 9th, its attention was chiefly devoted to detail war measures. The president's message asking a vote of thanks for Dewey and his officers and men was received on that day, however, and the resolution was promptly carried. A bill was passed also, creating an additional rear admiralship for Dewey.

The house passed a resolution on the 11th for submitting to the states a constitutional amendment regarding the election of senators. It provides for their election by the direct vote of the people in their respective states.

NEWS NOTES

—The session of the German reichstag closed on the 6th.

—Minister Woodford arrived from Paris in New York on the 8th.

—Both China and Denmark declared neutrality last week as between Spain and the United States.

—The United States cruiser Charleston was formally placed in commission on the 5th at Vallejo, Cal.

—An American calling himself Henry Rawlins, was arrested at Washington on the 7th charged with being a Spanish spy.

—A Spanish warship stopped and searched the British steamer Narva about 20 miles east of Gibraltar in the Mediterranean, on the 9th.

—Charles H. Allen, of Massachusetts, was nominated by the president on the 9th to succeed Theodore Roosevelt as assistant secretary of the navy.

—Wheat for May delivery closed at Chicago on the 5th at \$1.50, on the 9th at \$1.75 and on the 10th at \$1.85, the highest point yet reached.

—The highest court of Minnesota has sustained the so-called Anderson railroad land tax, which provides for the taxation of unused railroad lands.

—Reports on the 6th told of heavy floods in the Grand, Verdigris and Arkansas bottoms, causing enormous losses through destruction of property, and stopping traffic on several lines of railway by washing away bridges.

—It was reported from Madrid on the 7th that Commander General Visayas had telegraphed from Labuan, in the Philippines, that on the 3d he had captured the town of Panay from the insurgents, causing them a loss of 500 after hard fighting.

—On the 8th it was reported at Washington that direct connection had been established between Henry Rawlins, the alleged Spanish spy, and Lieut. Caranza, the naval attache of the Spanish legation, who was at Montreal with Minister Polo Bernabe.

—The Oregon arrived on the 9th at Bahia, Brazil, about 700 miles from Pernambuco. The dynamite cruiser Nictheroy, purchased at Rio Janeiro by the United States, left that port on the 5th, the day after the departure of the Oregon, and sailed northward.

—Walter Damsch has resigned his leadership of the direction of the Symphony society, and it is expected that he will also retire from that of the Oratorio society, his reasons being that he wishes to devote himself more than heretofore to musical composition.

—District Assembly No. 9, of the Knights of Labor, at Chicago, denounces the system of allowing men to buy substitutes in time of war and urges that all men who leave the country in time of war to avoid military duty be tried for high treason and if convicted that they be shot.

—Karditza, formerly a noncommissioned officer in the Greek army, and Georgius, a Macedonian workman, who together attempted to assassinate King George of Greece on the 26th of last February, were executed on the 9th upon conviction by the military authorities. Their explanation of the crime was their anger at the king's accepting international control of the

Greek finances pending the payment of the war loan.

—Rumors reached this country on the 10th from Hong-Kong that Admiral Montejo had been killed by the insurgents at Manila, but as the Manila cable had not yet been repaired, the rumors were doubtful. These rumors also report that the insurgents at Manila were killing Spanish men, women and children and that Admiral Dewey could not control them.

—On the 5th the supreme court of the United States held the Iowa liquor law to be unconstitutional because it applies to liquor in transit between two states. On the same day the new dispensary law of South Carolina was also invalidated by the supreme court because the conditions of inspection of liquor from other states were held to amount to discrimination against such liquors.

—At the French parliamentary elections held on the 8th for members of the chamber of deputies, official reports received on the 9th were from 428 out of 584 contests, and showed the election of 27 monarchists, 151 moderate republicans, 94 radicals, 29 socialists. In 127 contests no candidate received a majority over all, and second elections will be necessary. These elections are by universal suffrage, citizens 21 years of age having the right to vote. Deputies must be citizens not less than 25 years of age. Deputies are elected for four years.

MISCELLANY

THE MASTER.

There are times when I could thank God for the healthy paganism in the Gospel.

It is only in that current of native vigor that our Christian virtues can ride supreme.

Does the Master walk in peace? He does it on a threatening, boisterous sea.

I like to see him confounding the brokers with a glance as he upsets their tables, or else denouncing the respectable church people, or answering the high priest with magnificent disdain.

