

landing of United States troops might have had an unfortunate effect upon them.

The Governor of Jamaica had at his command 2,000 black troops and plenty of black labour. There was no question of saving lives, as the landing took place four days after the earthquake. The Governor told Admiral Davis that he was quite able to maintain order, but the latter none the less landed troops, patrolled the streets, and guarded the perfectly safe American Consulate. Is it any wonder that Sir Alexander Swettenham was angry, and that the British lion in him made a protest which was more vigorous than wise—more accurate than diplomatic? The Governor's letter was right in principle but wrong in phraseology. Who in the name of common-sense should be the most censured—the man who first offended, and whose aggressive inraction of international law is obvious; or the Governor who properly resented what Mr. Hamer Greenwood described as American "bounce"; and who defended British prestige in the eyes of a large and ignorant native population and of the somewhat assertive American residents of Kingston—while making an unfortunate slip in the terms of a hasty letter written at an anxious time?*

* The following is an extract from a letter (July 19th) in the *London Times*, written by Sir Frank Swettenham, a brother of the Governor, and evidently giving the latter's version of the affair :

"Admiral Davis, who had omitted to fire the customary salute on arrival in a British port, landed unannounced early on January 17th, and at once sent an armed guard to the American Consulate. Admiral Davis then, without any communication to the Governor, went to the Secretariat, where he found the Colonial Secretary, a police officer, and a number of people in the yard, as the office was not considered safe. The Admiral asked if he could be of any assistance, and the police officer volunteered the information that there was a mutiny in the penitentiary. Admiral Davis at once offered men to suppress this reported mutiny, and the Colonial Secretary apparently acquiesced, both he and the Admiral seeming to forget that under Colonial Officer Regulation No. 209 and by universal custom, the commander of a foreign warship can only communicate with the Governor. Regulation 209 says, 'In no case will he communicate through the Colonial Secretary.' About 9 a.m., sixty marines were landed and marched to the pen