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Will the United States Withdraw?

There can be no doubt that the anti-imperial agitation in the United States is gaining strength. With regard to Cuba and Porto Rico the people are unanimously with the administration, but the thought of annexing the Philippines has been repugnant from the first to a large section, including some of the most eminent Americans in public and private life. The prospect of armed collision with the natives if American authority is to be asserted has, it is said, led President McKinley to modify his views as to the disposition of the islands. It is generally believed that the recent speech of Senator Foraker, of Ohio, who has intimate relations with the White House, indicated the changed attitude of the President. Senator Foraker declared that the United States did not contemplate the annexation of the Philippines, but would withdraw from the islands as soon as the natives had demonstrated their ability to govern themselves. The inference that this represents the opinion of the President is strengthened by a paragraph in the Chicago Times-Herald, a paper that is credited with being Mr. McKinley's personal organ. The Times-Herald says it has absolute assurance that Admiral Dewey is opposed to taking over the Philippines. The public assume that the Times-Herald's absolute assurance comes from the President.

The British Government prefers to see the United States hold permanent possession of the islands. Great Britain does not want them herself and she does not want a rival European power to have them, because of their strategic value in relation to the Chinese question. Were the United States to withdraw, the islands would become derelict and a scramble for them would ensue among the land-hungry nations, which would upset the peace of the world. This the United States is pledged to prevent, as it assumed moral responsibility for the future of the Philippines when it compelled Spain to relinquish them. Consequently the republic is in a perplexing position. It is not even certain that the Philippines will consent, under a promise of ultimate independence, to allow the United States to act a tutelary part. Yet all accounts go to prove the incorrigible incapacity of the natives for self-government. To leave them to the devices and desires of their own hearts would be almost a crime, especially at this time, when they are intoxicated with a new-born sense of power. Besides, President McKinley and the Republican party have so openly committed themselves to the policy of imperialism that they cannot revoke it now without humiliation to themselves and without giving their political opponents a strong weapon of attack on the Administration.

The plain duty of the United States, if annexation, pure and simple, be rejected, is to try to give the Philippines firm, just and wise rule under cover of a protectorate, which will keep off covetous nations. The experiment, if earnestly undertaken, will be invaluable to the United States, whether it succeeds or not. No one can deny that imperial responsibilities have been a wholesome discipline for Great Britain, and have developed those administrative powers which are the glory of the empire. Our American friends have a chance to do for the Philippines what the British have done for Egypt, and with this advantage, that the United States will have the sympathy and moral support of Great Britain, while the latter had to recreate Egypt in hostility to all Europe.

The convergence of British and American interests in the Far East render it desirable that such a colony of vantage as the Philippines shall be retained by the great republic.

The Titled Yankee.

The recent severe reflections by Professor Goldwin Smith, on the craze of American heiresses to wear British titles, have suggested the compilation of the names of those who have already landed their coveted prize. They are as follows in alphabetical order: Lady Abinger, Marchioness of Anglesey, Lady Bennett, Lady William Beresford, Lady Terence Blackwood, Hon. Mrs. Robert Boyle, Lady Buckley, Lady Arthur Butler, Lady Randolph Churchill, Lady Cook, Countess of Craven, Lady Curzon, Lady Curzon of Kedleston, Viscountess Deaughurst, Hon. Mrs. Herbert Eaton, Countess of Egmont, Countess of Essex, Lady Evans, Lady Fairfax, Viscountess Falkland, Lady Gordon-Cumming, Lady Graham, Lady Grey-Edgerton, Hon. Mrs. George Haldane-Duncan, Baroness Halkett, Lady Harcourt, Lady Hesketh, Lady Home, Lady Francis Hope, Hon. Mrs. Octavius Lambart, Hon. Mrs. Charles Lawrence, Hon. Mrs. Dudley Leigh, Hon. Mrs. Rowland Leigh, Lady Lister-Kaye, Lady Mordaunt, Lady Mordaunt of Potlatch, Duchess of Manchester, Hon. Mrs. Archibald Marjoribanks, Duchess of Marlborough, Lady Menteth, Lady Moleworth, Hon. Mrs. Randolph Mowbray, Lady Naylor-Leyland, Countess of Orford, Hon. Mrs. Charles Ramsay, Lady Roade, Countess of Strathmore, Hon. Mrs. William Venables-Vernon, Lady Wolseley. This list is completed up to the new year; but since it was compiled information comes that two more great American heiresses, "one of them bearing the

golden name of Astor," are being hotly pursued by English dukes, who have a fair chance to catch them, as they are alleged to be only feigning reluctance, and will succumb at an early date.

