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President McKinley's Philippine commission has decided that all laws enacted in the archipelago shall be expressed in the English language. In other words, English is to be official. Such coercion regarding language has always been considered as one of the grossest acts of tyranny by conquerors in their government of subject races. The most effective measure for the subjugation of a people is to impose upon them laws in a foreign tongue.

What news is this from Mexico? A money panic because of the heavy exportation of silver dollars! "The banks have plenty of money," say the reports, "but it is all in gold and American and British currency and worth nothing except as collateral." That we should ever have lived to see this day!! Plenty of gold money in the banks of Mexico, but the country on the verge of a money panic because silver money is scarce! And gold money good only for collateral!! What can the matter be? Is Mexico living in the looking glass, where everything is reversed?

The German emperor has a rough and ready mode for remedying the overproduction of physicians. He has issued a decree lengthening the period of medical study. This is done not to improve the professional standard, but simply to prevent overcrowding in the profession! Why not use similar means to prevent overcrowding at the bar, in the pulpit, behind the counter, on the farm, in the factory—wherever, in short, there is over-

crowding, which, by the way, is in every employment on earth. There is one difficulty in the way. The leisure classes, who are also the influential classes, want the "lower" grades of employment to be overcrowded. If they were not overcrowded there would be no leisure class. At any rate there would be no pleasure in belonging to the leisure classes, for then they would be hoboes.

Of the merits of the case against District Attorney Gardiner, of New York city, upon which Gov. Roosevelt has removed him from office, no stranger to the circumstances is qualified to judge, and we pretend to no opinion. But one thing is very clear. The law that allows the governor of a state to remove from office any official who has been elected by popular vote is a bad law. It were better that an inefficient, even a corrupt, official should remain in the office to which the people have chosen him, than that the efficiency or honesty of an elective officer should be determined by another officer who may be, and in this case was, a violent opposing partisan. When the people elect, only a popular tribunal—a jury—should have power to remove. Roosevelt's behavior in this matter should not escape notice. He acted like a ruffianly police judge. Neither ought his appointment to fill the vacancy he himself created to be overlooked. To give to the matter an air of non-partisanship, he, a republican making an appointment to fill a democratic vacancy, appointed a democrat. But that appointment loses some of its atmosphere of fairness and takes on an appearance which can be described only by a harsher term, when the fact appears to be that the democrat appointed is a McKinley democrat.

It is evident that in their overtures to China the allied powers intend either to humiliate or to conquer. They probably intend both. The "irrevocable" terms upon which alone they declare their willingness to withdraw their armies from China are such as no government would accept unless conscious of its own impotence. Not only must an apology in peculiarly humiliating form be made to Germany for the assassination by a Chinese mob of the German minister, but a monument bearing an apologetic inscription must be erected where the assassination occurred. One of the objects of this requirement is to impress the Chinese with the awful power those "foreign devils" must possess when they can subject the "son of heaven" to such humiliation. Another requirement of the same character is that which demands the erection of an expiatory monument in every foreign graveyard that the Chinese have desecrated. Possibly such humiliations may smother the anti-foreign sentiment of China, but they will not dissipate it unless Chinamen differ enormously from other people. And is there not something like a brilliant display of impudence in forcing the Chinese thus to atone for desecrations of foreign graveyards, when foreigners have repeatedly desecrated Chinese graveyards with impunity? A wonderful government, indeed, must that of the Chinese empire be if, after submitting to these and kindred indignities, it can enforce obedience upon a people whose anti-foreign prejudices already violent are thus further inflamed.

But the powers have not stopped with demands that are humiliating, not even with such as call for the punishment of Chinese dignitaries for

what a Russian paper smiles at grimly as the novel crime of "treason against foreign nations." They require a huge money indemnity. The amount is left to future adjustment, but it will doubtless be big enough to give the powers a long lease of military occupation while China takes the measures necessary for furnishing satisfactory guarantees of payment. Nor is that all. With the legation quarter at Peking perpetually fortified and garrisoned; with all the Chinese forts from Peking to the sea destroyed; with the right of the allied powers to perpetually occupy with military forces any points from Peking to the sea which they may designate; with the right of importing arms and munitions of war denied to China—and these are among the "irrevocable" conditions—with these advantages secured by a treaty to the powers, what possibilities of defense would the Chinese have when the powers had agreed upon a scheme of partitioning the empire and concluded that the time for action was ripe? None. There is no disguising it—indeed, the representatives of the powers do not seem to have tried to disguise it,—the joint note of the powers to the Chinese envoys is a bald proposition for the establishment over the empire of an international suzerainty. When that shall have been firmly established dismemberment will be a simple process, provided only that the powers agree upon their portions. The Chinese government and people will have ceased to be a party in interest. The distribution will concern them only as the distribution of loot by brigands concerns the owner who looks on in silence, being gagged, and without resisting, being bound.

We fail to find in the Hay-Paunce-fote treaty, as amended by the senate, any substantial grounds for objection. If Great Britain accepts it, the United States need not complain. The treaty as now framed would abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, which gives Great Britain a right

to dictate with reference to the Nicaragua canal, and would relinquish to the United States all power over construction, ownership and operation. Very wisely, as it seems to us, provision is made for preserving the neutrality of the canal and for its use by all nations upon equal terms under all circumstances. The United States ought not to have the right to make the canal part of its warlike equipment. This great waterway should be maintained primarily as a channel for commerce. At the same time, since it is to be built and operated by the United States—and all may agree that no European power should be permitted to join in the enterprise—the United States ought to be invested with full power to protect it. This power is acknowledged. There does not appear, then, to be anything objectionable in the treaty. Nor is anything of vital importance omitted.

Yet all is not bright in connection with the matter. So far as international relations are concerned, we of this country may be content with the proposed treaty as the senate has amended it; and Great Britain has no just reason for feeling otherwise. But there are ample reasons for disquieting fears with reference to certain home relations. Instead of itself building the canal and owning and operating it, our government purposes investing a private corporation with that authority; and out of this relationship no end of trouble will probably arise. We shall have in worse form a repetition of our experience with the United States bank in Jackson's time, and with the Pacific railroads at a later day. The government will furnish most of the capital, while the corporation ring will reap all the profits. Worse still, this powerful ring will invest the lobbies of congress and the vestibules of the white house, and the people will fall a prey to a greedy and powerful Nicaragua canal corporation. What will be needed most with reference to the Nicaragua canal should the treaty

be finally ratified, is a vigorous agitation for government construction, government ownership, and government management of the canal.

It would appear that the Baptist ministers' conference of Philadelphia is a patriotic rather than a Christian organization, one which loves colored bunting more than the neighbor. A member, Rev. Dr. Poteat, introduced to the conference at its meeting on the 17th, Sixto Lopez, the Filipino envoy, with a request that he be heard. This request was seconded by Rev. L. Sensholes. We mention these two names for much the same reason that Lot's is mentioned in connection with Sodom and Gomorrah. Mr. Sensholes urged with reference to the Filipino question that "all reports that we have had from the other side have been garbled," and asked if it would not "be better to give a hearing to this man that we may determine the truth." But the truth was not what the conference wanted. One Wayland Hoyt, a doctor of divinity, thought that it would be virtually an acknowledgment of a traitor to listen to Mr. Lopez. It is to be hoped that Mr. Hoyt knows more of divinity than he appears from this remark to know of law. Since one must owe allegiance to a country before he can commit treason against it, Mr. Lopez, who has never, directly or indirectly, actually or constructively, owed allegiance to the United States, can hardly be regarded legally as a traitor. If he were a traitor it would be the duty of the authorities to have him promptly prosecuted. The function of traitor baiting ought not to be relegated to the Philadelphia conference of Baptist ministers. But Mr. Hoyt's objection proved sufficient. The conference summarily refused to hear Lopez. It had a right, of course, to refuse. We make no complaint of its action. But the reason for the action has precious little of the flavor of Christmas season.

Against the narrow patriotism of

that Baptist conference let us refer our readers to the Christmas greeting of the man it scorned. It will be found in the Miscellany department of this issue. After comparing the exalted letter of Lopez with the refusal of the Baptist conference of Philadelphia to hear him because he is a traitor, the reader may fairly wonder which is pagan and which is Christian?

A much-needed society has been organized in Boston, having for its object the collection and publication of authoritative information regarding the Philippine question. This society is known as "the Philippine Information society." Its president is Dr. James J. Putnam, and among its vice presidents are Charles Francis Adams, Arthur Astor Carey, Edward W. Emerson and Dr. Edward G. Gardiner. L. K. Fuller, of 12 Otis place, Boston, is the secretary, to whom applications for membership or for the publications of the society may be sent. Contributions from one dollar upwards are solicited. They may be sent to the treasurer, William H. McElwain, 84 Essex building, Boston. Members of the society are expected "to inform themselves, as fully and accurately as possible, as to the true state of affairs in the Philippine islands," and "to circulate accurate information, by informal conversation, by inducing others to study the facts collected, and by sending to the secretary the names of people who may be thought to be interested."

Congressman Lentz will render a public service, whether he succeeds in establishing his right to a seat in congress for the third term or not, if he makes good his promise to expose the corrupt methods by which last fall he was nominally defeated for reelection. He makes this promise after a conference with the democratic leaders at Washington, who advise him to contest the seat, which has been awarded to his republican adversary; and in

an open letter to his constituents of the Columbus district of Ohio, he says:

Bribery ran riot in this district on election day, and the country at large should be given an opportunity to know the methods employed, for which numbers of men should spend their remaining days in the penitentiary. I have evidence to justify a deliberate statement that men in the United States service, and others equally under the control and influence of President McKinley, spent their entire time in corrupting the miserable and needy voters in this district. The capital city of Ohio has been the scene of the corrupt use of money and presidential favors during the contests of three successive years. First, when Hanna secured his seat in the United States senate in 1898; second, when trusts removed Attorney General Monett in 1899, and third, when \$100,000 was spent in the corruption of voters to defeat me in 1900.

