

The world is in danger from the ambition of great powers, threatening, under pretences more or less pious or philanthropic, to crush the smaller nationalities and put an end to the part played by them in the fruitful emulation of free development. Sinister glances are being cast at some small nationalities in Europe, such as Holland and Belgium, as well as in Africa and the East. The noble nationality of little Finland is being already devoured by Russia. In requital the great powers promise the world peace; a peace of submission to their will; a peace which, being all armed to the teeth and full of mutual jealousy, they might find it difficult to keep among themselves. They are impelled not more by the lust of empire than by the commercial greed which led them to contend for the possession of "spheres of influence" in China. Against such a destruction of independence the Boer, and with less effect the Filipino, has entered a protest more telling than all our moral dissertations, which can have little force where morality has so little power. For this protest, whatever we may say, humanity will hereafter be grateful.

We have flattered ourselves that our grand object in killing, burning, and ravaging, was the extension to the oligarchical and corrupt Boer of the political blessings