The Progress of India.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie, in arraigning the policy of imperialism in the United States, denied that British rule in India afforded any support to the plea of the expansionists that American rule would be a blessing in the Philippines. The British in India, Mr. Carnegie asserted, were sitting on a volcano, and many British statesmen secretly wished that Great Britain were well out of her Asiatic empire.

Mr. Carnegie's statement has been ridiculed by leading British journals. The administration of India has been so perfect that the maintenance of that vast empire entails little apprehension or financial responsibility on the mother country. It is a miracle of the Anglo-Saxon genius for government. India has poured untold riches into the lap of Great Britain, but whereas the British formerly got their Indian wealth by plunder, they now get it through the peaceful medium of commerce. Of the annual imports of India, valued at \$255,000,000, Great Britain sends fully two-thirds. The annual exports of India are about \$350,000,000, one-half of which goes to the British Isles.

Lord Curzon, the new Viceroy, on the eve of his departure from England, dilated in glowing language on the value, actual and potential, of Britain's Asiatic dependency. India, he said, was the pivot of the British Empire; and if Great Britain lost India, the sun of the British Empire would be set. We quote Lord Curzon further:

"The total sea-borne trade of India for 1896-97, which was an unprosperous year, almost equaled that of the whole of our Australian colonies, and was much greater than that of the South African and North American colonies combined; indeed, it constituted nearly one-tenth of the trade of the whole British Empire, and was more than one-third of the trade of the whole empire outside the United Kingdom. India had quite recently been devastated by a serious famine; yet in the six months after the famine—viz. from April to September, 1898, India had exported by sea more produce than in any previous six months—31 per cent larger than in 1897, and 14 and 15 per cent more than in 1896 and 1895, which were the years of the famine."

Lord Curzon expressed the opinion that if anything like stability of exchange could be established in India, British capital would flow freely thither to develop the vast resources which awaited British enterprise.

Madagascar's Unhappy Fate.

The fertile island of Madagascar has not prospered under French rule. No sooner had France, after a bloody conflict, firmly established sovereignty over the island than she began to apply the barbarous policy of restriction, with which she is bleeding all her colonies. The blue book published by the British foreign office showed to the world how British rights in Madagascar were flagrantly violated by the French in their effort to force the island commerce into French channels. The British may reap a grim satisfaction from the dismal failure of these measures. A correspondent of the London Times, writing from Mauritius, says:

"We have by no means heard the last of Madagascar. The French have sent out an army of officials. Indeed the fonctionnaires (functionaries) far outnumber the civil population, and they are making themselves beloved of none. The law allows the officials to enforce labor, but the officials are enforced as much as six months, so the laborers have taken to the bush, and private employers cannot get hands to work for them. The taxes are oppressive, and in some cases downright foolish—e.g., an annual tax on every head of cattle and every hectare of rice cultivated. The result is that the cattle are being slaughtered, so that beef is already scarce and dear, and rice, which was formerly exported, has now to be imported. The natives are cutting down the Indian rubber trees, and the whole country is unsettled. A fonctionnaire close to Nossi Be tried to force the 12-year-old daughter of a chief to live with him, but she succeeded in escaping, and raised the country. About nine or ten officials have been killed, and the northwest coast is in more or less open revolt. All the residents agree that if France found herself at war or difficulties there would be a general massacre of French officials."

"Trade is languishing. The two chief American firms have left or are leaving—i.e., they are merely liquidating old stock. The French have imposed a differential duty which gives French manufacturers an advantage of about 92 per cent. French goods are charged 4 per cent and English goods 96 per cent of their value. The consequence is that the French are sending their goods to the coast to supply their branch trading stations, and the Germans are sending theirs home rather than to the coast. The French are doing good business, but only by importing French goods instead of English. Altogether Madagascar furnishes an instructive object lesson in the methods of French colonization,

and might repay further study from those who contend that the flag has nothing to do with the trade."