All that was in him.

When he said: "Suffer little children to come unto Me," all that was in him.

When the beloved disciple lay with his head upon his breast, all that was in him.

In the agony of the cross, while his weight bore down upon the burning nails, and he cried: "Father, forgive them," all that was in him.

He was the Son of God and called upon us to be sons of God—

Sons of the God of the tempest as well as the God of the calm.

The storm was in him.

The passionate strength was in him.

But above all, on the very thunder cloud he wrote: "Peace, be still."

On any other parchment—in the mouths of bloodless saints and philosophers—those culminating words lose all their force.

We need life, and we need it more abundantly.

—Ernest H. Crosby, in *New Earth*.

THE RELIGION OF THE SEA.

The man-o'-war's man means no disrespect when he refers to his ship's chaplain as the "sky pilot." Rather, it is a term of approval. The bluejacket, at heart, is perhaps the least sacrilegious of uniformed men. Profane he may be; the bluejacket's profanity is as much a habit as his attendance at the mess table, and it is innocuous and meaningless. But nine out of ten American man-o'-war's men have a contemptuous word, and not infrequently a hard fist, for the "man-o'-war chaw" (generally the ship's fool) who invites suppression and a black eye by speaking sneeringly of religion.

No man can go to sea for any length of time, no matter how coarse his fiber, without experiencing an infusion of what, for lack of a better term, might be phrased the religion of the sea—which is first a vague wonderment over the beauty of its quietude and the power of its wrath, and then a settled conviction, just as strong, because it is rarely expressed, that there is direction and meaning in the sea's depths as well as on its surface. Beyond this, the man-o'-war's man undergoes some convincing experiences which he never talks about under any circumstances; for the bluejacket despises the thing called Chadbandism, and in the matter of silence on affairs that lead down to the roots of him he has nothing to learn from the clam. He simply punches the newly-shipped lubber who makes too conspicuous a parade of a cheap brand of atheism, and lets it go at that. You'll never find an old man-o'-war's man an atheist.

One of the first regulations of the United States navy recommends, in effect, that "officers and men shall, whenever possible, participate in the worship of Almighty God" aboard their ships. While this regulation is not mandatory, being simply inserted in the form of a recommendation, officers and men are much more sincere in their respect for and observance of this clause, which is read out on the quarter deck by the executive officer at every monthly muster, together with a short abstract of the navy regulations, than if attendance on religious services

aboard ship were compulsory, as it is in several of the world's navies.—*Washington Star*.

"SHOW US THY SALVATION."

Men come into our churches who make a specialty of saving souls—of doing God's work for him—and they count their souls saved in something of the same spirit with which an Indian counts his scalp locks. These men make a great impression oftentimes, and are deceived as well as deceivers. By sensational devices and splendid heart-breaking appeals they persuade men that the Christ way to heaven leads directly from their pews up through the blue of the star-strewn skies, and they leave their hearers in a heaven of ecstasy and peace—sometimes. But it is a blessed thing that commonly, when the soul-saver leaves town, a wind of heaven blows the little tower of Babel out from under these people, and they find themselves once more among humanity, in a healthful, every-day atmosphere, with an earth highway before them, a straight and narrow way which connects their homes with other homes and their lives with other lives.—*Rev. R. B. Hassell, in The Kingdom*.

THE SACREDNESS OF OUR WEALTH.

The chairman of the committee on ways and means congratulated the country yesterday that if it had not been for this war breaking out his tariff bill would have provided ample revenue to run the government. He said we were just about to emerge from the difficulties of the last revenue measure passed by the democrats. Does he not know that this republican administration had to sell our interest in two railroads to keep up the revenues of the country to such extent as to meet its expenditures? I say that if it had not been for this war letting them out of their difficulties they never would have "emerged." Already they were below the surface, and nothing but the hat of the chairman of the committee was afloat on the sea of deficit. They are a lucky party. In my opinion, this bond issue is for the purpose of covering up the shortcomings of the Dingley bill.

They complain that now we propose to offer as a substitute for the proposition to bond the country a proposition to collect taxes from the wealth of the country through the agency of an income tax. The wealth of this country is something sacred—almost as sacred as the gold reserve. We cannot touch it, it seems.

