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SCRANTON, MARCH 20, 1902.

On December 26, we editorially and favorably reviewed Walter J. Ballard's article, "Our South American Trade," which appeared in the Protectionist for December. We notice by the Congressional Record that Senator Hanna quoted freely from the article in his speech sub silent in the senate, on March 6.

President Schurman's Mistakes.

WE GIVE space on this page to a statement of opinion by President Schurman, of Cornell University, on the duty of the United States with reference to the Philippines. It has interest from the fact that its author not only is one of the men whose opinions on any subject are entitled to weight, but also because, as the chairman of the first Philippine commission, he has had exceptional opportunities for forming an accurate opinion in this matter.

It may seem presumptuous to differ in opinion from a man so well qualified as he is to speak with authority on this subject; but we detect what impress us as at least two flaws in Dr. Schurman's line of argument. The first of these is his statement that the development of American trade with the Philippine archipelago and the improvement of the opportunities of individual Americans in that archipelago do not depend and would not be promoted by American sovereignty. This, on its face, looks unreasonable. American sovereignty in the Philippines would mean the full protection of every American right there. This would not necessarily mean the sacrifice of any native right or foreign right; but it would mean that American capital could invest itself in lawful Philippine developments with thorough assurance of protection; and that American enterprise, when it had worked out problems in the islands to the advantage of both natives and those exhibiting it, would be free from petty annoyance and confiscatory exactions. The American flag would mean in the Philippines just what it means in Porto Rico—law, order and fair play. That would be to the manifest advantage of all concerned.

The second point of weakness which we view in Dr. Schurman's argument is his endeavor to promise ultimate independence to a people who have not yet laid down their arms. It is useless to parley with the man who holds a pistol at your head. In parts of the Philippines armed resistance to even that degree of supervisory and educational American authority which Dr. Schurman admits is now necessary in the Philippines, and which the logic of his admissions shows will likely be necessary for a great many years to come, continues; not, perhaps, so forcefully as in former months, but still strong enough to require the services of a large army of occupation, which has its hands full chasing and capturing predatory guerrilla bands and breaking up tendencies toward resistance in mass. Now if the matter of independence is conceded something not to be effective until a remote and indefinite time in the future, why complicate the difficulties of the present with its premature consideration? A homely old saw recommends one hurdle at a time; whereas, Dr. Schurman impresses us as wishing to leap them all at once, beginning with the one furthest off.

The fundamental error in his whole article is lack of faith in the underlying fairness and righteousness of the American people. Their sons and daughters in the generation when this now academic problem of the final disposition of the Philippines shall become vital can safely be trusted to do what is right. Any attempt to tie their hands now would be both inexpedient and also in all probability, ineffectual. We do not expect, and we certainly do not wish, to live to see the day when the American flag shall be hauled down from where Dewey and Merritt hoisted it, to make way for any other emblem either now in existence or yet unborn. When the Filipinos become better acquainted with it we have no doubt that they will learn to feel the same way.

The predictions of the hot summer prophet, whether believed or not, would be regarded with pleasure just now.

An Opportunity for the Census.

ONE OF the things which may rightfully be expected from the census bureau after it has been reorganized on a permanent basis is a careful compiling of vital statistics. In both of the last two censuses figures as to the birth rate and as to its variation according to locality and nationality—data of the first importance from many points of view—were collected but not tabulated and thus made available for scientific purposes. The reason for this no doubt was the exhaustion of the appropriation before the work of the census was completed. The immense waste in time

and money resulting from having to organize each census separately has been a heavy drag upon the efficiency of these decennial inquiries. Hereafter this will not be felt; and it is sincerely to be hoped that the subject mentioned will receive due attention.

Next to the enumeration of the population we can think of no subject of inquiry of larger consequence than this. If the assertions made by a number of distinguished obstetricians concerning the decline in the size of America can as compared with foreign-born families be correct, a problem of far-reaching influence is indicated. We have no doubt that these assertions are made honestly and in good faith; but they admittedly rest on a narrow basis—the vital statistics of only six states.

What is needed to define this problem is a comprehensive inquiry covering the entire country. That would show just what the facts are, and it would aid materially in estimating the future population, something which is of importance in statemanship. The various states are untrustworthy collectors of vital statistics. They lack a suitable machinery of collection and also the authority associated in the public mind with a census conducted by Uncle Sam. All that is needed to secure the desired information is a census from Washington. This should certainly be given.

