

but also pacific. He was an American naval cadet, who, with a naval paymaster, Wilcox, spent two months of the fall of 1898 upon a semi-official investigation of the interior of Luzon. Writing to the Outlook about the trip, he said: "As a tribute to the efficiency of Aguinaldo's government and to the law-abiding character of his subjects, I offer the fact that Mr. Wilcox and I pursued our journey throughout in perfect security, and returned to Manila with only the most pleasing recollections of the quiet and orderly life which we found the natives to be leading under the new regime."

Had the United States fostered that regime it would long before this have encountered no legitimate risk in leaving the control of the Philippines to their people. But instead of fostering the government of which Aguinaldo was president, until it had inspired general confidence in the pacification of the archipelago, the United States deliberately set about destroying it.

To begin with, we refused civil treatment to its envoys. We then unceremoniously crowded its military forces off territory they are conceded to have conquered from the Spanish, without complying with its request for assurances that if in our treaty with Spain we should agree to withdraw from the Philippines we would first restore these particular places to the Filipinos. Meanwhile we negotiated with Spain for a treaty discriminating against the Philippines as compared with Cuba. Though we caused Spain to "relinquish" Cuba, we allowed her to "cede" the Philippines. The one she freed, the other she sold. After that, and without waiting for the treaty to become legally effectual by ratification, but while even our bare technical rights were still confined to Manila, we asserted absolute sovereignty over the whole archipelago. At the same time—and this was a month before the fighting began—we virtually declared war against the Philippine government, which until then had been pacific, by proclaiming our intention of putting that government down. Finally, we engaged its army in the opening battle of the war, a battle which, according to Gen. Otis's official report, "was one strictly defensive on the part of the Filipinos and of vigorous attack by our forces."

These circumstances divest the question of what the United States can do with reference to the Philippines as distinguished from what it ought to do if possible of some of its original simplicity. We cannot immediately turn the control of the islands over to the

people, because there is not now a pacific government to represent them. We have crushed the one they had. And in crushing their government and attempting forcibly to annex their country we have shattered their former confidence in the friendliness of our intentions. Whatever we do, therefore, in the direction of what we ought to do, must now be done as the temporary protector of a disappointed and consequently distrustful people.

But these disadvantages can be overcome. By proclaiming our disavowal of permanent sovereignty and our promise to leave the archipelago to a government of the people as soon as a pacific government of that kind is established we shall do much to revive confidence. No such promise has ever yet been made. Our whole behavior, on the contrary, has been that of a conqueror, bent on forcible annexation. We have, indeed, promised "stable government," but that is nothing better than the czar of Russia promises Finland. We have not promised either popular government or independence, both of which are involved in the principle of the Cuban resolution. Let us at once remedy this default. Having done that, our next step should be the rehabilitation of the local government as it existed at its capital of Malolos, when, according to Gen. Anderson, it ruled over nearly the whole archipelago, and according to Cadet Sargent it maintained peace and order. This step should be taken promptly. And afterward, when the local government shall have been thus restored and the general peace of the archipelago is thereby reasonably assured, our military forces should be withdrawn and the Philippine republic formally introduced by the United States into the family of nations. By adopting that course we should in some degree atone for our mistakes of the last two years, and, though it might be humiliating to our pride, it would be wholesome for our patriotism.

As to the wisdom of thus recognizing the independence of the Philippines, let it not be forgotten that we have it upon abundant evidence that the Filipinos, whom we are now engaged in subjugating, are as capable of self-government as the Cubans, to whom we have not only pledged self-government, but are actually beginning to concede it.—Louis F. Post, in Chicago Record of September 24.

Sewall—Is he a man to be trusted?

Crawford—Hardly. He writes campaign literature for six different political parties. G. T. E.

FLOOD-TIDE.

For The Public.

We have looked behind the curtain, we have learned the play by heart; For we watched each cunning actor through the triumph of his part When our sons, whose blood was cheapened at the presidential mart, To crime and death marched on.

We have felt the disillusion of the tinsel and the paint That could give us Diavolo in the likeness of a saint— We who read his treacherous fiat, with souls grown sick and faint— His war still marching on.

With our eyes on daily slaughter of his victims, white and brown, Blatant allies bid us hail him as the king our hands shall crown, When our boasted flower of freedom like a weed is trampled down, And greed goes marching on.

We have seen the slighted people leap from lethargy at last, Heard the shout of their awaking everywhere rise fierce and fast; For they know the nearing roll-call might have been their very last, With McKinley marching on.

While the schemers, clearly seeing they have shot beyond the mark, Up and down the land go whistling like a scared boy in the dark, We turn from their bray of conquest, to the tread of justice hark: Bryan goes marching on.

D. H. INGHAM.

Marke—Why are you so sure that he will not vote for Mr. McKinley?

Heeler—He says he won't.

Marke—Have you tried to point out the error of failing to support the administration?

Heeler—Yes; but he won't see.

Marke—Have you offered him ten dollars to buy a pair of spectacles that will enable him to see?

G. T. E.

"The powers are not at war with China—"

"Then the battles at Tientsin, Peit-Sang, Yang-Tsun and Peking illustrate the fact that peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."—Puck.

"I suppose," remarked the seeker after knowledge, "we will pursue the same policy in China as in the Philippines—the sword in one hand and the Bible in the other."

"Not exactly," replied the war department official. "The regulation uniform for Chinese service will have a large pocket for the Bible, leaving the other hand free to operate a machine gun."—Catholic Standard and Times.

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Dated, Chicago, October 9th, 1900.
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