Why, sir, do you know that when war exists in this country, the government can take a man from his home, his fire-side, his family, and put him in the

front rank of the army and have him shot for the benefit of his country? Yet the wealth of the country is so sacred that even in time of war we cannot invoke an income tax to touch the wealth of the wealthy classes, even to pay the funeral expenses of the man who has been shot for the good of his country.

Why, sir, in time of war—and under the constitution, too—it has been done time and again in this country. You can suspend every right of the people—the right of habeas corpus, the right of trial by jury, and every right valued as a part of Saxon liberty—all these rights may be swept away in time of war. Yet these gentlemen tell us that the wealth of the country is so sacred you cannot lay hands on it to defend the country. Sir, if it were necessary in this struggle, I would not alone impress into the service of the government every man able to bear arms in defense of his country, but I would empty every bank vault in its defense before I issued bonds. And you can do this under the constitution if you want to do so.

I have my suspicions that all this undue and unseemly haste to rush this measure through now under excitement in time of war is altogether for the purpose of getting these bonds saddled upon the people, to carry out a programme mapped out some time ago in the interest of the money lords of this and other countries to take advantage of the people, appealing to their patriotism to authorize for war purposes an issue of bonds the authority for which has been sought in vain in times of peace. We can come to no other conclusion.—Hon. Jerry Simpson, in the House, April 28th.

A CHICAGO SUNDAY SUPPER.

From "The Workers," a narrative of personal experience "in the army of the unemployed," by Walter A. Wyckoff, now appearing in serial form in Scribner's Magazine. Mr. Wyckoff is at present a professor in Princeton college.

At the corner near my lodging house I stood still for a few moments watching the deft movements of two young children who were busy near the curb. The long, wide street lay a field of glistening diamonds where the blue-white electric light was reflected from the snow. A drunken man reeled past me, tracking the untrodden snow at the sides of the beaten path along the center of the pavement. A dim alley at my right lost itself in almost impenetrable darkness, on the verge of which a small wooden house appeared tottering to ruin and as though the weight of the falling snow were hastening its end. From out the alley came the figures of three young women who were laughing gayly as they crossed the street in com-

pany and walked on toward the post office. The street was very still and lonely for that quarter, and the two little girls worked diligently, talking to each other, but oblivious apparently to everything but their task. I drew nearer to see what they were doing. A street light shone strong and clear above them, and they were in the path of a broad stream of yellow glare that poured from the windows of a cheap chophouse. They were at work about a barrel which stood on the curb. I could see that it was full of the refuse of the eating house. Scraps of meat and half-eaten fragments of bread and of vegetables lay mixed with bones and egg shells and vegetable skins in a pulpy ooze, rising to the barrel rim and overflowing upon the pavement and in the gutter. An old wicker basket, with paper covering its ragged holes, rested between the children, and into this they dropped selected morsels of food. The larger girl was tall enough to see over the top of the barrel, and so she worked there, and I saw her little hands dive into the soft, glutinous mass after new treasures. The smaller one could only crouch upon the pavement and gather thence and from the gutter what edible fragments she could find. I watched them closely. The older child was dressed in thin, ragged cotton, black with filth, and her matted stringy hair fell from her uncovered head about a lean, peaked face that was as dirty almost as her dress. She wore both shoes and stockings, but the shoes were far too large for her, and through their gaping holes the cold and wet entered freely. Her sister was more interesting to me. She was a child of four or five. The snow was falling upon her bare brown curls and upon the soft white flesh of her neck, and over the damp, clinging, threadbare dress, through which I could trace the delicate outlines of an infant's figure. Her warm breath passed hissing through chattering teeth in the intervals between outbursts of a deep, hoarse cough which shook her frame. Through the streaking dirt upon her hands appeared in childish movement the dimples above the knuckles, and the dainty fingers, red and cold and washed clean at their tips in the melting snow, had in them all the power and mystery of the waxen baby touch.

With the quick illusion of childhood they had turned their task into a game, and they would break into exclamations of delight as they held up to each other's view some discovered morsel which the finder claimed to be the best.

"What are you going to do with these scraps?" I asked of the older child.

Her bloodless lips were trembling with the cold, and her small, dark eyes appeared among the shreds of tangled hair with an expression in them of a starved pariah whose cherished bone is threatened. She clasped the basket with both hands and half covered it with her little body.

"Don't you touch it!" she said, fiercely, while her anxious eyes searched the street in hope of succor.