This is in vivid contrast to the prosperity of the adjacent British colonies in South Africa. France may learn some day that the open door is the only one that leads to colonial success, but by that time she may have no colonies to govern.

Attempts are being made to form a calico trust in England. Trusts in England have no terror for the consumers who cannot be robbed under free trade.

The late Amasa Wood was a genuine philanthropist, who believed in making good use of his wealth while he lived. His charities were munificent and practical. Better memorials can no man have.

The American consul at Liverpool offers the opinion that the productive capacity of the English mechanic is decreasing. However that may be, the swelling imports of Great Britain show that the consumptive capacity of the said mechanic is not decreasing.

The revenue of the United Kingdom for the last quarter was very buoyant, the net increase being £764,000, despite the reduction in the tobacco duty, which the Chancellor of the Exchequer calculated would entail a loss of £1,120,000 for the year. The excise revenue and the proceeds of estate duties have exceeded all expectations. In fact everything points to unusually prosperous times in the old country.

The imports of the Turkish empire last year were \$106,000,000, the largest purchases being made from Great Britain—\$41,000,000 worth. Austria comes second with \$21,000,000, and then France and Russia. Germany is nowhere, despite all we hear about German influence and interests in Turkey. The Sultan, however, has just placed a big order with Krupp for guns for the Turkish army. The Kaiser, no doubt, regards this as one triumph of his visit to the Saviour's birth place, via Constantinople.

Mr. Chamberlain points with satisfaction to the adherence of the United States and Germany to the open door policy in the Far East. It is, perhaps, more a case of necessity than of virtue on Germany's part. It is true she has occupied the Province of Shan-Tung, China, and has maintained the open door, but she is probably aware that a closed door would have been battered down by British ironclads. Still, it is important that Germany has admitted the principle. It is a further guarantee that China shall be open to the world's commerce.

WHAT OTHERS SAY.

Generous Lumbermen.
[Detroit Free Press.]
The \$2 tariff lumbermen, in solemn session at Washington, generously agree to part with a slice from the protective plank of their platform for the sake of reciprocity with Canada.

Canada Teaches a Lesson.
[Buffalo Express.]
It is perfectly plain that political union with the United States would add immensely to the wealth of Canada, but this fact is obscured by the improvement in conditions which has appeared in recent years. Better transportation facilities have done a good deal for agricultural products sent to the British market. The growth in the demand for Canadian food staples in Great Britain reported by the United States consul at Liverpool should not be ignored in this country. It is particularly to be regretted that American cheese has suffered in the foreign market through Canadian competition. This is wholly the result of indifference in complying carefully with the tastes of foreign consumers. So long as our exporters are not responsive to the wishes of consumers the present advantage of Canadian producers in certain lines of food products will exist.

LIGHT AND SHADE.

Misjudging Johnnie.
Mother—Johnnie, I'm shocked to hear you swear. Do you learn that at school?
Johnnie—Learn it at school. Why, it's me what teaches the other boys.

Simply a Smile.
Englishman—What will you take?
Frenchman—I will take a drop of ze contradiction.
Englishman—Contradiction! What on earth do you mean?
Frenchman—Vell, you put in ze whiskey to make it strong, ze water to make it weak, ze lemon to make it sour, and ze sugar to make it sweet. Dea you say, "Here's to you," and you take it yourself—Spare Moments.

Epiaph.
In Catskill town, as I am told,
There dwelt in days of yore,
Nathaniel Strange, a worthy man,
Well learned in legal lore.

"Good wife," spake he, "when on this sphere
In death I close mine eyes
Naught on my tomb inscribe, save,<
Here,
An honest lawyer lies."

"No man your name will know," quoth she;
"Prithce your purpose change."
"Who'er," cried he, "those words shall see,
Will say, 'Why, that is Strange'."

His Leisure Moments.
Mrs. Bacon (getting ready to go out)—I can't see when Mr. Penman gets time to do any literary work; he and his wife are always on the go.
Mr. Bacon—Well, I understand he finds time to do his writing while his wife is putting on her hat—Yonkers Statesman.

A unique event has been celebrated at Buenos Ayres. A shipmaster has made 100 round voyages between Italy and the River Platt without doing any damage to his own or any other ship.

THE QUEEN'S

NEW YACHT

It Will Be the Largest One Ever Built.

