

government has had the impudence to suggest that after a certain period of residence the Japanese in British Columbia should be given the franchise. The Dominion Government has been obliged to veto the exclusion law of Columbia, and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain is reported to have suggested that the Natal act might be copied. To this the Columbian authorities reply that the Japanese government would probably regard that as an unfriendly proceeding, and the problem remains unsettled. Evidently the admission of Japan to the status of a civilized Power may have awkward consequences. It implies that the Japanese are on a level with white people, and must be treated like the subjects of the European states.

HAS AGUINALDO ALLIES IN EUROPE?

In June of last year, the papers of the United States were annoyed, and with good reason, at the somewhat significant and decidedly saucy reference of the St. Petersburg *Novosti* to the announced intention of Spain to request Europe to intervene in the war. The Russian paper in question in the course of an article supposed to be inspired by the government said: "America must voluntarily submit her pretensions to a tribunal of the powers," and then insinuated that the exposed American coast could not withstand the ships of two or three European powers.

Some United States Journals asked what, in view of the expressed friendliness of Russia, this threatening and offensive language meant. However, the United States press was just as ready as Great Britain to resent Russian interference, and plainly intimated that upon any future field of dispute in the East, and in any effort to defend China from exclusive aggression by the allied powers of Russia and France, Europe will find Great Britain, United States and Japan standing shoulder to shoulder.

It is well to recall what the *Novosti*, a supposedly inspired Russian paper, said. After demanding that "Europe raise her mighty voice and restore that peace which mankind looks for;" it proposed that, if the United States should reject such a peace as the powers might choose to dictate, "the combined fleets of two or three European powers" should be brought in to immeasurably extend the conflict. A fine specimen of the craft of Russian diplomacy.

The *Review*, a New York journal, in the course of some comments upon the threats of Russia said:—"Presuming, therefore, upon our imputed dullness in diplomacy and hoping that their threats may frighten our public, the crafty diplomats of St. Petersburg seek to precipitate a hasty settlement with Spain before our occupation of the Philippines is completed, and thereby divert those islands from our possession into their own control.

"This is evidently the game of which the *Novosti* has made itself the tool. We may expect more of these minatory out-givings from the political organs

of France, Russia and probably Austria. It is for us, being forewarned, to see to it that we are fore-armed. The only weapon we need is an unflinching NO! to all questionable mediation, from no matter which or how many of these much vaunting powers it may come. Our safety lies in the fact that the plotters know that forcible intervention would evoke counter-interventions which they are not prepared to face. It may be well enough to try this game of bluff on the principle that one chance in a hundred is better than none at all; but, if we remain firm, in the end our peace with Spain will be made upon our own terms."

The reference to "counter-interventions" was undoubtedly a veiled allusion to the then possible alliance of Great Britain and the United States, and, if nothing more has come of the new bond of union between the English-speaking race than a readiness to stand or fall together in defence of their mutual interests and possessions, the Spanish-American war accomplished much which the civilized world in years to come will have reason to rejoice at.

However, a year has passed away since the growling of Russia failed to alarm our neighbours, and we are able to get a clearer view of the results of the war. Twelve months ago, the *Review* feared lest "the crafty diplomats of St. Petersburg" might seek to "precipitate a hasty settlement with Spain" before American occupation of the Philippines was completed.

We should be sorry to think that European diplomacy precipitated the sale of the Philippines to our neighbours. At the same time we must say that American occupation of the islands they purchased is so very far from completed, and the ways of the Muscovite so like those of Bret Harte's Heathen Chinee, that we are inclined to suspect the finger of Europe has been inserted in the Manilla pie, and is stirring up the pronounced objections of the natives to the presence of their quondam friends, the conquerors of Spain. That Aguinaldo does not lack the sinews of war is quite apparent, and it would not be surprising to find the *Novosti's* "two or three European powers" of a year ago are the sleeping allies of Aguinaldo.

England has had occasion to know by what curious and circuitous paths the Russian diplomat can travel, and time has not changed the methods of the Muscovite when upon mischief bent.

PROGRESS IN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SCIENCE.

At the opening meeting of the annual congress of the British Medical Association, held at Portsmouth on August 1, the president, Dr. Ward Cousins, gave an address on "The Century's Progress in Medicine and Surgery." Dealing first with the general condition of medical science at the dawn of the present century, he said it was a time when gradual development was proceeding, and experimental inquiry was entering upon a new epoch. The great characteristic of the period was the growing influence of new methods of research, and the declining power of theo-