

ber 17, Greene says in notes that still exist: "My cosen, Shakespear, comyng yesterdy to town, I went to see him how he did. He told me that they assured him they ment to inclose no further than to Gospell Bush, and so upp straight (leaving out part of the Byngles to the field) to the gate in Clopton hedg, and take in Salisburyes peece; and that they mean in Aprill to survey the land, and then to gyve satisfaction, and not before; and he and Mr. Hall say they think ther will be nothyng done at all." This proves that the agents of the scheme had seen Shakespeare on the subject; that he had gone carefully into the details of their plan, consulted his son-in-law, Dr. John Hall, about them, and arrived at the conclusion that for the present they need take no decided action in the matter. There is evidently on Shakespeare's part a strong feeling against the proposed enclosure, and the agents of the scheme had clearly done their best to remove his objections, promising amongst other things that if it went forward he should suffer no pecuniary loss, a promise already confirmed by a legal instrument.

Nine months later, when the local proprietors seemed bent on pushing the scheme Shakespeare took a more decided stand, and pronounces strongly against the whole business. We have a notice, dated September 1, 1615, to the effect that Mr. Shakespeare had on that date told the agent of the corporation "that he was not able to bear the enclosing of Welcombe." As his proprietary rights and pecuniary interests were not to be affected by the proposed enclosure, this strong expression of feeling must refer to the public advantages of the Welcombe common fields, and especially to what in Scotland would be called their "amenty," the element of value arising from their freedom and beauty, their local history and associations.

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FILIPINOS URGE THE FULFILMENT OF THE ROOSEVELT PROGRAM.

From *La Independencia*, of Manila, Issue of October 19, 1906.

It is some time since President Roosevelt laid down his formula of a "government of the Filipinos assisted by Americans," to show to the Filipinos that it is not the intention of the United States to retain the Philippines indefinitely, but that as soon as the natives are versed in the conditions of true republican government, according to modern ideals, the government is to be turned over to them, so that if they should so desire their country may be transformed into a free and independent state.

President McKinley, for his part, had recommended to the Civil Commission, that, whenever possible, Filipinos should be preferred for the different offices of our administration, and all Americans that have written on the subject have expressed themselves in the same sense.

Thus the good intentions of the Americans were asserted, according to which they did not come hither to place the islands under their yoke, but to free them, and this same idea was expressed by the present governor, General Smith, at the banquet which was given in his honor by the Quill club.

And now we have to ask why is this sentiment

not put into practice as so many opportunities have offered themselves therefor? The occasions to which we refer are the vacancies that have occurred and are still occurring in the different offices in the administration since this good intention was formulated.

We appreciate that it would be a violent, although possible measure to discharge Americans in office to replace them by natives; but at the same time that we recognize the undesirability of such a proceeding, we cannot understand how, face to face with the declared intention of the United States, the authorities, when a vacancy appears, seem to seek far and wide for any American to fill the post, while not making the least effort to find a Filipino, of whom, as a rule, there are not one, but many. Our affirmation must not be ascribed to blind national self love. It is the result of a firm conviction as to our present capacity, pursuant to which we agitate for our speedy independence. In that sense the Independence Party will labor and try to influence the authorities. In view of our assertion that we possess the necessary capacity, and inasmuch as there has been plenty of time and plenty of opportunity for putting into practice the benevolent formula of President Roosevelt, we regret to state that if its application is much longer deferred the Filipinos may easily come to doubt whether this promise was at all sincere, or was only given to quiet a natural impatience. We believe the former. And since we believe it we think that the Government is sacredly bound to materialize this often repeated expression, which has all the importance of a promise given to us from the White House.

If the American authorities disbelieve our capacity we still must remind them that a late and slow apprenticeship implies a slow and late capacity. If there be a doubt, let it be ascertained whether truth is with us or with those who deny our aptness. If we are unfortunate enough to fail, it may then be considered to be demonstrated that our release from American supremacy is denied because we have unsuccessfully tried our hand at self-government.

The present course of affairs necessarily discourages even the most confident amongst us.

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AN INDIAN STORY IN A GOVERNMENT REPORT.

An Editorial in the *Chicago Record-Herald* of November 24, 1906.

The commissioner of Indian affairs, Francis E. Leupp, has a chapter in his annual report for which he seems to offer a wholly unnecessary apology. He is about to describe the annual fair of the Crow Indians in Montana, and says: "At the risk of turning a public report into an entertaining narrative, I feel impelled to present an account of that enterprise here, and to accompany it with the name of the author of the plan and supervisor of its execution, S. G. Reynolds, United States Indian agent for the tribe."

As a result we have a mighty interesting story, for which thanks are due to the commissioner and to Mr. Reynolds. The fair was established in pursu-