Such a sink of political corruption needs renovation, and there could be no better man to superintend the job than Congressman Lentz.

Mr. Lentz's reference to the removal of Attorney General Monett by the trusts coincides significantly with the abandonment of the suits against trusts which Mr. Monett began. This gentleman was the republican attorney general of Ohio. As such he prosecuted trusts, under the Ohio law, with such unusual vigor, for a republican office holder, as to attract the attention and win the confidence of the whole country. Not unnaturally, the trusts suspected him of trying to make a "strike." That is what vigorous official opposition has so frequently meant to them. So they offered a bribe. It was big enough—\$400,000—to satisfy the most greedy "striker." But Mr. Monett refused it and pushed his prosecutions. Finally the trusts realized that he was not a "striker," but an honest official; and as there is only one way of dealing with that kind of rare bird, they promptly adopted it. They requested the managers of the republican state convention not to renominate Mr. Monett. The convention readily complied. Another candidate was

named and elected along with the rest of the ticket. And now we have the sequel. On motion of the new attorney general, all the anti-trust suits before the supreme court of Ohio are dismissed.

It seems that New Jersey has a law, enacted last winter, which authorizes towns to meet the expenses of advertising their advantages for residences and factories by levying a local tax for that specific purpose. One of the New Jersey towns to avail itself of this privilege is Plainfield, which has decided to raise a tax of one and one-half per cent for advertising. Commenting upon that action, the Washington (N. J.) Star advises the people of its own town to follow Plainfield's example. It says:

Such a tax here would yield about \$750 per year, and this amount, judiciously spent by an active board of trade under the direction of the borough council, would certainly bring results. The whole idea, when properly handled, amounts to the exchanging of one dollar for two and is worthy of serious consideration, not only by this borough, but by all the towns of the state that have any ambition to push ahead and share in the great industrial expansion which has struck New Jersey.

We must take the liberty of admonishing our New Jersey friends that the Star is mistaken in supposing that "the exchanging of one dollar for two" is "the whole idea." That is only a part of the idea. The whole idea is this, that all the people of a town shall give one dollar in order to bring two to local landowners.

It is to be observed that this New Jersey tax falls upon all the taxable property of a town. People who rent real estate as well as people who own real estate must pay it; for people who rent real estate own taxable property. Moreover, they buy taxed store goods and pay the storekeeper's tax in the price. Besides that, they pay in their rent so much of the landlord's real estate tax as falls upon the value of the building and other improvements. This is a well understood principle of taxation. Taxes upon tenant

houses are borne not by the landlord but by the tenant, of whom the landlord collects them in higher rent. The only part of this tax, then, that the land-owning class would pay, would be that proportion which might attach to the value of the land as distinguished from its improvements. That is to say, the owner of a lot with a rented building upon it would pay no more of the tax than the owner of an equally valuable vacant lot. The rest of the former's real estate tax would fall ultimately in higher rent upon the tenant. Yet people of the tenant class, though they would be forced by the tax to contribute liberally to the advertising fund, would get no pecuniary benefit from its expenditure. The land owners would monopolize that. For the construction in the advertising town—Plainfield or Washington, for instance—of more residences and factories would increase the value of local sites and of nothing else. If it increased the wages of local workingmen, more workingmen would come in until wages had diminished again. If it increased the profits of local storekeepers, more storekeepers would set up business there until profits had resumed their usual level. But such increase of land values as it made would be safe from competition. You cannot bring new building lots into a town. So the land owning class would reap the gain. And not only would none of the gain go to the non-land-owning class, but part of it would be at their expense. They themselves would have to pay higher rents.

We would not be understood as opposing local improvements. Quite the contrary. We should even advocate advertising such as that which the New Jersey law allows. What we do oppose is the New Jersey method. Utterly unfair, it is also quite unnecessary for the promotion of local growth. Far superior, both in point of fairness and effectiveness, is the method suggested by Alexander Pernod in an able article in the South

Chicago Calumet of December 21. In general terms his plan is "cheap land and perpetual exemption from taxation of industries." Specifically he would petition the legislature to allow "local option in taxation," and then have South Chicago exempt improvements from taxation, placing taxes on land values so that land speculators would be forced to let go, which would make land cheap. The result of this, he argues, would be an influx of factories, stores and residents, and continuous prosperity for everybody but the speculators. For that class he seems to have no compassion. It is for that class especially that the New Jersey law is designed.

It is not quite clear why the Pennsylvania railroad should wish newspapers to republish one of the products of its literary bureau in which it praises itself for taking an "active and continuous interest in the well being of its employes." Yet this is what it is asking newspapers to do. When a great soulless corporation takes a personal interest in the well-being of its employes, both the employes and the public have good reason for suspicion. The employes may well wonder whether the corporation's solicitude for them is not an effort to divert their attention from the fact that they are underpaid; and the public, in its turn, may justly ask whether this philanthropy is not designed to secure the cooperation of railroad employes with railroad corporations in carrying elections against the public interest. If the railroads paid their workmen all they earned, there would be nothing left in the treasuries to devote to their "well-being." Nor would it be regarded as decent to offer anything. The fact that paternalism of this sort can be indulged in by the corporations without being resented by the men, exposes the unwholesome social condition of the time. It testifies to the dependent state of the men and the power of employers. If a corporation has the power to be paternally generous, it has also the power to be tyrannical. The only difference is

one of disposition, of good will or bad will. And the fact that employes of the Pennsylvania railroad accept charitable attentions from the corporation goes far to show that they would be obliged to submit to acts of tyranny were tyranny more profitable. Real men like it no better to be objects of charity than to be victims of oppression. They will tolerate neither unless they have to. And if they do have to, especially if the necessity is so great that a corporation can boast of its paternalism and solicit the press to advertise it, we may be sure that we are living in perilous times.

The policy of which the Pennsylvania railroad boasts, is applauded by the Cincinnati Times-Star as altruism. Referring to the Pennsylvania's policy, and coupling it with an old-age pension system which the Chicago & Northwestern has decided to adopt, it descants upon the advance along with and as part of capitalism of the altruistic spirit. Nor does it neglect to cite other instances. The telephone girls of the Cincinnati exchange were given a certain percentage over and above their wages, as a Christmas gift. The Cincinnati Street Railway company has built club houses, shortened hours and allowed half pay to sick employes. A factory near by divides profits with its men. This, says the Cincinnati Times-Star, is altruism. But if that is altruism, then there is no difference between altruism and charity. Every employe who receives such pecuniary benefits either earns them or gets them as a charity döle. It is one thing or the other. But if he does earn them he ought to be able to get them as a right and not as a privilege under an employer's patronage. If he does not earn them, he is the petty beneficiary of a degrading charity system. In our view, every man, woman or child who works, earns more than his wages plus all the altruistic benefits he receives. And though we offer no condemnation of charitable intervention while workers are plundered to the ex-

tent of impoverishment, we do not hesitate to denounce devices which, in the guise of charity, or the name of altruism, serve to deaden the public conscience while universal robbery through special privilege is perpetuated.

Very few daily newspapers in the United States are national in character. Those of New York are remarkably provincial. With one exception—the Evening Post—they are neither interesting nor useful at any considerable distance from their place of publication. This is true also of the Chicago papers. It is not from either of the two great cities of the country, but from the smaller ones, that our national newspapers come. The principal paper of this type unquestionably is the Springfield Republican. It would be selected by any American familiar with the newspapers of the country who wished to send one to friends abroad. What the Manchester Guardian is to England, such is the Springfield Republican to the United States. Though published in a minor city, it is distinctively the one great national daily. Other dailies are slowly coming into notice, however, which rival the Republican in this quality of nationality—papers which, though published in “the provinces,” are far more national, far less provincial, than the metropolitan press. One of these is the Johnstown Democrat, published at Johnstown, Pa., under the editorship of Warren Worth Bailey. For nearly three years it has come to our desk, and we have found it to deserve the distinction of an honorable place in that list of high grade American newspapers of which the Springfield Republican is the oldest and most prominent representative. The Johnstown Democrat is first of all a newspaper, general as well as local. Typographically it is inviting. In editorial quality it is able, bright and sincere. While democratic in the party sense, it is democratic also in the fullest Jeffersonian sense. It is

withal the only outright Henry George daily in the country, except the Visalia (Cal.) Times and the Pendleton (Ore.) East Oregonian. In fact, it is its Georgeism that makes it so profoundly and encouragingly democratic. And while a local newspaper of power and popularity, the Johnstown Democrat possesses in exceptionally high degree the characteristics that have given to the Springfield Republican its rare quality of nationality. We pay this tribute gladly, because of really worthy American newspapers there are so few. As a rule our daily papers are devoted to wretched pictures, trivial gossip and insincere editorials; and preeminence in producing these they dignify as successful journalism.

Mr. Bryan's new paper, “The Commoner,” to be issued at Lincoln on the 15th at the subscription price of one dollar, will add another to the list of editorial weeklies. The New York Nation has long had that field almost to itself. But it has been aristocratic in its instincts, though democratic principles occasionally get recognition in its columns. Such papers as the Outlook and the Independent, and some others of their class—nominally religious—are not democratic at all. The democratic aspirations of the country have among the weekly reviews no representative which commands general attention. The San Francisco Star is a profoundly democratic paper, but its influence is confined to the central Pacific coast. City and State, of Philadelphia, is another; but it also is local in its influence. The weekly Springfield Republican, though an excellent condensation of the daily, is only that. It is not a weekly review. Mr. Bryan, therefore, has the possibility before him of making of his forthcoming paper the leading and universally recognized democratic review—a weekly review which shall be to the rugged democracy of the country what the Nation is to a narrow, cultured class. He has the ability to

edit such a review, and the reputation to command instant and general attention. We look forward to his venture with high expectations of the services its success will enable him to render American democracy.

