

Liberty—The rule which a strong nation imposes upon a weak one.

Freedom—Such measure of local self-government as a conquering nation deems safe for its subjects.

Civilization—Our way of doing things.

The constitution—A rubber blanket when the executive needs to stretch his authority; a woolen blanket when it is necessary so to shrink it that it will not cover island possessions.

Good faith—A readiness on the part of Boers, Puerto Ricans, Filipinos and Cubans to accept whatever the governments that have them in charge may offer.

Benevolent assimilation—What the lion gives to the lamb.

Duty and destiny—A freebooter's commission.

The flag—A nation's "best commercial asset."—Cecil Rhodes.

A new edition of the imperial dictionary will be awaited with much interest.—New York World.

THE QUESTION OF EXPANDING BULLETS.

The following is from the English publication, "War Against War in South Africa." We reprint it from Life.

There is some angry talk in the camps of murdering the Boer prisoners who are found in possession of expanding bullets—the illegal bullets they are called. It is worth while to remind these irate gentlemen of one or two facts which they have forgotten:

First. England invented the Dum-Dum expanding bullet.

Second. At the conference at The Hague England defended the Dum-Dum against the unanimous condemnation of every European and Asiatic Power.

Third. That in consequence of her opposition no unanimous interdict on the use of expanding bullets was obtained.

Fourth. That even if it had been secured it would not have bound the Transvaal which was shut out of the Conference by England, and forbidden to adhere to its conventions.

When we remember that the troops employed in the Omdurman Expedition were ordered by our officers to convert their bullets into expanding Dum-Dums, this newborn holy zeal against the use of the soft-nosed bullets by the Boers must appear to the outside world the very climax of cant.

The contrast between the rich and the poor here in New York is enough to stare one out of countenance.—Extract from Private Letter.

PROCLAMATION BY GENERAL MILES TO THE PUERTO RICANS, JULY 27, 1898.

In the prosecution of the war against the Kingdom of Spain by the people of the United States, in the cause of liberty, justice, and humanity, its military forces have come to occupy the Island of Puerto Rico.

They come bearing the banners of freedom, inspired by a noble purpose, to seek the enemies of our government and of yours and to destroy or capture all in armed resistance.

They bring you the fostering arms of a free people, whose greatest power is justice and humanity to all living within their fold.

Hence, they release you from your former political relations, and it is hoped this will be followed by your cheerful acceptance of the government of the United States.

The chief object of the American military forces will be to overthrow the armed authority of Spain and give the people of your beautiful island the largest measure of liberty consistent with this military occupation.

They have not come to make war on the people of the country, who for centuries have been oppressed, but, on the contrary, they bring protection not only to yourselves but to your property, and will promote your prosperity and bestow the immunities and blessings of our enlightenment and liberal institutions and government.

It is not their purpose to interfere with the existing laws and customs which are wholesome and beneficial to the people so long as they conform to the rules of the military administration, order and justice.

This is not a war of devastation and desolation, but one to give all within the control of the military and naval forces the advantages and blessings of enlightened civilization.

WHAT THE PUERTO RICO FLASHLIGHT HAS REVEALED.

To turn a republican government into a despotism the basest and most brutal, it is not necessary formally to change its constitution or abandon popular elections. It was centuries after Caesar before the absolute master of the Roman world pretended to rule other than by authority of a senate that trembled before him.

When Henry George wrote these words no sign of foreign war was on the horizon, but he saw daily the things that make for war. They were embodied in the description of Chicago by the Correspondent Stevens, whose life recently went out at Ladysmith:

Chicago, queen and guttersnipe of cities, cynosure and cesspool of the

world!—the most beautiful and the most squalid, girdled with a two-fold zone of parks and slums; where the keen air from the lake and prairie is ever in the nostrils and the stench of foul smoke is never out of the throat.

From such vicious social conditions imperialism is a natural growth.

For the machinery of government is in possession of the great commercial monopolies. They thrive upon privileged laws. It is essential for their supremacy that the law-making power should be in their hands. Further, they must control the military arm in order to enforce their authority. Militarism is the necessary complement of commercialism. Property rights are superlative and human rights subordinate. Humanity dictated to the President the "plain duty" of immediate free trade with suffering Puerto Rico. The interests of the great sugar and tobacco trusts ran counter to that duty, and the President was forced to recognize them, the menace being a withholding of contributions for the impending campaign. The universal protest against this cowardice is the most encouraging sign of awakening that the trustful people have thus far shown. The Puerto Rico flashlight has revealed the unofficial masters of our passive Government.—Wm. Lloyd Garrison at Providence, R. I., April 7.

HOW ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON GAVE AWAY HIS BIRTHDAY.

I, Robert Louis Stevenson, advocate of the Scots bar, author of the "Master of Ballantrae" and "Moral Emblems," civil engineer, sole owner and patentee of the palace and plantation known as Vailima, in the island of Upolo, Samoa, as British subject, being in sound mind and pretty well, I thank you, in mind and body;

In consideration that Miss Annie H. Ide, daughter of H. C. Ide, in the town of St. Johnsbury, in the county of Caledonia, in the state of Vermont, United States of America, was born, out of all reason, upon Christmas day, and is, therefore, out of all justice denied the consolation and profit of a proper birthday;

And considering that I, the said Robert Louis Stevenson, have attained the age when we never mention it, and that I have now no further use for a birthday of any description;

And in consideration that I have met H. C. Ide, the father of the said Annie H. Ide, and found him as white a land commissioner as I require, I have transferred and do hereby transfer to the said Annie H. Ide all and whole of my rights and privileges in the 13th day of November, formerly my birthday, now,