

MR. TOWNE'S SPEECH.



MR. W. H. TOWNE, BOSTON.

Mr. W. H. Towne, of Boston, of the S. S. White Company, responded to the toast as follows:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,—One year ago, on a similar occasion, and under the same auspices, I had the honor to respond to the toast of the "Navies of Great Britain and the United States," but to-night a larger theme, and one of the most intense personal interest, has been assigned me, viz., "The Empire of Great Britain and the United States." And when we contemplate the tight little isle, and its vast domination on sea and land, exceeding in extent the mighty empires of Greece and Rome, we

can understand the parable of the mustard seed, the smallest of all seeds, but it grew into a mighty tree, under which the birds of the air sought shelter. So have many undeveloped nations found shade, rest and civilization under the spreading oak of liberal English monarchy. Our French brethren have contributed by their Norman conquest of England to the enrichment of the English language, law and literature; yet, nevertheless, the Anglo-Saxon has preserved his individuality and racial characteristics amidst all the vicissitudes of a thousand years of history. There is something awe-inspiring and providential in this mighty growth to power and influence of the Anglo-Saxon, as illustrated not only by England, but by the Republic of the United States, whose star-spangled banner also stands for personal liberty and individualized existence, for education and sweet domestic family life; also as a hope and beacon star to the downtrodden of earth; and the signs are multiplying that not only by force of racial characteristics, but by outside pressure, the Empire of Great Britain and the Republic of the United States must finally enter into an alliance, in order that their manifest destiny may be accomplished, in exploiting the highest ideals that have ever been wrought into established institutions, law and customs, not only for their own glory, but for the benefit of universal humanity. England stands to-day in, it may be, splendid isolation amidst the mighty unsolved problems of Europe, Asia and Africa, and her diplomacy has received severe checks during the last five years, resulting in a restless Mohammedan population, a crushed Armenia, and a