It will doubtless please the friends of the late Henry George who are also friends of Mr. Bryan, to read this extract from the Christmas dispatch from Lincoln to the Chicago Record:

Mr. Bryan received many handsome remembrances and more than a hundred friendly and congratulatory messages. Among his gifts was an elaborate set of the works of Henry George in ten volumes, presented to him by the Henry George Bryan and Stevenson club, of Chicago. The author is a favorite with Mr. Bryan and he passed a large portion of his afternoon in scanning the pages of the books.

The books mentioned were set No. 1 of the library edition, which is limited to 1,000 copies. The first four sets of that edition are specially and richly bound, and this is the first of the four. It was presented to Mr. Bryan in commemoration of his speech before the club and its guests at Handel hall during the recent presidential campaign.

Over in Australia the statesmen do not put the same interpretation upon our enormous excess of exports that President McKinley does. These heathen, in their blindness, actually infer that an excessive outgo of wealth means loss, not profit. Listen to Rt. Hon. G. H. Reid, ex-premier of New South Wales and one of the leading statesmen of the Australian commonwealth, as reported by the South Australian Register of October 30. Mr. Reid was speaking to an immense audience at Adelaide. On the question of excessive exports he first referred to England, saying:

England has an export of £190,000,000 less than its imports; that is to say, every year she gets in about £200,000,000 worth more than she sends out. What a ruinous state of things! Being somewhat familiar with statistics, I anxiously turned to the column which shows the gold, silver, bullion and specie. I went to look for these 200,000,000 of sovereigns that

must have gone out for pay for these £200,000,000 of excessive exports, but I was greatly relieved to find . . . that while England during . . . 1893 to 1897 exported £187,000,000 of gold, silver, bullion and specie, during the same years she imported £205,000,000.

Having thus shown that England had got in, both in goods and gold, more than she had sent out, Mr. Reid took up the American statistics for comparison. Here he said:

Do you know that in America the exports greatly exceed the imports in value? . . . In the period of 1893-7 the imports were \$3,820,000,000, the exports, \$4,400,000,000—a balance in favor of the United States of \$580,000,000. I looked at the gold and silver bullion and specie to see whether the money goes out. I looked for the same period, 1893-7, and I found that the exports of gold and silver bullion and specie from the United States were \$350,000,000 more than the imports. There, again, you see England lending her money all over the world. She takes it in something she can eat and wear.

To American ears such boasting of the advantages of excessive imports has a confusing sound, so accustomed are we to the notion that nations prosper not on what they get, but on what they get rid of. But how comically that notion strikes our antipodal friends may be inferred from Mr. Reid's remarks.

The people of Fort Worth, Tex., have in Thomas J. Powell a democratic mayor of the democratic type. He was elected last spring on the issue of municipal ownership of municipal monopolies, a policy to which he was committed; and a council of like views was elected with him. For some reason, however, most of the members of the council have since reversed their opinions, which has brought them into collision with the mayor, who holds to his. The conflict is over proposed amendments to the city charter. To avoid a popular vote upon these, and they include a proposition for municipal ownership, the council adopted an ordinance providing for a charter convention in which the council were to sit as delegates ex-officio. The evident object was to give the council control of framing

the charter amendments for submission to the legislature, no matter how the people might vote; and for that, among other reasons, the mayor has vetoed the ordinance. He properly denounces it as undemocratic and un-republican, and insists that if a convention be called the selection of all its members ought to be by popular vote. But he advocates, as preferable to every other method, a simple submission of the points at issue regarding the charter amendments to a referendum, for or against the principle of each. It is expected that the charter question will make the issue at the municipal election next spring, in a contest nominally between the present council and the present mayor, but really between the supporters and the opponents of municipal ownership.

A MORAL ECLIPSE.

Students of history are carefully observing the rapidly evolving events which mark the closing years of the nineteenth century, and forecast the probabilities of the twentieth. The superficial thought is one of jubilation and glorification. This is easy and popular, and fetches its price in the market of *Vanity Fair*, both in applause and in more substantial rewards.

This century has been one of material advancement. Steam and electricity have been put to beneficent uses; and brain now labors in every direction to relieve the muscles of man, and labors efficiently. Mankind has multiplied upon the earth until it numbers nearly 1,500,000,000; and all are become, by reason of the wonderful inventions of the closing century, so closely knit by common interests that optimists may almost dream of one great human family.

The needs of man have multiplied a thousandfold. He no longer is content to live on bread alone, but demands meat—flesh, fish and fowl—spices, sweetmeats, condiments for the palate, as well as food for the stomach. For clothing he has silken robes beyond the opium-inspired dreams of his forefathers. There is

no end of books and of schools, and from kindergarten to university child and man and woman find open doors.

Kinship is found in all the religious faiths of mankind. In Christian forms he has his choice, from the stately authority of the Roman church to the fife and drum of the Salvation Army which meets him at the street corners.

The report of the census bureau, showing that during the decade from 1890 to 1900 the wealth of the United States has increased from \$65,000,000,000 dollars to \$90,000,000,000, elates the national pride; and, in the exaltation of our new importance as a world power, we approached the ruler of the universe on our national thanksgiving day with thinly veiled vanity, congratulating him upon his fair heritage of earth which confers such a luster upon his throne.

This and much more are included in the optimistic view of this little earth and its peoples, as the endless procession moves toward its countless temples during these days of 1900, chanting a *Te Deum*.

But how strange and discordant, in the midst of our self-gratulation, are these words, quoted, just preceding our late presidential election, from an article in the *London Times*:

Unconscious discipleship of Friedrich Neitssche is common in business, social and military circles. Christianity, the golden rule of ethics, is only for slaves. Lust guided by prudence is the only law for free men, whether acting nationally or singly. Deeds of a type once denounced as predatory and criminal are now applauded as clever. Business men, statesmen and churchmen cheer them. A rising spirit of virile, uncompromising egotism is observable in all civilized nations, but nowhere else has it gained vigor of late as in the United States.

If this is a true indictment—and the careful student, undazzled by the glitter of statistical wealth, unmoved by the shouting of the men of war, and counting at their true worth the mummeries and mockeries of churches, knows that it is true—then it were fitting that December 31, 1900, should be set apart as a day of national humiliation and confession of sin, with prayer that we may begin the new century in righteousness. We should recoil from entering the

sacred portals of the twentieth century drunken with folly, inflated with pride and lust, and stained by the innocent blood which we have shed.

These should be our confessions: We have forsaken the faith of our fathers, and we who were consecrated to the service of freedom have stabbed our mother to death in the hearts of her brave little brown children. We have become a nation of cowardly assassins. We are using our wealth and our brute strength to rob and murder, and utterly destroy a poor, weak, brave people who trusted in us and gave their all to us.

Then as we lie prostrate in the dust and humiliated before God and man, let us confess our sins in detail: We invited these men to stand and fight our common enemy in the land which he withheld from them. When we had no further need of them we turned upon them, ravaged their country, destroyed their homes, drove to want and death their wives and children. Because their cry came up against us and condemned us, we suppressed the truth that it might not be made known. Our chief magistrate, and those whom he appointed to have knowledge of these far off islands and their people, have borne false witness to hide our infamy from ourselves and the world. And this nation, by the voice of its people in a national election, has condoned and taken upon itself the guilt of its rulers.

Then let us remember, lest we still hide our sins from ourselves, and by failing to confess and forsake our evil ways go on forever sinning, that we have turned from our ancient appeal to the righteousness of our ways and attempted to hide behind the vain and lying words "duty" and "destiny." This is the indictment: Our people no longer have a moral purpose as a sure and safe guide. We seek "to build up trade," to "enlarge our commerce," to "take our place among the nations." We forget God and his laws while we bow down and worship greed and gain.

Many of our citizens, while not approving of the administration policy of the past two years, ask: "Why did you not make a concrete issue?"

A concrete issue, indeed.

Was it not a concrete issue when we proved that the administration has turned away from the faith of the fathers, and has betrayed the cause of human liberty in each and every step of its infamous blood-stained Philippine policy?

Was it not a concrete issue when we promised so that none other than the blind could fail to read, none other than the deaf could fail to hear, and none other than the hopelessly and incurably prejudiced could fail to believe, that in the event of the election of Mr. Bryan this policy of falsehood, treachery and murder should cease and that the Filipinos should be given opportunity, aided by this great nation, to show their fitness for self-government, as they had already demonstrated their devotion to it?

Was it not a concrete issue when we called upon the nation to pause before surrendering to the great combinations of capital which are trading upon franchises, tariffs and other special privileges?

It was not for lack of concrete issues that in the United States the cause of human rights and equal opportunity has been trodden in the dust. The concrete issues were plain enough. We failed because the moral sense of the people is atrophied.

Our only hope is in the immortality of truth and righteousness. But, looking over the field of American politics, a reasonable forecast is that these dead bones of our departed liberties will never be reclothed with flesh and live again. Who can hope for a resurrection morning for liberty and human rights in the United States?

It is claimed that the young men of this nation are with the administration. This may be true, and is an added cause of alarm. The men who came to manhood 30 or 40 years ago brought with them a controlling purpose of moral convictions. There is great cause for alarm if the young man of to-day, entering the activities of life, is confronted with conditions that sweep him irresistibly into the currents of greed of gain, finding no opening socially or in business life except he stands by those who exalt

success, worship gain and ignore moral considerations.

Yet let us remember that there is always a remnant of the people who have not consented to these evil ways. If there is any hope it is in that. If our people shall be brought to pause, study, reflect, there may yet be hope for our country, and we may yet lead the world in a better life than it has ever known. Our final hope rests in the conviction that the foundations of righteousness are eternal.

ELWOOD S. CORSER.