It was easy to reassure her, and then she spoke freely.

"Ma sent us to get some grub for supper," she exclaimed. "Ma's got three boarders, only two of 'em ain't paid nothing for a month, and pa, he's drunk. He ain't got no job, but he went out to shovel snow to-day, and ma thought he'd bring her some money, but he came home drunk. She's mind-in' the baby, and she sent us for grub. She'd lick us if we didn't find none; but I guess she won't lick us now, will she? That's where we live," and one little chapped finger pointed down the alley to the crumbling hovel in the dark.

The children were ready to go home, and I lifted the younger girl into my arms. Her sister walked beside us with the basket in her hand. The little one lay soft and warm against me. After the first moment of surprise she had relaxed with the gentle yielding of a little child, and I could feel her nestle close to me with the trustful ease which thrills one's inmost heart with feeling for which there are no words.

We opened the shanty door. It was difficult at first to make out the room's interior. Dense banks of tobacco smoke drifted lazily through foul air in the cheerful light of a small oil lamp. Shreds of old wall paper hung from dark, greasy plaster, which was crumbling from the walls and ceiling and which lay in accumulations of lime dust upon a rotting wooden floor. A baby of pallid, putty flesh was crying fretfully in the arms of a haggard, slatternly woman of less than 30 years, who sat in a broken chair, rocking the baby in her arms beside a dirty wooden table, on which were strewn fragments of broken pottery and unwashed forks and spoons and knives. A rough workman, stripped to his shirt and trousers, sat smoking a clay pipe, his bare feet resting in the oven of a rusty cooking stove in which a fire was smoldering. Upon a heap of rags in one corner lay a drunken man asleep.

"We've got some grub, ma!" cried the older child, in a tone of success, as she ran up to her mother with the basket. "Riley's barrel was full to-night."

All war between men is war between brothers. There is neither foreign nor civil war; there is only just and unjust war.—Victor Hugo, in "Les Misérables."

A CANADIAN VIEW OF THE WAR.

The great war now impending has almost as great an interest for Canadians as though they were participants in and not mere spectators of the struggle. There has been considerable friction between our neighbors and ourselves, no doubt on account of the intimacy and freedom of our relations. Brothers are perhaps more apt to quarrel than strangers, but there is seldom any bitterness in their quarrels; and there is no nation under heaven that we Britons would like to see whip the United States, unless now and then, under great provocation we feel as though we would not mind doing it ourselves.

In times of peace and prosperity there may be rivalries between us; there may be occasional international threatening and jibing, because we have both got our share of fools; but in times of national trial or misfortunes the dominant feeling among Britons is that the two nations are one people. Their blood, their traditions, their history in great part, their characteristic virtues, and their characteristic faults, to a large extent, are all ours. Apart from the merits of the quarrel between the United States and Spain it is impossible that men of British blood could ever wish to see the people of the United States "fall into the hands of Spain."

American diplomacy is rough, and it is possible that the awful calamity of war might have been averted by diplomacy of another order, but the end in view, the termination of the reign of horror in Cuba, compels our sympathies. Spain's methods of colonial government are not our methods. Spain's way of fighting is not our way, and all our sympathies will grow with the brave soldiers and sailors of a free people fighting for the cause of humanity and struggling to extend the bounds of freedom.

There is one more bond of union between Great Britain and the United States in connection with this war. "England" is more than a geographical expression; to the rest of the world it is synonymous with a type of civilization that the aliens do not love; a type characterized by civil and religious liberty, by enlightenment, progress and prosperity. This greater "England" includes two great nations of common origin and common aspirations, though of diverse allegiance. The best British subject is the man whose ideas are broad enough and sympathies wide enough to embrace this "greater England." With these two nations united (we do not mean politically) the Eng-

lish type of civilization must prevail.

Naught should make us rue
If England to itself do rest but true.

With the Union Jack and the Stars
and Stripes blended,
Come the three corners of the world in
arms,
And we shall shock them.

Whether England's part in the coming struggle will be a passive one remains to be seen, but at least her sympathy will keep the rest of Europe in check.—Montreal Daily Star.

THE MODERN NAVAL BATTLE.

