The Public

a warning to its citizens that if they did not yield to the United States in preference to their own self-established government—the first republic of Asia—they would be violently dealt with by American troops and American warships. This was the first declaration, the first announcement, the official beginning of the American war of conquest in the Philippines. And under that proclamation we have crushed a republic modeled upon our own. We have made charred ruins of civilized cities and villages and laid the country waste; we have slaughtered the inhabitants by scores of thousands and have savagely broken the peace and disturbed the good order that our own officers reported as prevailing under the republic; and we now spread over the islands a pall of death and call it "pacification."

How different all this might have been. Had we as a nation remained true to the letter and spirit of our pledge regarding Cuba, a pledge which was but a concrete expression of the foundation principles of American democracy and applied no more to Cuba than to the Philippines, we might now rejoice over the advent, under our good offices, not alone of one republic in the West Indies, but of one there and of a greater one in the far Pacific. Had we done that, we might rejoice over the spread of republican ideals. Had we done that, we might rejoice over our exalted position as a world power ruling by the force, not of mere armaments, but of ideas, ideals and moral example.

It is true that in this case internal dissensions in the republics we fostered might at times make us grieve and possibly despair. They might be subject to the disorders of South America, of Haiti and of San Domingo, which are so often cited as instances of the failure of popular government among "inferior" peoples.

But sooner like these could be answered with a little intelligent reflection. Pray are the "superior" people of autocratic Russia free from internal commotions. Does England govern Ireland without a jar. Was Spain a model of harmony while her seceded colonies, turned republics, were in the throes of revolution? Was not our own civil war sanguinary enough to offset several generations of civil war in Haiti or San Domingo or the republics of South America? Or, to come to the immediate point, what can the scoffers at republics of "inferior" peoples say for our administration in the Philippines? Is that "pacification" which we in our might have spread over those islands preferable to the peace and order our officers reported from the interior of Luzon under the Filipino republic? Is it preferable even to the commotions in Haiti?

And what if we are told that peace and order would prevail if the people there did not resist our benevolent designs? Why, that is the way the oligarchy of Russia explains disorder under the benevolent regime of the czar. It is the way tyrants always explain disorder under their rule. Disorder in republics may be an objection to the republican mode of government; but if it is, it is not an objection which can be urged either as an excuse or a justification for autocratic modes, whether benevolent or malevolent. No mode of government can preserve peace and order among a dissatisfied people.

But this point is quite incidental in connection with the Philippine question, for we have the evidence of a three-years' war, attested by the reports of our generals that the Filipino people are not contented with American rule; and we have the further evidence of our own officials that they were contented with the rule of their republic. So far, then, as the actual facts aid us, we are justified in the inference that if our government had fostered the Filipino republic, as the spirit of its Cuban pledge required, instead of proclaiming its suppression, as President McKinley did on the 21st of December, 1898, we might now be celebrating two of the greatest achievements of our history next to the establishment of our own independence and the emancipation of our slaves.

That is what might have been. And in this case as truly, but with importance infinitely greater than in that of Whittier's judge and his hayfield maid, those are the saddest of all sad words. No sadder are inscribed in the history of our nation, and they can never be wholly effaced.

But the rising hope is that our people, under the inspiration of an awakened public conscience and revivified patriotism, will yet write beneath that doleful lament, and write in blazing letters which our public servants cannot fail to see, these words of atonement: "That which might have been shall be!"

NEWS

Cuban independence (p. 88) was formally established on the 20th.

Five days earlier, on the 15th, the Cuban senate and house of representatives met in joint session at Havana, and after examining the credentials of the presidential and senatorial electoral colleges, declared them correct and proclaimed Tomas Estrada Palma as president and Luis Estevez as vice president. Gov. Gen. Wood was at once formally notified of this action, and on the next day President Palma appointed the following cabinet:

Secretary of government—Diego Tamayo (nationalist), formerly secretary of state under Gov. Gen. Wood; secretary of finance—Garcia Montes (republican); secretary of state and justice—Carlos Zaloi (republican-autonomist), secretary of public instruction—Eduardo Yero (nationalist); secretary of public works—Manuel Díaz (nationalist), and secretary of agriculture—Emilio Terry (independent).

