

Mrs. Varcoe considerably impressed with the good qualities of her lodger and almost proud of his ability to ingratiate himself with the gentry. Who shall blame her daughter if perchance on resuming her

work by the window her ear retained an echo of Gilbert Arderne's voice? Not I, at least, dear reader, for I too have heard voices that thrilled my heart, voices whose echoes still abide with me.

(To be continued.)

SORRY PLIGHT OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC.

BY B. F. UNDERWOOD, QUINCY, ILL.

THE protests of Agoncillo, the agent of Aguinaldo, to our government have been moderate and reasonable, diplomatic in form, courteous in tone and convincing in argument. Agoncillo's statements are, in substance, such as our revolutionary forefathers made to the government of Great Britain.

However far the inhabitants of many of the islands of the Philippine archipelago are from the mental and moral condition necessary to self-government, the leaders of the Filipinos have shown patience and have manifested high appreciation of republican principles.

Agoncillo, in his protest against the United States forcing its undesired sovereignty upon the Filipinos, says:

"The Spanish government has ceased to hold any dominion by deed and by right, and the only authority which exists there and preserves order is that constituted by the Filipinos with the solemn sanction of their votes, the only legal fount of positive modern power. Under such conditions the Spanish commissioners in Paris have not been able, within the principles of the law of nations, to give up and transfer what, if they ever had, they had totally lost before the signing of the protocol of Washington and the arranging of the peace treaty in Paris."

Agoncillo urges that "it would not be noble now, after having used the alliance, to deny the courage, loyalty and nobility of the Filipino forces in fighting at the side of the American troops, lending them a decided support, both enthusiastic and efficacious. Without their co-operation and without the previous siege would the Americans have been able so easily to have gained possession of the walled city of Manila."

The reports of Dewey attest that Aguinaldo and his people aided in the victory over the Spanish fleet. They welcomed the Americans as friends. Can Americans now disregard the aspirations of the Filipinos and kill them like rats if they persist in efforts to realize their dream of an Oriental republic?

If the United States now insists upon the allegiance, the compulsory allegiance, of the people who have so bravely fought for their independence, what will be the impartial verdict of history?

Having used the insurgents of the Philippines to help conquer Spain, in a