The modern naval battle must develop an entirely new type of courage. Nothing like the ordeal to which the crew of a ship under the fire of batteries of the present type is exposed has ever been known before. In Nelson's time a ship was subjected to a broadside of round shot once in five or ten minutes. Thirty or forty cannon balls would rattle against the side of the vessel, cut through its rigging, plow its decks, or pass harmlessly in the air. Between times the men would have a respite, except for the popping, more annoying than dangerous, of musket balls from the enemy's tops.

But now the decks of a ship in action are swept by a storm of projectiles, ranging from rifle shots to half-ton shells, but every one propelled with a vicious energy that expresses a determination to clear everything out of its path. Taking great guns, rapid-fire guns and machine guns together, a first-class battleship can fire at least 3,000 shots a minute. That means that 50 projectiles, large and small, go hissing over the enemy's deck every second. Under such tornado of steel every weak spot is searched out. To stand up in such a meteoric shower is like facing a blizzard. Wholesale slaughter is a certainty, and every man can feel a reasonable assurance that he will furnish part of the material for it.

The man who takes part in a modern naval battle must not only hold his own life worthless, but he must be prepared to endure without a tremor the scenes of horror around him, and to do his duty as coolly when his comrades are falling on every side as if he were on parade. Take this incident, for instance, described by Philo McGiffen in his account of the battle of the Yalu:

The captain of one of the 12-inch guns, while training or laying it, lanyard in hand, had his head dashed off, its fragments striking those about him. As he toppled over, a man on the step below caught his body around the waist, passed it down into the arms of those below, and, catching the lanyard from his stiffening grasp,

took his place, corrected his aim and fired.

A single shell, in this battle, striking the Japanese flagship Matsushima, killed 49 officers and men and wounded over 50 more. And the Chinese were poor marksmen, compared with American or British gunners. Imagine 3,000 projectiles striking a ship every minute, with such possibilities of carnage in a single one, and it may be possible to appreciate the quality of courage required of the modern man-of-war's man.—N. Y. Journal.

MADE FOR THE LIVING.

That our Creator made the earth for the use of the living and not for the dead; that those who exist not can have no use nor right in it, no authority or power over it; that one generation of men cannot foreclose or burthen its use to another, which comes to it in its own right by the same divine beneficence; that a preceding generation cannot bind a succeeding one by its laws or contracts; these deriving their obligation from the will of the existing majority, and that majority being removed by death, another comes in its place with a will equally free to make its own laws and contracts. These are axioms so self-evident that no explanation can make them plainer, for he is not to be reasoned with who says that nonexistence can control existence, or nothing can move something. They are axioms also pregnant with salutary consequences.—Jefferson's Writings, Vol VII, P. 310.

THE VALUE OF SKILLED OBSERVATION.

But an incident or a scene, even in real life, may be so described by a master of literary art that an ordinary person will derive more pleasure from hearing or reading the description than he would have felt as a spectator of the actual incident or scene itself. This does not imply an exaggeration or distortion of facts by the narrator, but that his vision is quick to perceive and interpret significant details which the common observer would pass over as trivial. Most of us have known persons so gifted with powers of narrative that their company in an adventure of any sort was valuable, for the reason that the other participants never knew how thrilling the adventure really had been until they heard these specially gifted persons describe it afterwards. The spectators of any remarkable occurrence—a railway accident, a street riot, a court trial, or a horse race—scan the newspaper account next day to find out how it all happened, knowing that the skilled eye of the journalistic crafts-

man has seen more than their own duller vision detected.—George Clark, Ph. D., in *The Arena*.

A BOY WHO MUST NOT BE COUNTED OUT.

Col. Ray, Senator Cullom's political secretary, according to the *Chicago Record*, has received this naïf letter from a boy in Illinois, who wants to go to the war. He is a boy we should like to know.

As you know, I am handicapped by the loss of my left leg. Before I go any further I want to say that I am not doing this with any boasting intent whatever, but to let you know just how the land lies with me. This is the first time I have ever committed myself in this way. I can ride a wheel; can get off and on a train going ten to twelve miles an hour (and keep my balance); can climb wherever I can get a hand hold; have wrestled with boys weighing 25 to 30 pounds more than I, throwing them. I have done this only a few times with boys with whom I chum, when scuffling. We have a set of boxing gloves. I can hold my own with these same boys (never tried anyone else) for awhile, but they can wear me out in about 30 minutes. I have to stand without the aid of my crutch, and sometimes to preserve my balance during a rush I have to make a great many moves that anyone else would not have to make. I have never mentioned the idea of my going to war to anyone, for I have thought that there would be a very slight chance of my getting in. I would not want mother to think I had it in mind, although I am sure father would be perfectly willing. And again, I did not want it said, as it was about a young attorney here, when calling for men to fill a vacancy in the militia, he waited until he found what a rigid examination they had to pass, and knew that he would not make it, then volunteered. Now, Mr. Ray, I think you fully understand my case. If you know of or should hear of anything that I might do, I am ready.

