



INTERIOR OF A NATIVE HUT.

to give the islands over to European protection would involve still greater difficulties; and, hence the only course that remained was for the United States to take them over. He accordingly gave orders the next morning for the chief engineer of the War Department to put the Philippine archipelago on the map as a possession of the United States.

This course he well knew was contrary to the traditions of the Republic, and to the "Monroe doctrine" shibboleth. More than that, the United States had no colonial office or policy. McKinley believed it was a right course to take, and to him that was final. We are safe in saying that no nation ever before found itself in such peculiar relations to another people, and to their lasting honor be it said, they have on the whole most manfully taken up the White Man's Burden, though politically there were

many reasons why they might have declined.

What has American occupation done for the islands? Their first duty was to pacify the people, and get the various contending factions reconciled. The spiritual misrulers realizing that their game was up, and that a flag which meant freedom and enlightenment was raised over the islands, did much to stir up the opposition and prejudice of the people. At the cost of much blood and money the islands now enjoy peace almost universally. The United States had to frame a governing policy based upon the most experienced results of political science, and as far as possible consistent with the ruling ideas of their own history. There were innumerable difficulties "fore and aft." They were new at governing colonies, and they had possibly the hardest task in the history of colonization.