Minneapolis.

NEWS

Interest still centers upon the South African situation. But reports from there are very meager, and such as leak through are of doubtful veracity, so strict is the British censorship. Kitchener has almost completely shut off the news. Of only one thing is there absolute certainty. The Boers have invaded Cape Colony, and the British are in hourly fear of a rebellious uprising among their Dutch subjects in that quarter. Thus the principal seat of action has been transferred to British territory south of the Orange river.

When we wrote upon this subject last week, it was understood that two bodies of Boers had crossed the Orange river into Cape Colony, one between Colesburg and Kimberley, and the other at some point near Alawal North. Of the movements of the latter, there were then no particulars, but the former was known to have penetrated as far south as Philipsburg. Regarding the body that crossed near Alawal North—the more easterly point of invasion—the British war office has announced that on the 16th it came over the river and moved towards Burghersdorp, but turned westward to avoid a British force which had followed it, and on the 18th occupied Venterstad. On the same day it evacuated Venterstad upon the approach of British troops, and marched towards Steynsburg. Nothing further has been heard regarding this invasion, except in a press dispatch to the effect that it has been repulsed at Steynsburg and fled to the Zuurberg mountains. The same war department announcement says that the

more westerly invading force crossed at Sand Drift, and made for Colesburg, but upon learning that British troops were in pursuit diverged to the west, and on the 19th occupied Philipstown. Later, according to an official dispatch of the 22d, it occupied Britstown (which it has since abandoned) and cut the railway south of De Aar Junction on the line from Cape Town to Kimberley. According to press dispatches, this cut has been repaired, and trains are running irregularly. On the 24th Lord Kitchener arrived in person at De Aar, having gone from Pretoria, though he had previously reported not only that the Dutch in Cape Town were quiescent, but that the invasion from the north had been checked. An Associated Press message of the 25th from Cape Town tells of fighting near De Aar, the particulars of which were then not obtainable; and one of the 26th reports the capture of a force of British yeomanry which had followed the Boers from Britstown and fallen into a trap.

In consequence of this Boer invasion the British "treason court," established for the purpose of trying Boer sympathizers among British colonial subjects, and sitting at Colesburg, has removed with its records hastily to Cape Town. For the same reason the banks of 18 towns in the Orange river region have removed their cash and papers to Cape Town. To assist in preventing a rebellious uprising, martial law has been proclaimed, the districts affected being Britstown, Victoria West, Richmond, Hanover, Maraisburg, Graaf Reinet, Middleburg, Aberdeen, Steynsburg, Cradock, Torka and Molteno.

The transference of the principal seat of action to Cape Colony, has by no means put an end to fighting in the Orange Free State and the Transvaal. One battle in the neighborhood of Pretoria is reported from British sources, Gen. French having, it is said, routed 2,500 Boers on the 19th at Thornvale, about 16 miles northwest from Krugersdorp. At last accounts he was pursuing them. Gen. Clements, however, in the same general region — the Magaliesberg — is quoted in London dispatches as reporting that "it was considered advisable not to force the Boers from their positions." An attack was made by the Boers upon Zunfontein,

near Johannesburg, on the 18th, but repulsed. With the exception of Pretoria and Johannesburg, the whole of the Transvaal and the largest part of the Orange Free State are reported by German volunteers just returned to Berlin to be in the hands of the Boers. They say that the Boer army is larger than the English wish to have known, and is spread over the whole theater of the war. These reports are confirmed by American volunteers who have recently arrived home from South Africa. They are confident, also, that Great Britain cannot subdue the Boers. The seriousness of the whole situation is further indicated by the nervous efforts of the British government to strengthen Kitchener. A large draft of horsemen is to leave England for South Africa on the 6th. All the available cavalry at Belfast, Ireland, has been ordered to prepare for service in South Africa. An increase of pay is offered the imperial troops, from 28 cents to \$1.25 a day. The colonial police is to be increased to 10,000 instead of 5,000, as intended last week. The colonies have been appealed to to furnish all the mounted troops they can muster. Volunteer corps are organizing in Durban. And in London the probabilities of "conscription" are freely discussed in military circles.

China next engages attention. The joint note of the foreign powers, upon the terms of which their representatives agreed on the 19th, as reported last week at page 585, was formally signed at Peking on the 21st. The text was made public on the same day at Washington. It begins by reciting the outbreak last summer of disturbances in the northern provinces of China, "in which atrocious crimes, unparalleled in history, and outrages against the law of nations, against the law of humanity, and against civilization were committed under particularly odious circumstances," and follows with an enumeration of the principal crimes referred to. They are four in number, namely: (1) The assassination of the German minister by soldiers of the Chinese army acting under orders; (2) the prolonged attack upon the foreign nations by regular troops, acting under orders from the imperial palace; (3) the assassination of the chancellor of the Japanese legation by Chinese regulars, and the torture and murder by regular troops of other

foreigners; and, (4) the desecration of foreign cemeteries at Peking. The note then refers to these occurrences as necessarily leading the foreign powers to dispatch troops to China, and complains that during their march to Peking they "met with resistance from the Chinese army, and had to overcome it by force." Reciting next that "China has recognized her responsibility, expressed regret and evinced a desire to see an end put to the situation created by the aforesaid disturbance," the note concludes with the assurance that "the powers have determined to accede to her request upon the irrevocable conditions" which it enumerates as follows, in substance:

I. (a) Apology to emperor of Germany for assassination of his minister, to be made at Berlin by an extraordinary mission headed by an imperial prince. (b) Erection on the spot of the assassination of a suitable monument inscribed in Latin, German and Chinese with an expression of the regrets of the emperor of China for the murder.

II. (a) Severest punishment for the persons designated in imperial decree of September 25, 1900, [Prince Chwang, Prince Gih, Prince Tuan, Prince Kangyi, and Prince Chao Schuchiao] and for others to be designated by the powers. (b) Suspension for five years of official examinations in cities where foreigners have been murdered or otherwise outraged.

III. Honorable reparation to Japan for assassination of chancellor of her legation.

IV. Erection of expiatory monuments in every foreign cemetery which has been desecrated.

V. Non-importation of arms and munitions by China.

VI. Equitable guaranteed indemnities to foreign governments, companies and individuals who suffered during the late occurrences, and to Chinamen who suffered in consequence of their being in the service of foreigners.

VII. Privilege to foreign powers to fortify and guard their legations, and to exclude Chinese from residence in diplomatic quarter.

VIII. Destruction of forts which might obstruct free communication between Peking and the sea.

IX. Foreign military occupation of points to be designated for the maintenance of open communication between the capital and the sea.

X. Publication for two years by China in all sub-prefectures of an imperial decree—(a) perpetually prohibiting membership in any antiforeign society; (b) enumerating punishments; (c) holding local officials responsible for order within their respective jurisdictions and removing and

disqualifying them upon renewal of antiforeign disturbances which are not at once suppressed.

XI. Modifications of commercial treaties between the powers and China with a view to facilitating commerce and navigation.

XII. Such reform of the Chinese department of foreign affairs, and modification of court ceremonials concerning reception of foreign representatives, as may be indicated by the powers and determined by the Chinese government.

The note concludes with these words: "Until the Chinese government has complied with the above conditions to the satisfaction of the powers, the undersigned can hold out no expectation that the occupation of Peking and the province of Cheli by the general forces can be brought to a conclusion." This note, in the French language, was delivered to Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching, the Chinese plenipotentiaries, on the 24th. Before its delivery, however, as appears from a Washington dispatch of the 26th, the American minister, Mr. Conger, made reservations in behalf of the United States. Some have not yet been published, but those that have been are to the effect that the rejection by China of the terms proposed "shall not bind the United States to join the other powers in resuming hostilities" and that "the United States is not bound to maintain permanent guards in China or to prevent the importation of arms and ammunition."

Passing now over to the Philippines, we have only to report, besides the continuance of native resistance to such an extent that great nervousness is manifested in Manila over the forthcoming departure of American troops for home, that a native political party has been formed at Manila. As to the resistance, there are details of one battle on the northwest coast of the island of Leyte in which two Americans were killed and three wounded. The new political party calls itself the "federal" party, because it looks forward, its leaders say, to the admission of the Philippines as a state of the American union. There is about the dispatches a flavor which suggests that this party is in some way patronized by the American authorities.

American casualties since July 1, 1898, inclusive of the current official reports given out in detail at Wash-

ington to December 26, 1900, are as follows:

Deaths to May 16, 1900 (see page 91)	1,847
Killed reported from May 16, 1900, to the date of the presidential election, November 6, 1900.....	100
Deaths from wounds, disease and accident, same period	468
Total deaths to presidential election	2,415
Killed, reported since presidential election	17
Deaths from wounds, disease and accident, same period.....	76
Total deaths	2,508
Wounded since July 1, 1898.....	2,373
Total casualties since July, '98.....	4,881
Total casualties to last week.....	4,881
Total deaths to last week.....	2,508

In Australia the process of making the great commonwealth goes smoothly on. Our last reference to the matter will be found at page 105. It related to the action in May of the British parliament, which amended the commonwealth bill on its second reading. Within a month the colonies had indicated their acceptance of the amendment, and on the 25th of June the bill passed its third reading. On the 14th of July the queen approved the selection of the earl of Hopetown as governor general of the new commonwealth, and on the 19th of the present month the governor general invited William J. Lyne, now the prime minister and treasurer of New South Wales, to become the first prime minister of the commonwealth. Mr. Lyne has not yet accepted.

