

THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

nations, from the introduction of bibles to locomotives, to look to the home government to sustain their demands when obstacles are met, or payment is refused. The legitimate result of the above proposition may ultimately be that safety in such schemes, and security in results, may be best secured by first obtaining the endorsement of the big American brother. What an opening this will be for the enterprising middle-man with a government pull!

Captain Mahan describes the American policy as "Hemispheric"; and kindly leaves to European influence Africa, with the Levant and India, and the countries between them, but excludes from such influence or paramountcy Japan, China and the Pacific with its islands.

The London Morning Post says, "We are compelled to think that the Monroe Doctrine so applied to the South American States has a tendency to restrict European enterprise, and that it can only be justified by a very great development of American enterprise in that part of the world."

When the late proposed sale of the Danish West India Islands to the United States fell through, for reasons scarcely complimentary to the negotiators, it appeared that there was a substitute treaty providing that Denmark should cede to the United States St. Thomas or St. John, both of which islands have excellent harbors, and should agree not to sell the other islands to any power other than the United States, who should in return give tariff concessions. Thus, without any expenditure of money, our astute neighbors would by treaty encompass these islands with the Monroe Doctrine. Danish sentiment seems largely favorable to such alliance with the big family of States, for, as one of their nation lately said, "We see the nations are trying to get into society."

The young and sanguine Hobson, and many other Americans with aquiline wings, find the Doctrine a sybilline oracle, ever ready to advise extension and the grasping of power, that good may be done or glory may be maintained for their native land. It crops up in every argument as to

present duty and every vision of the future. Under this aegis, the far-away Philippines were to be saved, and yet, after many months of bloody experimenting there, at a cost of \$60,000,000 a year, President Schurman, the Commissioner, closed his message with, "And to repeat what ought not to need repetition anywhere within the limits of our Republic, any decent kind of government of Filipinos by Filipinos is better than the best possible government of Filipinos by Americans." Mr. Andrew Carnegie, who has lately turned political Solon, seems, from his writings, to be of the same opinion. The Doctrine may mean anything from Imperialism to moral suasion, and it is to be regretted that it does not work automatically, but must be adapted and turned to fit each case.

In America especially, the Doctrine veers about, regardless of all rules of logic or precedent, as the ship of State sails on, well supplied with guns and power, but is expressed very differently, and, with a fine show of altruism, as the vessel gets foul and seeks aid, or, may be, fears attack or overhauling from the craft of other nations, who have been accustomed to a free sea and a free hand upon it.

It varies with the position and mood of the speaker, whose mellow, after-dinner ebullitions often effervesce far above the sober sentiments of the morning.

Though the Doctrine first came into political significance in old London, it has become acclimatized and grows apace among our Republican neighbors, while many young Canadians find in Imperialism a favorite for their hopes and fancies.

He who reads or listens, however wearied with the repetition, may rest at ease, knowing how plastic these doctrines are, and how very attractive to the aspiring.

It is to be hoped that such principles of action will prevail on this hemisphere as will preserve it free from the schemes of any alliance, holy or unholy. Such charity should begin with amendment at home and be content in offering example, without attempting to coerce abroad. The