Public festivities in celebration of the establishment of the new republic began on the 16th with a banquet in honor of Gov. Gen. Wood and the other American officers about to depart from Cuba. It was given by the veterans of the wars for Cuban independence, and Gen. Maximo Gomez, former commander-in-chief of the Cuban army, presided. At his right sat the principal guest, Gov. Gen. Wood, and at his left President Palma. William J. Bryan sat next to the President and spoke to the sentiment, "Patriotism." In closing he said he would rather see the stars and stripes live in the hearts of the Cuban people than float over the island. During Gov. Gen. Wood's speech, in which he congratulated the Cubans upon their triumph, thanked them for their cooperation, and in the name of the United States
government and the American people wished them success, the assem-
blage remained standing. The reply to Gov. Gen. Wood was made by Gen.
Gomez.

By the 18th the festivities had be-
come general all over the island, and
upon the eve of the great occasion
Havana was crowded with visitors
and splendidly decorated.

The official ceremony of transfer
on the 20th was very brief. It took
place in the same room of the palace
in which Spain had relinquished con-
trol over the island to the United
States. At noon, when the signal
guns from the forts announced the
end of foreign dominion, Gov. Gen.
Wood began the ceremony by read-
ing a letter from the President of the
United States, and the proclamations
of transfer prepared by the American
war department and signed by him-
self as military governor.

There were three proclamations.
One recited the establishment of the
Cuban republic with a constitution
to go into effect May 20 at noon,
and proclaimed that—
at that time, the occupation of Cuba
by the United States and the military
government of the island will cease
determine, and the government
and control of the island will be trans-
ferred to the president and congress
so elected, to be held and exercised by
them under the constitution so pro-
mulgated. Such transfer will be upon
the understanding and condition that
the new government does thereby
and by acceptance thereof, pursuant to the
provisions of the said appendix to the
constitution, assume and undertake
all and several the obligations as-
sumed by the United States with re-
spect to Cuba by the treaty between
the United States of America and her
majesty the Queen Regent of Spain,
signed at Paris on the 10th day of
December, 1898.
The second proclamation simply
declared the constitution to be in full
force from and after the 20th and
reiterated its provisions. The third was
as follows:
To the President and Congress of the
Republic of Cuba—Sirs: Under the di-
rection of the President of the United
States I now transfer to you as the duly
elected representatives of the people of
Cuba the government and control of
the island; to be held and exercised by
you, under the provisions of the con-
stitution of the Republic of Cuba,
merely adopted by the constitu-
tional convention and this day promul-
gated; and thereby declare the occu-
pation of Cuba by the United States
and the military government of the
island to be ended. This transfer of
government and control is upon the
express condition, and the government
of the United States will understand,
that by the acceptance thereof you do
now, pursuant to the provisions of the
said constitution, assume and under-
take, as are required, all the obligations
assumed by the United States with re-
spect to Cuba, by the treaty between
the United States of America and her
Majesty, the Queen Regent of Spain,
signed at Paris on the 10th day of
December, 1898. All money obligations
of the military government down to
this date have been paid as far as prac-
ticable. The public civil funds derived
from the revenues of Cuba, trans-
ferred to you this day, amounting to
$689,191.02, are transferred subject to
such claims and obligations properly
payable on the revenues of the island
as may remain. The sum of $100,000
has been reserved from the trans-
fer of funds to defray anticipated ex-
penses of accounting, reporting, and
winding up the affairs of the military
government, after which any unex-
 pandied balance of said sum will be paid
into the treasury of the island.
The plans already devised for the
sanitation of the cities of the island
and to prevent a recurrence of epi-
demic and infectious disease, to which
the government of the United States
understands that the provision of the
constitution contained in the fifth ar-
ticle of the appendix applies, are as
follows:
1. A plan for the paving and sewer-
ing of the City of Havana, for which a
contract has been awarded by the
municipality of that city to McGinney,
Rokeby & Co.
2. A plan for waterworks to supply
the City of Santiago de Cuba, prepared
by Capt. S. E. Reckenbach, in charge
of the district of Santiago and ap-
proved by the Military Governor,
providing for taking water from the wells
of San Juan Canyon, and pumping the
same to reservoirs located on the
heights to the east of the city.
3. A plan for the sewerage of the
city of Santiago de Cuba, a contract
for which was awarded, to Michael J.
Daddy & Co. by the Military Governor
of Cuba, now under construction.
4. The rules and regulations estab-
lished by the President of the United
States on the 11th of January, 1899, for
the maintenance of quarantine against
epidemic diseases at the ports of Ha-
vana, Matanzas, Cienfuegos and San-
tiago de Cuba, and thereafter at the
other ports of the island, as extended
and amended and made applicable to
future conditions, by the order of the
Military Governor, dated—day of
April, 1902.
5. The sanitary rules and regula-