Last in order, though not least in importance, is the action of the United States senate on the Hay-Pauncefote treaty for regulating the construction, management and defense of a Nicaragua canal. As stated last week (page 584), the 20th had been fixed for the final vote upon the treaty. Accordingly on that day, after voting down four out of five proffered amendments, the senate decided to ratify the treaty, as amended, by a vote of 55 to 18. Four independents—Allen, Pettigrew, Heitfeld and Turner—voted in the negative, as did Wellington, Bard and Mason, republicans. Eleven democrats voted with them. Twelve democrats—Bacon, Clay, Harris, Kenny, Lindsay, McEnery, McLaurin, Mallory, Morgan,

Pettus, Sullivan and Taliaferro—voted to ratify.

The treaty as ratified (or, rather, as proposed by the senate in substitution for the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, for Great Britain has not yet assented to it as it now stands), contains three articles, in substance as follows:

Article 1. The canal may be constructed under the auspices of the United States, either directly or through corporations or individuals; and, subject to this treaty, the United States shall enjoy all the rights incident to construction besides the exclusive right of regulation and management.

Art. 2. The Clayton-Bulwer treaty is superseded and the following rules are adopted as the basis of neutralization:

1. The canal shall be open in peace and war, to commercial and war vessels of all nations on equal terms.

2. It shall never be blockaded, and no right of war shall be exercised nor act of hostility be committed within it.

3. War vessels of a belligerent, and prizes, shall revictual or take stores in the canal only to such extent as may be strictly necessary, and shall pass through with the least possible delay.

4. Troops and munitions of a belligerent shall not be disembarked except in case of accident, and their transit shall be resumed with all possible dispatch.

5. These rules shall apply to the waters adjacent to the canal within three marine miles of either end; and no belligerent shall remain in such waters longer than 24 hours except when in distress nor depart within 24 hours after a vessel of the other belligerent. But none of the foregoing restrictions shall apply to "measures which the United States may find it necessary to take for securing by its own forces the defense of the United States and the maintenance of public order."

6. All the buildings, works, etc., in connection with the canal shall enjoy complete immunity from attacks of belligerents.

7. No fortifications shall command the canal or adjacent waters; but the United States is at liberty "to maintain such military police along the canal as may be necessary to protect it against lawlessness and disorder."

Art. 3. Provides for exchange of ratifications at Washington or London within six months.

NEWS NOTES.

—The pope on the 26th issued a bull extending jubilee year for six months more to apply to all places except Rome.

—Roger C. Wolcott, ex-governor of Massachusetts, died at his home in Boston on the 21st from typhoid fever. He was 53 years old.

—The American Chemical society opened the sessions of its twenty-second annual convention at Lewis institute, Chicago, on the 27th.

—Carl Becker, the well-known German historical painter, died on the 19th, just two days after the celebration of his eightieth birthday.

—Pope Leo closed the "holy door" of St. Peter's, in Rome, on the 24th with impressive ceremonies before an immense throng of spectators.

—The telegraphers' strike on the Santa Fe railroad system, which began on the 6th, and which was noticed in these columns on page 570, was called off on the 21st.

—Mexico is reported to be on the verge of a financial panic, due to the excessive exports of silver dollars to the orient, which have continued during the past five months at the rate of \$50,000 a day.

—An important medical discovery is the result of experiments made by Dr. Loeb and Prof. Lingle, physiologists of the University of Chicago, who claim that sodium chloride, or common salt, is the cause of heart pulsations, and that life may be prolonged by the use of this chemical.

—Mexico's war with the Yaqui, reported in these columns on page 153, continues to be relentlessly waged by both sides, although few reports of fighting have become public, owing to a severe press censorship. In a recent engagement in the state of Sonora four officers and 30 men were killed by the Yaquis.

—Workmen are engaged in restoring the celebrated temple of the "Parthenon," on the Acropolis at Athens. The Parthenon, erected by Pericles in the fifth century B. C., remained in a good state of preservation until 1687, when during the war between Venice and Turkey it was destroyed by the explosion of a Venetian bomb, the temple being at that time used by the Turks for a powder magazine.

—A strike of dock laborers and stevedores at Antwerp, Belgium, which began a week ago, has grown to serious dimensions, the police having proven quite unable to protect the non-union workmen who attempted to take the strikers' places. Although a serious collision with the police occurred on the 23d, in which 30 strikers were wounded, they are at the present writing, the 27th, quite determined to hold the advantage already gained.

—Henry George, Jr., has appointed a committee of 100 to reorganize the party that supported his father for mayor of Greater New York in 1897, and of which he became the mayoralty candidate upon his father's death. The name of the party is the "Young Democracy." It demands that the next mayor of New York be "a democrat who will compel corporations that now enjoy public rights and immunities to pay a just taxation tribute to the people, instead of bribes and blackmail; a man who will work for municipal ownership and operation of public franchises."

—One of the most sensational and

daring cases of kidnaping since the famous Charlie Ross affair occurred in Omaha, Neb., on the night of the 18th when the 15-year-old son of Edward Cudahy, of the large packing firm of Cudahy Bros., was seized near his home by two men and driven in an open buggy to a vacant house on the outskirts of the city and held there for 24 hours for a ransom of \$25,000 in gold, which the father finally paid. The kidnapers succeeded in making their escape, and are still at large, although Mr. Cudahy has offered a large reward for their capture.

—A new principle for street railway legislation has been reported to the Chicago city council by the special street railway committee of that body, for recommendation to the legislature of Illinois. The report is favorable to home rule and municipal ownership. Any street railway franchise for more than five years would be referred to the voters of the city when such referendum was demanded by ten per cent. of their number; and cities would be authorized to acquire, own and operate street railways, upon a popular vote in which four-sevenths should be in the affirmative.

—The statistics of exports and imports of the United States for November, as given by the November treasury sheet, were as follows (M standing for merchandise, G for gold, and S for silver):

	Exports.	Imports.	Balance.
M	\$136,678,594	64,846,418	\$71,832,176 exp
G	677,207	10,581,516	9,904,309 imp
S	5,258,080	3,807,232	1,650,848 exp
	\$142,613,881	\$79,035,166	\$63,578,715 exp

—The statistics of exports and imports of the United States for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1900, to and including November 30, 1900, as given by the treasury reports, were as follows (M standing for merchandise, G for gold, and S for silver):

	Exports.	Imports.	Balance.
M	\$619,082,381	\$320,189,953	\$298,892,428 exp
G	23,236,625	32,414,378	9,177,758 imp
S	28,475,564	18,229,899	10,225,665 exp
	\$670,794,570	\$370,844,230	\$299,950,340 exp

—Over 300 attended the Jeffersonian club banquet at Lincoln on the 26th, when William J. Bryan, the guest of honor, made his first speech since the election. His toast was "Principles Live," and his speech was an elaboration of the sentiment, expressed in one of its sentences, that "the principles for which we contended in the last campaign still live, and we who believe in them must continue to fight for them." The opinions of those present were unanimous for Bryan as the democratic leader, but he himself said: "Whether I shall be a candidate for office again is a question which must be determined by events. . . . I shall be content if it is my lot to aid in the triumph of the principles, while others enjoy the honors and bear the responsibility of office."

IN CONGRESS.

This report is an abstract of the Congressional Record, and closes with the last issue of that publication at hand upon going to press.

Senate.

Dec. 17-21, 1900.

On the 17th the senate was engaged with private bills, after which it went into executive session with the apparent object of considering the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. Pension bills occupied some of the time on the 18th, when the senate again went into executive session for the evident purpose of further considering the terms of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. A joint resolution was passed on the 19th, authorizing the president to appoint Congressman Charles A. Boutelle, of Maine, formerly volunteer Lieutenant in the navy, upon the retired list of the navy, with the rank of captain. The senate once more went into executive session, with the obvious intention of considering the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. Part of the 20th was taken up with a discussion of the resolution pertaining to the expenses of the Montana senatorial investigation, at the conclusion of which the senate for the last time went into executive session with reference to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. When the senate came out of executive session the injunction of secrecy regarding the treaty was removed. On the 21st the senate met and immediately adjourned over the holiday recess, until January 3, 1901.

House.

On the 17th the house defeated a bill giving preference under the civil service rules in governmental offices to veterans of the civil and Spanish wars, and passed the urgent deficiency bill. Upon this day also was passed a concurrent resolution authorizing the president to appoint Congressman Charles A. Boutelle, of Maine, formerly a lieutenant in the navy, upon the retired list of the navy, with the rank of captain. The consideration of a bill in committee of the whole, for the elimination of grade crossings and the elevation of tracks on the line of the Baltimore & Potomac R. R. Co. in the District of Columbia was begun on the 18th. This bill, which is printed on page 42 of the Record, also contemplates granting the railway company in consideration of the expense involved in the elevation of its tracks, the right to use and occupy 3½ acres more of the public reservation known as Garfield park. The consideration of the railway track elevation bill was resumed on the 19th, when it passed by a vote of 164 to 72. The senate amendments to the urgent deficiency bill were concurred in on the 20th. The Indian and military academy appropriation bills were also passed. On the 21st some private bills were disposed of, after which the house adjourned for their usual holiday recess until January 3, 1901.

MISCELLANY

ONE CENTURY: ONE PROBLEM.

For The Public.

One hundred years; how long, how short the time!
With backward look, we scan life's lengthening chain.

The links of youth, of childhood, infancy,
Reach not so far into the long ago,
As to that time, before our sires were born,
When dawned on earth the nineteenth century.

The nineteenth; eighteen that have gone before,

In ponderous volumes, tell their story long.
Yea, read we of still earlier centuries,
And ages lost in myth and mystery.
Still reaching backward, science plies her task,

And tells of time and changes infinite.
One hundred years; the time was very brief,

And yet, in all historic time before,
So great, so many triumphs scarce were won

By mind o'er matter as its record shows.

Not novel is the theme; 'tis often told—
The story of this wonderful advance.
But one dark fact o'ershadows all the rest;
Before us one momentous problem looms.

