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**Expansion.** When the United States Senate came to vote on the treaty of peace with Spain, the yeas numbered 57 and the nays 27, giving the two-thirds majority required for adoption, with just one vote to spare. Even among those best acquainted with the situation, there was great uncertainty as to the result until almost the last moment before the vote was taken. It appears to be generally conceded that, but for the outbreak of hostilities at Manila, a day or two before the day set for final action upon the treaty in the Senate, the vote of that body would have been adverse to adoption. But the difficulty of withdrawing from the Philippines and acknowledging the independence of the country, in the face of the hostile action of the Filipinos, appealed to some of the senators with a force which other arguments had not possessed. The advocates of the expansionist policy will no doubt be disposed to regard the outbreak of hostilities at that particular juncture as a providential occurrence indicating the path of destiny. The treaty has not yet been adopted by Spain, but it probably will be in due course of time. It is evident that the United States must now deal with the Philippines as it has undertaken to deal with Cuba. The country will have to be brought to a condition of peace, and provision made for its government. What that government will be ultimately, remains in doubt. At the present time there would be strong, perhaps decisive, opposition to a policy of annexation or of a permanent protectorate in the case of Cuba, and still more in respect to the Philippines. But having gone so far as it has, the United States cannot withdraw its hand from these countries until it shall have given them something in the way of government which will give good promise of fairly meeting their requirements. It is evident, therefore, that the United States is undertaking in this matter large duties and responsibilities. Many prudent citizens of the great Republic feel strongly opposed to their country entering into these new relations with the world. It will indeed test the American form of government in a new way, but one can see that there may be large rewards for good service performed along this new line of things. With the enlargement of the field of political thought and action, there will come a broader experience, a sobering sense of responsibility, larger sympathies with other peoples and other forms of government. If much is given much also will be received, and there is therefore good reason to hope that the results will show this new departure to be in the line of providential leading.

**Opening of the Imperial Parliament.** The Imperial Parliament was opened with the customary ceremonies on Tuesday of last week. The speech from the throne is not more startling than such speeches are wont to be. There is a studious avoidance of subjects upon which the public mind is agitated. There is the usual reference to the peaceful relations happily existing between Great Britain and foreign countries, with mention of recent events in the Soudan and Crete, and the hope is expressed that the Cretan problem is in a fair way of solution through the appointment of Prince George of Greece as high commissioner of the powers in Crete. There is reference to the Czar's peace conference and the acceptance of the invitation to attend it. The doings of the Anarchists are noted. There is sympathetic reference to the assassination of the Empress of Austria, and some change in the law of Great Britain in respect to anarchists is foreshadowed. Concern is expressed over the continuance of the bubonic plague in certain districts in India in spite of the effective measures taken to suppress it and the

devotion of the officials. Cape Colony is complimented upon its patriotism as demonstrated in the recent vote for naval defence, and sympathetic allusion is made to the industrial troubles in the West Indies.

**Australian Federation.** The conference of the Colonial Premiers of Australia, recently held at Melbourne, appears to have resulted in such an understanding respecting certain unsettled questions connected with the Australian Federation bill as will secure the success of the confederation scheme. Respecting the capital of the proposed confederation and its situation, it is agreed that it shall be in New South Wales, the principal Colony, but that it shall be at least a hundred miles from Sydney, the present capital, and that, like Washington, it shall be federal territory. Pending the erection of a capital building, Parliament is to meet at Melbourne. The Parliament is to consist of a Senate and House of Representatives, and an absolute majority of the members of both Houses shall decide all differences that may arise between the two. This is the method which Sir Wilfrid Laurier has proposed shall be adopted for settling differences between the two branches of the Canadian Parliament. There is, however, this difference—the Australian Senate is to be elective, while ours is not. In other points than those above noted, it is stated, the plan of federation stands as before. The project was first formally considered by the colonies at a convention which met Adelaide about two years ago, and at which the colonies of Victoria, New South Wales, Tasmania and South and West Australia were represented by delegates. The draft of a Federation bill was agreed upon and last year went to the Colonial Legislatures, in which it met with opposition, and principally in New South Wales. It was found difficult to satisfy the smaller colonies, in reference to representation, without depriving the larger colonies of rights, to which their larger population and wealth entitled them. In New South Wales the difficulty was connected with the revenue policies of the different colonies, and it was held that the fiscal policy contemplated in the federation bill would work disadvantageously to New South Wales. In the view of the Premiers of the several colonies, it appears, the difficulties have now been so far removed as to assure the acceptance of the bill by the respective Legislatures.