OPINIONS ABOUT THE WAR.

From *New York Life*.

"It is a meat-eaters' war."—*The Quarterly Vegetarian*.

"A natural consequence of the fatal and inexcusable habit of eating salt on food."—*The Alimentary Gazette*.

"Such things must happen as long as folks persist in allowing their bodies, and hence their minds, to be poisoned by vaccination."—*The Anti-Vaccinationist*.

"Any educated person could have predicted it."—*The Evening Post*.

"Rum did it!"—*The Voice*.

"I did it."—*William Hearst*.

"On receipt of information published

exclusively in the World," etc., etc.—*J. P.*

"If women outrage humanity by wearing birds on their hats, what can you expect?"—*The Audubon Societies*.

"I'd as soon send a son to Cuba as to Yale."—*Mrs. Poteat*.

"It is a war for humanity, painful, but historically indispensable."—*Public Opinion*.

"It's a d—d bad scrape and should have been avoided."—*Private Opinion*.

"There is no fun in it."—*Almost Everybody*.

A MUNICIPALITY'S RESTAURANT.

The city of Grenoble, France, has been running a restaurant and kitchen for 50 years. Meals are supplied at cost in the restaurant, or are delivered at residences, as may be desired. The food is of the best quality, the cooks are as skillful as any in Paris, and the service is excellent. The dining-rooms are of several grades, according to the attendance, so that all classes and tastes may be suited. One may dine there for three cents on bread and soup, and have his hunger thoroughly appeased; or one can pay 12 cents and enjoy a full-course dinner. The best rooms are marble-floored and prettily decorated. There is no financial profit whatever to the city of Grenoble in operating this huge restaurant, which serves from 15,000 to 20,000 meals a day. The charges are based on the cost of the materials used, help, and keeping utensils and buildings in repair.—*American Kitchen Magazine*.

The *London Spectator* says of the resolution passed by the American senate recognizing the rights of the people of Cuba, and demanding intervention in their behalf, that it "shows a force and dignity, as well as a certain haughty indifference, which may seem strange to those who have not noted that official acts in America have always a stateliness which is curiously at variance with the tone of ordinary American newspaper-writing and speech-making."

These are times when every contemporaneous person feels a strong personal need of being where he can see what is going on and supervise the making of history.—*Harper's Weekly*.

This is what a newsboy told Dr. Lyman Abbott about the public and the "yellow" journals: "They despises 'em but they buys 'em."

An Apology.—Under the circumstances of time and place, it being near the end of the century and in New York, the editor could do nothing but offer an apology, which he did in these terms: "Owing to a crush of

advertising, the denial of much of our most important news is crowded out this morning. It will appear in the next issue, without fail."—*Puck*.

OUR SEVENTH.

(For the Public.)

Hail to our gallant, glorious Seventh!
Its uniform is stunning;
Jaunty its step, martial its mien. Bravely it goes out gunning
For shabby, ill-bred workingmen, those pests of all the ages,
Who vex the souls of gentle folks by asking living wages.
Gleaming with flash of burnished steel,
marching in perfect measure,
Promptly it answers duty's call, when duty joins with pleasure.
Flower of our best element, pride of our leisure classes;
When it receives command to fire, God help the unarmed masses.

But at first opportunity for meeting well-armed foemen,
Gladly our Seventh leaves the post of danger to the yeomen.
Why should the idlers who enjoy the fruits of ill-paid labor,
Sacrifice ease and risk their lives to free our island neighbor?
Let common men, whose toil and sweat maintain their social betters,
Fight to remove from Cuban limbs the weight of Spanish fetters;
Let those who cannot find a chance to earn a frugal living
Pour out their blood on battlefields—
they've nothing else worth giving.

J. K. RUDYARD.
East Northport, N. Y., May 1, 1898.

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