itions in force in the City of Havana
and in any other city having official
rules.
It is understood by the United States
that the present government of the
Isle of Pines will continue as de facto
government pending the settlement of
the title to said island by treaty pur-
suant to the Cuban constitution
and the act of Congress of the United
States approved March 2, 1901.
The President of the United States to deliver to
you the letter, which I now hand you.
The letter referred to, signed by
Mr. Roosevelt himself, as President
of the United States, was in these terms:
"The White House, Washington, D. C.,
May 10, 1902.—To the President and
Congress of the Republic of Cuba—
Sirs: On the 20th of this month the
military governor of Cuba will, by my
direction, transfer to you the control
and government of the island of Cuba,
to be thenceforth exercised under the
provisions of the constitution adopted
by your constitutional convention as
on that day promulgated, and he will
thereupon declare the occupation of
Cuba by the United States to be at an
end. At the same time I desire to ex-
press you the sincere friendship and
good wishes of the United States,
and our earnest hopes for the stability
and success of your government, for
the blessings of peace, justice, prosperity
and ordered freedom among your peo-
ple, and for enduring friendship be-
 tween the republic of the United States
and the Republic of Cuba.

President Palma replied to Gov.
Gen. Wood, saying:
I receive in this act the government
of the island of Cuba which you trans-
fer to me, in compliance with the ceme-
mented to you by the Presi-
dent of the United States, and I recog-
nize that in this act the military occu-
pation of the island ceases. In ac-
cepting this transfer I declare that the
government of the Republic of Cuba
assumes, in conformity with what is
determined in the constitution, each
and all of the obligations that the
government of the United States took
upon itself in regard to Cuba by virtue
of the treaty signed on the tenth day
of December, 1898, between the
United States and her majesty, the
queen of Spain, to all financial
responsibilities contracted by the mili-
tary government up to this date have
been paid, that $100,000 has been set
aside to attend, insofar as it is nec-
 essary, to the liquidation and settle-
mence of the obligations contracted by
said government, and that there has been
transferred to the government of the
republic $689,191.02, which constituted
the balance in cash to the credit of the
nation. In all that article V of the constitutional appendix may be applicable, the government will take care to facilitate the execution of the work of sanitation planned by the military government. The Cuban government will also endeavor, as far as possible, and as far as depends on it, to comply with the necessity of sanitation and the observance of the system established by the military government of Cuba. It is understood that the Isle of Pines continues de facto under the jurisdiction of the government of the Republic, pending what will be agreed upon between the United States and Cuba, and in conformity with what is ordered in the Cuban constitution and by the law voted by the Congress of the United States, passed on March 2, 1901. I receive with great satisfaction the letter which President Roosevelt has addressed to the congress of the Republic and to me, on account of the sentiments of friendship therein expressed for the people of Cuba. I take advantage of this solemn occasion, when there is fulfilled the honest promise of the government and of the people of the United States in regard to the island of Cuba, and when the personality of our country is established as a sovereign nation, to express to you as a worthy representative of that great nation the immense gratitude that the people of Cuba feel to the American nation, to its illustrious president, Theodore Roosevelt, and to you personally, for the efforts which you have made for the attainment of that cherished ideal.

