

amendment with which republicans in congress are trying to pacify their constituents on the trust question, Mr. Bryan may see what his anti-trust proposition would lead to. This amendment would give congress control of all private corporations, co-partnerships and joint stock companies, and confer upon it the power "to define, regulate, control, prohibit, repress and dissolve all trusts and monopolies and combinations or conspiracies to monopolize any part of trade or commerce, and all contracts and combinations in the form of trusts or otherwise, or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce." Were that amendment adopted, centralization of power in the federal government would be complete. In so far as remedies for the trust evil along this line are sincerely proposed, they get the cart before the horse. They assume that the monopoly of trusts is due to combinations of competitive businesses, and therefore aim to prohibit combinations. But the truth is that evil trusts are combinations not of competitive businesses but of conflicting monopolies—monopolies already created by law. All other so-called trusts soon fall to pieces. The true remedy for the trust, therefore, is not legislation restraining combinations, but legislation abolishing legalized monopolies.

"Fake" interviewing is one of the worst vices of modern journalism, and unfortunately one of the most common. It is, therefore, a good thing when some man of national reputation whose opinions excite general interest falls a victim to it and makes the fact known. The latest of these victims is ex-President Cleveland. He was reported as expressing himself in the most enthusiastic way over Dewey's self-nomination for the presidency, and he denies that he uttered a word of the interview. For misinformation of this kind the reporters who "fake" the interviews are not to blame, except as men may be blamable for doing any other wrong act under duress. Neither is the ed-

itor to blame for favoring reporters who bring back interviews for which they are sent, though the interviews have to be "faked" to be got, and frowning upon reporters who fail. The blame rests upon the journalism which makes good faith with readers a matter of secondary concern or none at all. In such journalism success depends not upon industry in gathering and skill in presenting the truth, but upon aimless hustle and meretricious ingenuity in serving up sensations.

Senator Lodge made no concealment, in his speech this week at the Hamilton club of Chicago, of the fact that the administration's Asiatic policy rests on the ability of the United States to keep the Philippine islands outside of the American governmental system. He conceded the point, which we have frequently insisted upon, that the Philippines are to be made subject territory, and their people a subject people with no legal rights whatever except such as may be given and withdrawn at will by a congress in which they are to have no representation and in the choice of which they are to have no voice. If the Filipino people were begging us to assume this tyrannical relationship toward them, we ought not to comply. Its reactionary effect upon our own liberties could not fail to be prejudicial. But when we raise the strength of our army from 25,000 to 100,000 men in order to compel the Filipinos with great slaughter to accept the relationship against their will, we brand our nation as infamous beyond modern comparison.

After exciting a week's mirth, the Dewey sensation has subsided. Before it had wholly disappeared, Admiral Dewey made a choice between the two political parties, selecting the democratic for the favor of his leadership. But this seems to have been prompted less by political principle than by a conviction that McKinley has a cinch upon the republican party. For upon being asked if he

would accept the democratic nomination, Dewey replied:

I certainly would. The other is fixed, I take it. President McKinley is sure of renomination; his friends have the machinery all in motion.

And yet the admiral, who has discovered that there is one step higher in the line of promotion and wants to take it, does announce himself as a democrat, and the constitution as his platform. This, however, is hardly definite enough. In these days, when a man calls himself a democrat it is necessary to know his brand. And as to the constitution, why McKinley stands upon that. He has even sworn to support it. And it will soon be unrecognizable if somebody doesn't pull him off. There is nothing reassuring any longer about a promise to stand on the constitution.

COLONIES, CONGRESS AND "BOSSSES."

We have no reason to be surprised that congress makes sad work of trying to take hold of the duty placed upon it by reason of our new colonial policy. It is probable that no such task was ever before imposed upon such a body. No wonder that its wisdom is most apparent when it gives up the idea of proceeding in accordance with the methods of civilized governments, and in sheer desperation, following mediaeval methods, turns everything over to the president's discretion. For the part assigned to congress in our scheme of national government, and the way its members are chosen, make it impossible that it should successfully legislate for territories which are not there represented. It is a body of delegates. There is no pretense that it is a selection of the wisest and best, nor from the wisest and best. Each member of the lower house is a representative of a part of the sovereign people, and was selected to represent his own constituents and for nothing else. Naturally he feels specially charged with a duty to his constituents, but when we expect him to be animated with equal zeal on behalf of our new subjects, we are demanding too much of human nature. It is no more the duty of one member than it is of another, and no more the