For, while the sense of exultation thrills,
That, by the magic power of thought applied,
We draw from nature's treasures, for our use,
Twice tenfold what our fathers' skill could take;
While some by hundred millions count their wealth;
While reveling splendor reigns in palace homes;—
From foul and squalid haunts, stares pitiless wants;
Young children toll in crowded reeking dens;
And men, grim-visaged, seek, and seek in vain,
The old-time curse, now deemed a precious boon—
A chance, by toil and sweat, to earn their bread.

Whence come these cursed ill-begotten twins,
This monstrous wealth, this monstrous misery?
What law have we, in ignorance, transgressed?
What baleful lie have we so long believed,
That, entering proud the twentieth century,
We do not yet forsake that fearful way
That blights, distorts and wrecks unnumbered lives?

Dost thou believe in God? Insult not Him.
Say not 'tis His ordaining, righteous will.

Ye magnates, who, by man's perverted law,
Absorb the wealth from others' toll derived;

'Tis plainly pointed out, and clearly proved,
By sages, who have pondered long and well,

What basic error throttles industry,
And robs and desecrates her while she weeps.

If ye despise her teachings true and wise,
How shall ye answer for this ravening fiend?

Think not to make your peace with man and God,
By building schools of learning where the truth,

That rises to convict you, is suppressed.

Ye legislators, with your truckling schemes!

Your partial, purchased laws do but increase,

Not lessen, ills at which ye claim to strike.
And thus 'twill ever be, till ye discern,
And strike the cause of causes of these ills.

Ye churches! may God bless your charity.
'Tis noblest of all human ministries.
But saddest of all facts in human life,
Is this: the need of men for charity.

If justice could prevail, this need were small.

Your missions and donations palliate,
But not excuse, your slighting of this truth.
Ye worship Him who died upon the cross,
Because He dared to strike at powerful wrong.

How many, since that sacrifice sublime,
For like offense, have tasted bitter woe!
Beware, lest, like the Pharisees of old,
Ye crucify the messengers of truth.

The message that through nineteen centuries rings,

Contains a meaning, deeper, grander far
Than aught the world has ever understood.

In this, the era of achievement vast,
As opens broad the twentieth century's field,
May wisdom, justice, charity combine,
To heed, according to its blest intent,
Without which all our triumphs are in vain,
That message: "Peace on earth; good will to men."

W. J. W.

CIVILIZATION.

Once upon a time some savages, aspiring to be civilized and observing with apprehension that the genius of the Anglo-Saxon race was falling behind in its schedule, resolved to do the trick themselves.

Accordingly they massacred their wives and children, burned their homes and otherwise desolated their country.

"But who," they now exclaimed, uneasily, "is to exterminate us?"

The fact that they had not foreseen this obvious difficulty shows how extremely simple they were. For of course their last state was not sensibly better than their first.—Detroit Journal.

THE EXTRAVAGANCE OF THE POOR.

For The Public.

A Bandit used to rob the peasantry, so that when they began to starve, they appealed to him for charity.

Said the Bandit: "I will give you nothing; you are poor because you are thriftless; my Associated Charities inform me that you waste even the bones of your meat."

"If you were industrious and honest," said he (as he lifted a sheep), "the country would be richer, and I could make more. You waste your goods, so that there is nothing to steal, and then we all suffer hard times."

"But, Sir," replied the Peasants, "you yourself throw away even the legs, and eat nothing but the tenderloins."

"I can afford it," said the Bandit, "because I do not have to work for my living; you Lower Classes would better pray to heaven for prosperity, instead of troubling me with your preposterous discontent."

BOLTON HALL.

A PROPHECY.

In the Manchester (England) *Guardian* of November 12 appeared a letter from Olive Schreiner which was read before a meeting of South African women. The letter declared that England has lost her honor, and predicts for her empire ruin and desolation. The Boers, it asserts, will never rest until they are an independent people. We take this description of the letter and the following extract from it from the *Chicago Record*.

The day is coming when England

will know what the price was of the life of every South African she has taken. There is not a beardless Boer boy or an old man of 70 who has stained with his blood the kopjes and dongas of his native land but England would have found it cheaper to buy his life at the cost of a million of money. When that day comes, and it will come, when foreign troops, Russian, French or German, are upon the soil of England; when Englishmen gather to defend Richmond Hill and Hampstead Heath as we have gathered to defend the hills and passes of our native land; when the tramp of foreign soldiers is heard in the streets of London and the ground is wet at the Marble Arch and the Hyde Park Corner with the blood of Englishmen—then when England drinks the cup which to-day she presses at our lips, then, in that day, let her remember South Africa.

But England has lost more than the lives of her own brave soldiers; more than the confidence and affection of the Cape Colonists; more than the alliance and friendship of the republics. She has lost her honor.

That which South Africa has to fear is the corrupting, corroding, enervating power of wealth. While we, the people of South Africa, hold by the old, simple, brave ideals and manners of life of the founders of the South African race the future of South Africa is assured. It is for the women of South Africa to transmit these ideals to their children. Freedom first, and wealth, ease, luxury last, if at all. Bathed in blood and swathed in sorrow as South Africa is to-day, the time is yet coming when the land will be the home of an independent and strong nation.

DEMOCRACY IS THE CONSERVATION OF ANCIENT RIGHTS.

What is Bryanism? In the sense that Mr. Bryan is the originator of any political movement the term is a misnomer. He has never claimed such a credit.

He is simply one individual among many who, watching the trend of events and mindful of the past history of the human race, see in the present tendencies every danger which has imperiled or subverted the powerful nations which have arisen and fallen in the ages behind us. His progenitors have existed in nearly every century, and in the truest meaning of the word the principles for which he is contending should be denominated democracy. Not "old

line democracy," which consists in having cast a vote for James Buchanan. But that democracy which along down the centuries has been fighting great battles. That democracy which believes that powers of government are rightfully inherent in the people governed; that they do not require the giving and they should not be subject to the taking away; that the functions of government are not to be exploited for the interest of the few, but are to be exercised for the conservation of the interests of the many. It is opposed to that abuse of government which consists in the creation and maintenance of special privileges.

Now this democracy is very old. It is only the reiteration of it that is new. Jefferson was not its originator, nor did he borrow it from Rousseau, for it was enunciated a hundred years before Rousseau by Locke, and the century before Locke by Hooker. Indeed more than 23 centuries ago it was asserted by Aristotle that the only legitimate government is one based on the consent of the governed, and acting in the interest of the whole; that that is not legitimate which is based on the authority of a class and exercised in the interests of that class.

Under varying circumstances and changing environments the eternal struggle has proceeded. In England the king would never have voluntarily yielded Magna Charta. The spirit of democracy plucked it from the king. In France through terrible revulsions it has procured for the burdened people the relief which the royal court would have granted never. In Russia and in Germany it stands as a continual menace to despotism.

But in this country of ours democracy finds itself engaged in a different field. Here arbitrary power never has been enthroned. Our form of government began its existence with an explicit statement, made as strong as words could express, that sovereign powers rest rightfully, and inherently, and only, in the possession of the people. The declaration of independence is a document vitalized by this principle.

Thus democracy in America stands for the preservation of old institutions rather than the inauguration of new. It has been forced to admit by the political phases of the closing days of the century, that the establishment of a government of the people in America is not yet an assured fact, however fondly it has been

dreamed to be, but is yet really in an experimental stage. It is still possible for it to meet the fate which has terminated every similar attempt since governments began on earth.—Dr. J. A. DuBois, in Sauk Center (Minn.) Herald.

A CHRISTMAS LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Reprinted from City and State, Philadelphia.

"When the heart is broken, God enters and truth is realized; when peace reigns in the heart, truth is also perceived."

These are the two conditions under which man is permitted to touch the hem of the garment of that which no one can define. Under the commonplace conditions of daily life, when passion and petty ambition distort the mental view, the mind can reach only commonplace truths. The finer moral distinctions can only be realized under the strain and stress of profound sorrow, or else at the opposite pole of human emotion, when the heart and mind are at peace with God and the world.

It was not merely as a dramatic incident that the advent of the Greatest Embodiment of Truth was heralded by a message of peace and good will to man. The scene chosen for the announcement had also a meaning. It was to the shepherds "neath the stars and the silvery arc of the moon," enswathed in the peace-speaking night of the east, that the celestial messengers came. And it is at this same season of peace and good will, when the hearts of men, freed from the sterner things of daily life, are softened and drawn together, when all mankind is under the influence of the Prince of Peace—that I wish to make an appeal on behalf of our sorely stricken people.

I am convinced that if the American people only knew what is happening in the Philippines, the flag of truce would wave over every blood-stained field in our loved island home. But the martial spirit, as well as considerations of national pride and prestige, have dulled the ear of pity and compassion.

In this great land, wherein are enjoyed the blessings of liberty and abundance, there are those who would shrink from the mere idea of killing a fellow-being, yet who, under the influence of martial glory, do not realize that thousands of brave men and equally brave women are being slain by sword and starvation, in a conflict

which can only result in death to one people and withered laurels to the other.

Will we not do well to ask ourselves what is the cause of all this strife and suffering? What is the stumbling-block in the way of peace and reconciliation? I only know that the Filipino people are asking for that which the American people have enjoyed for more than a hundred years. What, then, are our differences? May it not be that "the all-transmuting truth may find affinities in things which are to us the very elements of war?"

At this season of peace I plead for peace. I plead on behalf of the wife and mother down whose cheeks are coursing the silent tears; on behalf of the maiden who has met with her first great sorrow; on behalf of the sad little faces, too young to realize what has happened, but who know that the one who occupied that vacant chair will never more return; on behalf of the patriots who, for good or ill, have laid down their lives for their country's cause; on behalf of the brave soldiers marching under both flags, and in the name and for the sake of Him, the Friend of the oppressed, who suffered unjust condemnation as a rebel against the Lord of Hosts, I plead for peace.

May this plea, written with the blood and tears of our people, reach the hearts of all who share the peace and good will of the Herald Angels' song on this last Christmas of the century.