An interchange of courteous expressions having then been made between the outgoing military governor and the incoming president, the latter took the oath of office.

All the foreign representatives thereupon expressed in turn their good wishes to Gen. Wood and President Palma, being led by the new British minister to the Republic of Cuba, L. E. G. Carden, formerly British consul general at Havana, the only foreign minister in attendance. He appeared in the uniform and character of his new office.

Now came the spectacular ceremony. Thousands of Cubans had assembled before the palace to see the American flag come down and the Cuban flag go up in its place; and as soon as President Palma had indorsed Gov. Gen. Wood’s proclamations of transfer they were gratified. Gen. Wood and Gen. Gomez ascended to the roof of the palace. Their appearance was welcomed with great shout-

ing from the street. Gen. Wood personally lowered the American flag from the staff. As it fluttered down it was saluted by a detachment of American cavalry and the echoes of guns from the forts, which were almost drowned in the cheers of the people as Gen. Wood, assisted by Gen. Gomez, raised in its place the Cuban flag. Having performed this final act, Gen. Wood said his farewells, and accompanied by the American troops, embarked for the United States.

So ends a sad episode in history, the general outline of which, filled in with the more important details, may be traced in these columns, beginning at page 8 of No. 1.

For the information of foreign powers Secretary Hay sent a note of instructions on the 20th to all American ambassadors and ministers informing them that the military occupation of Cuba by the United States had that day ceased, and that an independent government, republican in form, had been inaugurated there under the presidency of Tomas Estrada Palma. The ambassadors and ministers were instructed to convey this information to the governments to which respectively they are accredited. On the same day, at the suggestion of Representative Sulzer, Representative Hitt offered in the lower house of Congress a resolution expressing its satisfaction “at the appearance this day of the Cuban Republic among the nations of the world.” The resolution was unanimously and enthusiastically adopted.

Legal proceedings against the meat trust by the United States government, under the Sherman anti-trust law (p. 89), have reached the stage of a temporary injunction. It was granted at Chicago on the 20th by Peter S. Grosscup, as judge of the circuit court of the United States for the 7th circuit. There was no opposition, but the injunction is subject to a motion to be made at any time to dissolve it. The injunction restrains the several meat-packing houses, together with their respective agents and all other persons acting or assuming to act by their authority—

from entering into, taking part in, or performing any contract, combination, or conspiracy, the purpose or effect of which will be, as to trade and commerce in fresh meats, a restraint of trade or commerce among the several states, territories, and the District of Columbia, either by directing or requiring their respective agents from bidding to bid, or for the purpose of the purchase, of live stock; or collusively, and by agreement, refraining from bidding against each other at such sales; or by arbitrarily raising or lowering prices, or fixing uniform prices at which said meats will be sold, or through their respective agents; or by curtailing the quantity of such meats shipped to such markets and agents; or by imposing penalties for deviations from prices, or establishing and maintaining uniform rules for the giving of credit to dealers in such meats, or through their carriers transporting such fresh meats in such trade and commerce, either directly or by means of rebates, or by any other device, transportation of or for such fresh meats, from the points of the preparation and production of the same from live stock or elsewhere, to the markets for the sale of the same to dealers and consumers in other states and territories than those wherein the same are so prepared, or the District of Columbia, at less than the regular rates which may be established; or in furtherance of the improper lines of transportation under the provisions in that behalf of the laws of the United States for the regulation of commerce.

The coal miners’ convention, which assembled at Hazleton, Pa., on the 14th (p. 89), to consider the advisability of continuing the temporary strike order issued on the 9th, and which went into effect on the 12th, has decided that question in the affirmative. The question came to a vote in secret session on the 15th. The total vote cast was 811, of which, as reported by the press, 346½ votes were against, and 464½ in favor of continuing the strike. But the result as officially announced to the public