And Will Cost \$1,500,000—Description of the Craft.

Queen Victoria may soon enjoy the pleasure of a cruise on her new yacht, the largest ever built. The new yacht, the name for which has not yet been definitely chosen, but which probably will be called the Prince Albert, is now so far advanced that it is expected she will be launched next March. The first keel plate was laid on Dec. 23, 1897, at the government dockyard at Portsmouth by Mrs. Watson, the wife of Capt. Burgess Watson, the superintendent of the dockyard.

The British Government has a remarkably well-developed faculty of keeping its business to itself. The gates of the government dockyard are open, even to British citizens, and almost never to foreigners. Consequently, although all Englishmen in general and yachtsmen and naval architects have been curious to know what Queen Victoria's new yacht will be like, ever since parliament appropriated money to build the boat, nothing is known except the meager details the admiralty has seen fit to give out.

English curiosity became so clamorous a short time ago that the admiralty decided to depart from its declared policy of maintaining secrecy about the royal yacht so far as to give out some of the principal dimensions of the vessel. The yacht is to be 380 feet long, 50 feet beam, and her draught is to be 18 feet and her displacement is to be 4,600 tons. This will be by far the biggest yacht ever built. William K. Vanderbilt's yacht *Vallant*, which has passed muster for a pretty good sized yacht, is small by comparison with Queen Victoria's new pleasure craft. The *Vallant* is only 332 feet long, 39 feet beam and 16 feet draught. Her gross tonnage is 1,823. Howard Gould's *Niagara* is still smaller, being 272 feet in length, 25 feet beam and 16 feet draught.The new royal yacht is as large as the cruiser *Baltimore*, larger than the New Orleans and much larger than the German emperor's yacht *Hohenzoellern*. The *Hohenzoellern* is nothing more than a protected cruiser, armed with 20 knots of speed and all, with masts, funnels, and a deck, with the British royal yacht, on the other hand, will have none of the qualities of a cruiser, but will be a yacht pure and simple.

The hull is to be of steel, sheathed with wood, and covered with copper. She will have three funnels and two masts. Speed is to be an important consideration. The admiralty has designed to inform the British taxpayers that the yacht is to have two sets of triple-expansion four-cylinder engines, driving two screws, and having an indicated horse power of 11,000. The high pressure cylinder of each engine is to be 26½ inches in diameter, the intermediate cylinder 4½ inches in diameter, and the two low pressure cylinders 53 inches in diameter, all having a stroke of 39 inches. Steam will be supplied by 18 Belleville boilers, working at a pressure of 300 pounds, which will be reduced at the engines to 250 pounds. The grate area under the boilers will be 840 feet, and the heating surface will be 26,000 square feet. This machinery is expected to drive the vessel through the water at a speed of 20 knots an hour, with the engines making 140 revolutions a minute.

Recently progress on the yacht was delayed by strikes, but men are now working overtime to make up for it. Only about 100 artificers are employed in the United Kingdom are employed. The vessel will have orlop, lower, main, upper, and forecastle decks. It is estimated that by the time the royal yacht is in the water she will have cost £227,533.

Although no information concerning the arrangement, fitting and furnishing of the interior has been given, it may reasonably be surmised that her Majesty will be fairly comfortable on board, since it is estimated that the finished yacht will cost £300,000, or, in round numbers, \$1,500,000.

A PAYING POLICY.

"How is it that Smithers lectures so successfully on the collection plan?"
"Oh, he does the high and lofty with his audiences, telling them that he does not want a cent from any man who can't pay his debts. He gets liberal donations from men who were never known to give before!"—Detroit Free Press.

WHAT TO DO WHEN SICK.

In case of weak stomach, disordered liver, impure blood, shattered nerves, bronchitis, lingering cough, or other affections which lead to consumption, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will ordinarily bring about a cure. The trouble is deep-seated and chronic, you had better write to Dr. R. V. Pierce, himself, at Buffalo, N. Y., telling him about your sickness. He will give you fatherly, friendly, and considered advice, and charge no fee at all. His practice has been in the widest spread, and has covered so many forms of disease, that his free advice is likely to do you more good than that of a physician who charges high prices.