SIXTO LOPEZ.
Bingham House, Philadelphia, 20th December.

WHY A MILITARY POST IS TO BE ESTABLISHED AT DES MOINES.

In the Chicago Chronicle of December 21 appeared the following special telegram from Des Moines, Ia., under date of December 20:

"Chairman Hull, of the house military affairs committee, wired the local committee to-day that Secretary Root has approved the selection of the Brisco-Denny farms, four miles from Des Moines, as the site for the new army post. The selection of this site is the result of a resolution by congress providing for a gift by the city of 400 acres of land."

What lies back of the establishment of a military post at Des Moines was well set forth by Mrs. Lona Ingham Robinson in an article published last spring in the Des Moines Leader, which we here reproduce in large part.

Just now, as Capt. J. A. T. Hull is wearing a nimbus of glory on account of the plum he has secured for Des Moines from the big military plum pudding in process of distribution, his communications to the press are of peculiar interest. The interview in the Leader of April 10 is especially remark-

able for a really child-like ingenuousness. From it we learn the various advantages that will accrue to us from this military post and what a good plum we are getting. 1. It will advertise the city. 2. It will make this locality a disbursing point for government expenses. 3. It will afford a pleasure park for both rich and poor. 4. It will be a great social advantage. 5. Music loving people can hear the military band play. 6. It will improve the value of real estate. 7. It will employ labor. Now of all these seven reasons so jauntily trotted out by Capt. Hull, four are grossly commercial. The military post would help local trade and boom real estate. Two reasons are that it will amuse us to see the park and the soldiers and to hear the band play. One, that it will give us social advantages that we do not now enjoy. Incidentally we learn that some army posts are being abolished on account of the disappearance of the Indians, that this particular locality is especially adapted for a military post, situated, as it is, on three or four great trunk lines, allowing easy concentration and distribution of troops.

Is it possible that Capt. Hull presented his bill to congress for the location of this post on the ground that it would afford some local profit, furnish some popular amusement and improve the society of Des Moines? And that it passed owing to those reasons? If so, his was a victory indeed. For there are hundreds of other localities which likewise want more advertising, more employment, more trade and more land booming, and which need their society improved as much, if not more than Des Moines. There are hundreds of places as well situated as to railroads and countless numbers of places which have more Indians.

Indeed, Capt. Hull expressly says that posts have been discontinued where Indians have disappeared. Have Indians been arriving in any considerable numbers around the vicinity of Des Moines, that we stand so badly in need of a military post here? In short, what means the establishment of a military post here at all? And why was it pushed and furthered by the commercial exchange? We learn from Capt. Hull that the army post will incidentally profit, amuse and improve us, we learn why other army posts are discontinued, we learn that this is a good location for an army post, but as to what in this wide world a regiment of soldiers is expected to do here our informant is silent. We are left to suppose that the government will equip and support 1,000 men out here near

Des Moines for the purpose of consuming food and supplies in order that we may furnish them; that these men will drill and play the band in order that we may go on cheap excursions to see and hear them; a sort of perpetual attraction kept at government expense to compete with the Cherry sisters and Sam Jones. To a child these would seem quite sufficient reasons for the maintenance of a regiment of soldiers, but to a mature mind it seems inadequate. The fact is he is telling us a story with the plot left out. Well, Capt. Hull knows why an army post is to be stationed here and what it is expected to do here. That is a gruesome plot that might frighten the innocent children who listen to the captain's tale. A military post is to be stationed here because it is in the center of a vast coal region, a growing manufacturing point and a railroad center. It will be located here for the purpose of intimidating and coercing, with bayonets and gatling guns, miners, factory and railroad employees who may find it necessary to protest against starvation wages. It will be here for the same purpose as the military force called to Coeur d'Alene and with the power to commit similar outrages upon industrious citizens, displacing upon the slightest pretext civil law by military law. But why would not an Iowa state guard do as well as government troops? Because a soldiery recruited right here in the state would have an instinctive abhorrence to firing into the ranks of kinsmen and possible friends and acquaintances, while strange soldiers, bred to the brutal trade of war, would have no qualms.

An out of town member of the United Mine Workers' union recently said in conversation that in his county the wages of miners up to a year ago were but 75 cents a day, while they paid from five to seven dollars a month for rent; their children could not attend school, they could barely keep soul and body together. But now, the organization of labor had improved their condition; wages had improved 50 per cent. and their children could now go to school. The man's account was pathetic, but hopeful. But with a standing army ready for "concentration" at any point of alleged insubordination, wages can be safely reduced to the former scale and any protest can be silenced by the military. For what do miners and factory hands' children need of school? Or improved condition of living? They are of different stuff, you know.

A prominent manufacturer of this city watching his employes going home

from their work was heard to observe: "Look at them now! They don't need names, they ought to have numbers! Yes, they have good times; they have all they need and more, too. If they have meat once a week and butter on Sunday that's all they need. Yet they think they don't get enough wages; they want milk every day like us." Shades of Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln! What are we coming to? Such a speech is not born of American principles, it is imperialistic. It proclaims a spirit of caste. And the staff of imperialism is militarism. It was imperialism that clamored for an army post near this city. It is imperialism in Capt. Hull that got it. And now he jingles his six or seven false reasons for its existence to call off attention from the real reason, which he is afraid to avow for fear of losing some working-men's votes.

And who for a moment supposes that the society of Des Moines will be improved by the near residence and association of 1,000 single men cut loose from home ties and debarred by military regulation from marriage, men who presumably could do nothing that would pay better than the business of killing men, not as a patriotic necessity, but as a trade. If the soldiery that come here are like those at Fort Snelling or Omaha it will certainly compel the city to considerably augment its police force.

But Capt. Hull regards this whole question as lightly as he does the Puerto Rican bill. With men like him all questions are either matters of "sentiment" or of expediency. They would be frightened to death to encounter such a thing as a principle to be acted upon. They are only good to talk about. When action must be taken what the politicians vote for is always "a necessary expedient." What their opponents vote for is a matter of mere sentiment. With them life is a joke, commerce, politics and war are all mere games instituted for the benefit of those tricky or bold enough to carry off the prizes. To win "a sure thing" in any of the three games is worth your own soul and any number of your fellow mortals' lives. To look at things otherwise is preposterous, "mere sentiment."

AMMUNITION FOR SINGLE TAXERS.

The advocates of a single tax on unimproved land values will find an argument to their hand in the taxation figures of New York state, recently made public. The total assessed valuation of real estate is \$4,-

812,000,000, an increase of \$398,000,000 during the year. The total assessed value of personal property subject to taxation for local purposes is \$650,000,000, a decrease of \$13,000,000 over last year's valuation. Of course, nobody believes that the personal property in the state has not increased largely during the year. One of the important arguments of the advocates of the land tax has been that it cannot be evaded by falsehood. Land is always in plain sight.—Kansas City Star.

THE VICE CRUSADES.

BEGIN AT THE TOP.

A syndicate interview from the Rev. Gustavus Tuckerman, of St. Stephen's House, St. Louis.

"Judge not, that ye be not judged" is an injunction to be heeded by us all.

I am far from unmindful of its applicability to myself. Nevertheless, to be honest, I must express my conviction that the "anti-vice crusade" movement is to be deplored on the ground that it is unintelligent, unethical and, above all, unchristian. Jesus said of Himself that He came to seek and to save the lost; and of those whom He commissioned, that they were sent by Him as He had been sent by the Father. He also said to the exponents of respectability and religiosity that by their blindness and self-righteous separationism they were blocking the way into the kingdom of God—adding, moreover, that those whom they most despised were more open to the truth than they.

More pertinent than these statements of the Christ I know of none unless it be His warning: "Without Me ye can do nothing."

In all efforts for the extermination of vice there is at bottom no alternative to the choice between the cross and the club as a tool—between drawing and driving as the method. No great length of time and no elaborate intellectual process is required to decide which of these was the tool and the method of Him whom we call Master. If justification for the use of force be sought in the double cleansing of the temple of Him it might be well to remember (1) the mote and the beam, (2) the consanguinity of poolroom, church-fair raffle and stock exchange, (3) the relative importance of retail and wholesale gambling, (4) the comparative criminality of physical and intellectual or spiritual prostitution.

If we must have "crusades," if the Philippines and China do not afford

sufficient vent for the martial impulse, why be so cowardly as to hound "the least of them, my brethren?" Why not be brave enough to attack "spiritual wickedness in high places?" Why not be honest enough to admit that the time is come for judgment to begin at the house of God—even at us who ostensibly constitute the church and call ourselves Christians? Why not in manly fashion face the fact that, however well meant, any movement which is tainted with self-interest, mercantilism, rotten respectability and religiosity is doomed to ignominious failure and confusion of face? Why not first cleanse the temple? Why not apply the whip there before attempting to wield it in the Tenderloin?

"He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone."

YOU ARE FIGHTING THE SYMPTOMS, NOT THE DISEASE.

Portions of a sermon delivered at Plymouth church, Rochester, N. Y., by the pastor, the Rev. W. T. Brown, December 16, as reported in the Rochester Herald.

When I think carefully and candidly of these crusades against vice and evil which are represented by such movements as that of the Anti-Saloon league and other similar organizations, and when I consider with equal candor and seriousness these other religious movements like that planned for the opening century, while I am compelled to acknowledge the sincerity and earnestness of those engaged in them, as I expect them to acknowledge the same qualities in me, I am obliged to regard them mistaken and wasteful. I cannot approve them and I cannot cooperate in them. And I will tell you why.