**Outline of the Bill.** A brief outline of the bill is as follows: "The Australian federation bill vests the legislative authority in the Queen, who will be represented by a Governor-General, and in two Houses of Parliament, the members of each being elected on the basis of manhood suffrage, and each elector having only one vote. Each colony will return six members to the Senate, each elected for six years. The House of Representatives will consist of 64 members, elected for three years, twenty-four by New South Wales, twenty-three by Victoria, seven by South Australia, five by West Australia, and five by Tasmania. The Australian Parliament will have power to make laws regulating trade and commerce with other countries and among the several parties to the agreement; regulating taxation, but not so as to discriminate between States or parts of States, or between persons or things passing from one State to another; regulating also bounties on the production or export of goods, borrowing money on the public credit of the federation, postal, telegraphic, telephonic, and other like services, naval and military defence, navigation and shipping. The executive Government is to consist of seven Ministers, with salaries aggregating £12,000 per annum. The expenditure of the Federal Government is estimated at £1,500,000 per annum. Each State will for the present retain possession of its own railways, subject to the control of an Interstate Commission, and so long as this is the case the Federal Government will not have charge of the public assets."

**The Fighting in the Philippines.**

The fighting at Manila and in its vicinity has resulted in considerable loss to the United States forces and very much larger loss to the Filipinos. A despatch received at Washington from General Otis, dated February 9, places the American loss in killed, wounded and missing at 268, of whom three officers and 56 men were killed. There seems to be no statement respecting the loss of the Filipinos, which can be regarded as accurate, but their killed probably number thousands to the Americans' hundreds. The natives appear to have fought with a good deal of spirit, but neither in respect to arms or discipline of course are they any match for the Americans. It is pitiful to read of a body of the more barbarous islanders who came to fight the invaders with bows and arrows. On Friday, the 10th, the Americans advanced against the Filipinos, and there was a sharp battle at Calocan, in which the natives were worsted and forced to retire. Aguinaldo is said to have taken up a position at Malabon and this position will be the next point of attack for the American forces. It is stated that a number of the leading men among the Filipinos visited General Otis last week with a view to securing some settlement of their trouble, but nothing came of the interview, the American commander giving them to understand that nothing short of the submission of Aguinaldo could be accepted.

## The White Man's Burden\*

BY RUDYARD KIPLING.

Take up the White Man's burden—  
Send forth the best ye breed—  
Go, bind your sons to exile  
To serve your captives' need;  
To wait, in heavy harness,  
On fluttered folk and wild—  
Your new-caught sullen peoples,  
Half devil and half child.

Take up the White Man's burden—  
In patience to abide,  
To veil the threat of terror  
And check the show of pride;  
By open speech and simple,  
An hundred times made plain,  
To seek another's profit,  
And work another's gain.

Take up the White Man's burden—  
The savage wars of peace—  
Fill full the mouth of Famine,  
And bid the sickness cease;  
And when your goal is nearest  
(The end for others sought)  
Watch sloth and heathen folly  
Bring all your hope to naught.

Take up the White Man's burden—  
No iron rule of kings,  
But toil of serf and sweeper—  
The tale of common things,  
The ports ye shall not enter,  
The roads ye shall not tread,  
Go, make them with your living  
And mark them with your dead.

Take up the White Man's burden—  
And reap his old reward—  
The blame of those ye better,  
The hate of those ye guard—  
The cry of hosts ye humor  
(Ah, slowly!) toward the light:  
"Why brought ye us from bondage,  
Our loved Egyptian night?"

Take up the White Man's burden—  
Ye dare not stoop to less—  
Nor call too loud on Freedom  
To cloke your weariness.  
By all ye will or whisper,  
By all ye leave or do,  
The silent sullen peoples  
Shall weigh your God and you.

Take up the White Man's burden—  
Have done with childish days—  
The lightly-proffered laurel,  
The easy ungrudged praise;  
Comes now, to search your manhood  
Through all the thankless years,  
Cold, edged with dear-bought wisdom,  
The judgment of your peers.

\*From 'McClure's Magazine' for February.