Dr. Pierce is also the head of the famed Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, at Buffalo, N. Y., where hundreds of invalids and afflicted persons from all over the world go for treatment by the corps of specialists who are in constant attendance. It is because of his vast practice that the doctor is so well fitted to successfully treat every form of disease. Do not feel that you are imposing upon him when you ask for free advice, because he wishes all to know that his medicines only are to be paid for—not his advice.

"I have used three bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery since my correspondence with you and find great improvement in my case," writes Mr. A. F. Novotny, of New York, N. Y. (Box 143). "I feel that I am in need of your medical assistance. When I started to take your medicine I had a regular consumption cough, of which I was afraid, and I was losing weight rapidly, was very pale and had no appetite whatever. I do not cough at all, have gained eight pounds in weight, have recovered my healthy color, and my appetite is enormous. I can and will recommend your medicine to everybody who may be in need of the same, as it is a sure cure, no humbug as are most other patent medicines, and is far superior to all similar medicines."

If the head aches, the trouble is pretty sure to be constipation or biliousness. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets will cure you.

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EMPLOYED IN THEATERS

Said To Be Nearly 100,000 in Old London—New York's Figures.

[New York Sun.]
Some figures were recently compiled in London to show the number of persons employed directly or indirectly in the theaters and music halls of that city, and the total was found to be nearly 100,000. There are 55 theaters in London and more than 400 music halls, of various grades and character, and it is estimated that the theaters and music halls of London are visited on an average by 325,000 persons of an evening, or a total in a year of 100,000,000. If the estimate of the number of employees is correct at 100,000, although there is good reason to doubt it, the number of persons employed bears to the number of patrons in attendance the relation of nearly 1 to 3. It is presumed that these figures have been obtained by including in the number of theater and music hall employees the waiters and attaches, and perhaps many others not directly connected with such establishments, for in London many of the music halls, and occasionally some of the theaters and their licenses in dispute, and the reason for enlarging the record of employees is therefore evident. In New York under the provisions of the present charter the licensing of music halls or concert saloons, as they are called here, devolves upon the police department, and no reason exists for an exaggeration of the number of employees, which is considerably less than the total claimed for London. There are in New York 35 theaters, and the number of employees in each can be computed without much difficulty. In "the front of the house," as that part of the theater to the rear of the entrance rail to the auditorium is called, there is the manager, and usually a business manager, a treasurer and assistant treasurer, a ticket seller for the gallery entrance, a doorman for the main entrance, and another for the gallery entrance, and an advertising agent and about four assistants, or "billers," a total for this branch of the establishment of 12, probably 15. Putting at 15 more the average orchestra, and at 8 the number of ushers, a total in front of the footlights of 33 is secured, and to this are to be added four cleaners, for theaters, like many other establishments, need constant cleaning, and the lack of it is very quickly observed by the New York audience. These figures are, of course, approximate. In a continuous performance house the orchestra consists of two or three persons, while in the Metropolitan Opera House the average is 60. Taking all the theaters through, however, an average of 15 as the complement of the orchestra is probably not very far from the fact, although it may be misleading in some cases. Putting at 12 the number of stage hands, the stage carpenter—the gas man, the property man, the stage doorkeeper, the call boy (where there is one), and the stage carpenter—brings the total to 54, and there must further be added the janitor, the engineer, the scenic artist (where there is one), and sometimes an assistant—sometimes two—and the total is about 60, exclusive of the performers and the supernumeraries.

The average number of performers at a New York theater playing speaking characters is about 20, and the number of supernumeraries is about the same. In opera performances, where there is a chorus, or in stage plays like "The Christian," where there are "mobs," the number is far in excess of this, but the number of theaters the number is much less, and therefore 20 may do for an average. This would bring the total number of "persons employed" in theaters in New York to about 100, not counting the landlady, and a very liberal estimate, therefore, for the whole city would be 4,000, exclusive of the minor music halls and concert saloons, at which no regular stage entertainments are given. By liberally adding 1,000 for these, a total of 5,000 for all places of amusement is obtained.

A Substantial Gain.
"I was very weak and hardly able to walk. My blood was thin and I was as pale as death. Being told about Hood's Sarsaparilla I began taking it and in a few months I had gained 20 pounds in weight. I kept on with it until I was as well as ever." Arthur Mills, Dresden, Ont.

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