In the first place, they seem to me to be misdirected. And they are misdirected because they are not aimed, so far as I can see, at the real vice which threatens most dangerously the life of the individual and the welfare of society. In all my life thus far I cannot remember a crusade against vice which evinced any clear knowledge of what the most dangerous, the most menacing, the most destructive vice is. And I have never known of such a crusade which bore the remotest resemblance to the spirit or life or conduct of Jesus. Indeed, as a matter of fact, Jesus is not very generally invoked in such movements. The crusades which are going on most of the time here in our city under the auspices of the Anti-Saloon league, the Prohibition Union of Christian Men, the Good

Government club and other organizations are directed and always have been directed against the least harmful forms of vice, against the least guilty offenders, against the great laws of human life, whether you think of such laws as embodied in the teachings of the world's great prophets or as implicit in the constitution of man and of society.

What is it we are trying to do in these movements? We are trying to close the saloons, the brothels and the places where a petty form of gambling is carried on. Let me remind you that effort is always directed against those saloons especially which are patronized by the poor rather than against those places which receive the patronage of the rich. Understand, I do not say that the clubs where spirituous liquors are to be had are not included in the general indictment of our temperance reformers. No doubt they are. Nor would I be understood to have any sympathy with intemperance on the one side, or with these attacks on the liquor traffic on the other. I would be glad if there could be no drunkenness in the world. I yield to no man in wishing that all men might be sober, healthy, happy and prosperous. I do not doubt that overindulgence in drink injures men and women. I understand very well that many of the surface crimes of the world are committed under the influence of drink, as their immediate occasion.

Whatever evil there be in a saloon wears no disguise. It has the virtue of honesty and it has in it no vestige of hypocrisy. I cannot and will not join any man in wholesale or retail condemnation of the saloonkeeper or any other man. I believe that the occupation of a saloonkeeper is quite as honorable and no more demoralizing than many other occupations which I can easily think of. I believe that all that is bad in the liquor business is so for exactly the same reason that makes many other forms of business bad.

Let me remind you again that the houses of infamy and the abandoned women, so-called, against which our crusades are undertaken, are very largely of the least dangerous sort. Moreover, effort is directed and thought concentrated upon the least dangerous form of a widespread social disease. I suppose the great majority of people entertain the idea that most of the licentiousness and lust of our city are to be found in these places where such things are

openly and frankly carried on. Personally, I do not know anything about that particular branch of our industrial system. I do not know how many such institutions are here nor where they are located. But I want to say as earnestly as I know how that if we could find them all out and burn them all up and deport to the Philippines or other of our outlying possessions, or destroy, or convert every poor creature in them, we should hardly have touched the evil of licentiousness in this city. We should not have approached or even dealt with that evil. We should not have come in sight of it. We should not have seen it. It is not there. And that is one reason why I do not sympathize with these movements, because they make a virtue of something which has no virtue in it.

Understand, I have no sympathy with this sad business. I have no desire that any woman on God's earth shall be led in any way to part with her virtue. There is no honorable thing I would not willingly do to let the light and happiness into the lives of these fellow creatures. But I insist that we are on the wrong track. There is a hundred fold more of licentiousness and lust within than without the marriage relation. And besides, the real sin of prostitution is a great deal more common than many of us imagine. We associate it with just one thing. But it lies at the very root of almost every business that men are engaged in. . . .

It is hardly necessary for me to remind you that not one word or teaching or act of Jesus can be quoted in support of this crusade which men and women are waging—as they suppose—against vice. Did you ever think of it? Read the words of Jesus through and through. You can read them all in two or three hours. You will not find one word of His in censure of these vices against which our modern crusaders are organized. Not one word. There is not a word of Jesus against the vice of drunkenness, not a word of His against what is usually understood to be prostitution. Not a word of censure for any of those ordinary vices which seem in our day to fill the whole foreground of the picture. If Jesus were living now, He could not take part in any of these anti-vice crusades. Is it not a rather startling thing? Remember, too, that the older Scriptures are not at all lacking in censure for those vices. . . .

The method we are now employing in dealing with vice is a vicious and worthless method. The policeman's

club and the strong arm of the law do not and cannot touch the evil we are after. They but make it worse. Indeed, they seem to me a sacrifice. I have not a particle of sympathy with this "policeman" theory of civilization and of religion and ethics. It is not only wrong and vicious; it is itself criminal. And we shall one day see it so. We are not getting at the heart of the matter, and we cannot suppose for a moment that this miserable evasion of justice and right is making us any safer or more secure. We are still following the lead of superstition and ignorance. We imagine that all we need to do with evil is to drive away its symptoms.

My friends, we are sadly mistaken. If these institutions are symptoms of a social disease, we must not deceive ourselves with the idea that we have done anything whatever for the disease when we have driven the symptoms out of sight. Indeed, we have simply made it more dangerous. These symptoms, these saloons and brothels and gambling houses, these reeling men and painted women, are nothing but the mere surface symptoms of the malady which rages deep at the vitals of society. If we could drive them all away, it would be a calamity. We do not want to forget that the disease is here. I would not lift my hand to remove one saloon from the streets of Rochester, nor one brothel, nor one drunken man nor one prostitute from the full sight of men and women. I would not put them in jail. Jails are always and everywhere one thing, and only one—they are evasions of justice. Indeed, most of our penal and reformatory institutions are nothing but our attempts to hide our diseased condition from the public gaze and make ourselves believe there is no disease. If I am a diseased man I want to know it. If I am living in a diseased civilization, I want to know that. I will oppose with all my power any attempt to hide the fact. Let us cherish these symptoms religiously. Let us do our utmost to bring them out into the full light of day. By and by, it may be, people will become conscious of the disease and set about to find the cause and the cure.

Uncle Ephraim—I was up in the Hustler office a couple of hours this afternoon. I tell you it takes brains to run a newspaper.

Aunt Martha—Sure it does, Eph.

Uncle Ephraim—You bet it does! There's hundreds of little pigeon-holes in flat boxes up there, an' a different piece of type goes in each one of them, an' the editor knows exactly where each piece belongs.—Puck.

THE CIVILIZED MAN.

An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth,
Give me the head of that Chinese youth,
And that one—and that—that prince, the
lot—

They must all be sabered or brained or shot!
These women and children—"Vengeance is
mine!"

The Lord was mistaken—I'll fix the fine.
Those temple treasures of yours—I've come
To pack them off for my museum!
I am the child of a God of Love,
The truth of which I am here to prove;
And now, a chunk of the richest earth
You have loved and lived on, since your
birth;
And gold galore, and proffer me these
As I command—on your bended knees,
Or I'll fill you so full of Christian lead
You will dam the Styx with your floating
dead,
You Pagan devil of tong and clan—
I am the Conquering Civilized Man!
—San Francisco Star.

"But why is it," asked the thoughtful Chinese, "that I may go to your Heaven, while I may not go to your country?"

The American missionary shrugged his shoulders. "There is no labor vote in Heaven!" said he.—Puck.

The anti-imperialists are supposed to have no sense of humor. Is it not curious, therefore, that America's two greatest humorists to-day, Mr. Dooley and Mark Twain—as well as Mr. Reed and Mr. Howells, less typical, perhaps, as humorists—are anti-imperialists? "Expand, expand," said Mr. Dooley, with deep insight. "We are kin in sin," now says Mark Twain, of England and America, with the sure aim of the great satirist.—Springfield Republican.

Edith—Why, Uncle George has lots of books without any pictures in them!

Bobby—Yes; but you know mamma says Uncle George is a crank.—Puck.

BOOK NOTICES.

As its title implies, "The Earth Cornered" (St. Louis, Mo.: John J. McCann), by John J. McCann, is another contribution to the already large and growing literature of the single tax agitation. Mr. McCann is the St. Louis real estate dealer whose name

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is widely known because he refused to pay an occupation tax, taking the position that such taxes are burdens upon industry and cannot, therefore, be imposed in Missouri without infringing upon the provisions of the state constitution. Mr. McCann was fined for his refusal, and rather than submit to legislative extortion by paying a fine imposed for that reason, he served a term of imprisonment in the workhouse. In his book he compares the cornering of labor products—as gold, wheat, cotton, lumber, oil, coal, etc.—with the cornering of the earth from which all such things come, showing that the former kind of corners are quickly broken by labor, which they stimulate to further production, but that the latter kind are invincible because labor, though it can produce from the earth, cannot produce without access to the earth. Besides presenting the question in a generalized way the book cites facts and statistics plentifully for the purpose both of proving conclusions and exciting interest in the subject.

That most excellent quarterly, "Municipal Affairs" (New York, 52 William street; Reform Club, Committee on City Affairs; London, Orchard House, Westminster, S. W.; P. S. King & Son; Paris, 17 R. Cujas; Societe Nouvelle de Libraire et d'Edition. Price, \$2 annually), in its September number, which has just appeared, contains two articles of exceptional importance. One is a brief survey of the reorganization of local government in London, by W. L. Ashby. The other is a description by James R. Carret of the origin, growth and practical working of the Massachusetts system of taxing corporate franchises. This issue of the quarterly is devoted principally to the subject of public lighting. The articles on that subject cover experiences in Massachusetts, Great Britain, Germany, Italy and Detroit.

Charles F. Dole, in "The Problem of Duty" (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. Price, 35 cents), brings into the discussion of moral obligations a fact which utilitarian philosophers, with all their professed devotion to facts, persistently ignore—namely, the great facts of human consciousness. The exterior facts of life are indeed important considerations, but to draw conclusions from them alone, without considering the inner facts of individual consciousness, is as false a method as to reason wholly from interior facts. To these neglected facts, as well as the others, Mr. Dole gives his attention in attempting to solve the problem of duty. He concludes that the science of morals, resting upon spiritual principles, has so close a connection with utility that if we were omniscient, seeing utility in its best and fullest sense, we might make utility the final test of morals; but as our appreciation of utility is of necessity inadequate we cannot progress even in the so-called natural departments of science without conjoining experience to faith. Like everything else from Mr. Dole's pen, this little work is clear, strong and interesting.

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