

Let it be noted that we are fighting the civilized Malays, and that our only allies are from the mountain heathen.

As to their capability for independent self-government, Prof. Blumentritt says: "The excuse that the Filipinos are not ripe for self-government is not founded on facts." This he proves by comparisons with peoples of central Europe and Central and South America. It is certain that the ideals and aspirations of the Filipinos are European. Unlike the Chinese, they have no antipathy to foreigners. Their civilization is occidental, not oriental, and in this respect they are superior even to the Japanese. They only need freedom and a stable government to become the Yankees of the orient.

That the Filipinos meant to loot and murder foreigners is not credible. They did not do it at Iloilo, where they had full sway, and had established a well-ordered government before the arrival of Gen. Miller. They did not slay their Spanish prisoners. In his first proclamation issued from Hong-Kong before the departure of Dewey's fleet for Manila Aguinaldo said (I quote from Foreman's book):

Divine Providence is about to place independence within our reach in a manner worthy of a free and liberty-loving people. * * * An American squadron is at this moment preparing to sail for the Philippines. We fear you may be induced to fire on the Americans. No, brothers, never make the mistake. Rather blow out your brains than treat with enmity those who are your liberators. * * * Wherever you see an American flag there flock in numbers. They are our redeemers.

Alas, poor Filipinos! How they have had to change their opinion of their "redeemers." But even in the very proclamation referred to by the president the one, namely, in which Aguinaldo instructed his followers in Manila how to surprise and capture the city, the following sentences occur:

I charge and order that the persons and goods of all foreigners shall be respected and that the American prisoners shall be well treated.

The chiefs are charged to see that the officers and soldiers respect the consulates, the banks and commercial houses and even the Spanish banks and commercial houses, taking care that they be not seduced by the hope of plunder.

I charge that you will not forget the promises made by me to the civilized nations, when I have assured that we Filipinos are not savages or thieves or assassins, nor are we cruel, but, on the contrary, that we are men of culture and patriotism, honorable and humane.

Finally the president proves too much, for if these insurgents are such a small fraction of the population and if the vast majority are loyal to us the American people must wonder why it

took 60,000 soldiers so long a time to conquer them.

THE PRESIDENT ON IMPERIALISM.

Furthermore, Mr. McKinley says: "Imperialism has no place in the creed or conduct of the administration."

That depends on what is meant by imperialism. If with the "Encyclopedia Britannica" we take it to be "an overlordship over other peoples," this administration is certainly imperialistic and the more flagrantly so because the other people are fighting to the death against that overlordship.

AN ABSENT-MINDED NATION.

(With Apologies to Kipling.)

When you've sacrificed to Moloch, drained your nation to the bone;

When you've sniped off every burgher from his hill;

Will you squarely do some thinking of the Lord God on His throne,

And remember his command: "Thou shalt not kill?"

You're an absent-minded nation, and your vision sees but part;

You are brave to face the moment and to meet it;

But in doughty deed heroic, born from out your swelling heart,

You forgot, perchance, how history will repeat it.

Boer's son, your son, Son of the King of Kings!

By your resolve, by your decree, still going forth to slay—

The King will add those figures up (it is well to think on these things);

Fall on your knees for your honor's sake, and pray! pray! pray!

You're a great and mighty nation, noble, brave and very strong;

East and west and north and south your flag's unfurled;

You are waging bitter warfare now, and—be you right or be you wrong—

Your every act becomes a fact to all the watching world.

When the day of fight is finished, you must then make up your book;

And, you'll let a friendly fellow-man remind you,

You must enter on the debit side—however hard to brook—

The blood, the tears, the waste you've left behind you.

Your son, Boer's son, crushed in the crimson sod;

And which commingled dust is yours you'll know not on that day.

War's work is the devil's work (and how will you answer God);

Fall on your knees for your honor's sake, and pray! pray! pray!

There are widows weeping frantic tears, poor little ones who cry,

And mothers shriek whose souls have felt the sword;

From England fair and rugged veldt the cries ascend on high;

They are noted by a just and common Lord.

You're an absent-minded nation, but beware! do not forget!

You must hand your book unto the King to scan it;

In your heart you are too upright to risk piling such a debt,
Just because a reckless minister began it.

God's son, Boer's son, your own son proud and free;

There's a price for blood, O England, and that price you'll have to pay

When the Lord God audits your balance sheet. Oh, what will the profit be?

Fall on your knees for your honor's sake, and pray! pray! pray!

—The Monitor.

"Why do you doubt him, my daughter? You say that his declaration was made with apparent seriousness and sincerity, and—?"

"Oh, yes, mamma, I admit all that; and perhaps it is wrong for me to be suspicious of Mr. Smither. But I really cannot help fearing that he spoke in a McKinleyan sense." G. T. E.

"Alas!" said the Chinese statesman, "it is China against the world!"

"That," said his friend, "is our only hope. Singly, any of the powers could whip us; but it isn't quite certain that they can do it together."—Puck.

Linconer—It is costing us one hundred millions a year to hold the Philippines.

Hannermark—Oh, my friend, you do not look at the situation from a Christian point of view. Can you not understand that we are generously bearing this expense to relieve poor, impoverished Spain?—G. T. E.

The Philadelphian—Isn't the mud on this street a trifle deep?

Chicagoan (proudly)—Deep? It is the deepest mud on any paved street in the world!—Indianapolis Press.

BOOK NOTICES.

In "Our Foes at Home" (New York: Doubleday & McClure Co.), Hugh H. Lusk, formerly a member of the New Zealand parliament, holds up the political and economic experience of New Zealand as an object lesson to the United States. The book is especially valuable for its explanation of the successful reforms for which New Zealand has become famous—an explanation that is enhanced in interest quite as

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much by the manner in which these reforms are presented as desirable American possibilities, as by the fluent and direct literary style of the author. Mr. Lusk's rather commonplace criticism of the single tax would probably evoke good-natured smiles from advocates of that doctrine, as would his nervous shrinking from essential principles and clutching at superficial measures; while the timidity of his more or less unconscious socialism would bring him into contempt with strenuous followers of Karl Marx. Nevertheless, both socialists and single taxers, and certainly all politicians of the more advanced sort, will find in his book much to interest and not a little to instruct them. It is worth careful reading if for nothing else than its comparison of our country, which must reform or perish, with New Zealand, which, in a similar emergency, has decided to reform.

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