The hopes of the Democrats who intended that failure to enact Cuban resolution should become an issue have received a severe jolt.

The Strange Case of General Miles

I T HAS recently been made public, not by the administration, that General Miles, after evolving an unsolicited plan for the pacification of the Philippines, submitted it to the secretary of war, who disapproved it; and then took it in person to the president, who likewise declined to authorize its adoption. The public has not been informed as to the character of General Miles' plan and the administration has not seen fit to take any notice of the incident.

It will be recalled that General Miles was prolific in plans for bettering the conduct of the war against Spain. His first effort in that direction was an attempt to convince his superior officers that General Wesley Merritt had no use in the first Philippine expedition for more than 6,000 men, although it turned out that more than seven times that number had to be sent eventually. Another of General Miles' plans was to march an army overland in Cuba through mud and swamps from the eastern end of the island to Havana, a feat that would hardly be possible in a time of complete peace, owing to the difficulties of transport and of keeping in touch with the base of supplies. This, also, was rejected, as was his subsequent plan for withdrawing Shafter's army from Santiago before the fall of that place and its use in an overpowering swoop upon Porto Rico. There were many minor incidents in connection with General Miles' conduct during the late war that as spread upon the records denote singular petulance and jealousy. These were passed over in silence at the time, but they added to the burden which President McKinley had to bear, and they had their part in weakening the influence of the major general commanding.

For the administration now to turn down the officers who have been working night and day in the Philippines by summarily abandoning their plans and substituting the plans of an officer who has not been on the ground and whose temperament as developed in recent years in the atmosphere of intrigue prevailing in army circles in and around Washington makes it uncertain how long he would stick to a line of conduct after marking it out, would be an unheard of proceeding. The administration needs no defense for its action in these premises.

According to Minister Bellamy Storer, the information to the effect that the young king of Spain is a weakling is incorrect. He is a bright, healthy boy and capable of occupying the pitcher's box on almost any amateur nine in the country.

A well-known scientist is endeavoring to solve the problem of producing steam without fuel. Nothing is easier. The matter is demonstrated at nearly every meeting of the Scranton council.

Value of Applied Science.

I N A RECENT report to the state department from Stuttgart, Consul Ozum analyzed keenly the causes of Germany's remarkable commercial advance and dropped some hints not without value for the American people. Common belief credits this advance largely to the victory of Prussia over France in 1870-1. Mr. Ozum attributes it more largely to the emphasis placed in Germany upon scientific education, upon applied science. And in support of his theory he makes a convincing show of circumstantial evidence.

As a result of this emphasis there are today, he points out, more than 4500 thoroughly trained chemists in German factories, not to speak of 5000 additional students, all continually studying how to improve processes and introduce economies. The sugar industry illustrates the practical application which the Germans make of their educational system. In 1840, 154,000 tons of beet root were crushed, from which 8,000 tons of raw sugar were produced, showing about 5% per cent. of raw sugar extracted from the root. Twenty years later, 1,560,000 tons were treated which produced 128,000 tons of sugar, or about 8 per cent. Last year, about 12,000,000 tons were crushed, which produced 1,500,000 tons of raw sugar, raising the percentage to 13. This advance is due entirely to scientific treatment.

The production of dry colors, chemicals, and dyes in Germany shows a corresponding increase in product and in dividend-paying capacity. Comparing the statistics of the dyeing industry of the year 1874 with those of 1898, it is found that, notwithstanding prices in 1898 were considerably lower than in 1874, the net income in 1874 was 24,000,000 marks, (about \$6,000,000,) and in 1898 was 120,000,000 marks, (about \$30,000,000.) The great increase of earning capacity is due largely, says Mr. Ozum, to the constant labor of trained men, who by application of their technical knowledge have so cheapened production that they have succeeded in getting this trade away from the English, who formerly controlled it. Another illustration is found in the manu-

facture of artificial indigo, a chemical process for making which was discovered in Germany about thirty-five years ago. It was started with less than forty workmen, all told. It now employs over 6,000 men, and has a staff of 148 scientific chemists, and by placing this substitute upon the market at a very low price they have nearly ruined the natural-indigo industry of India.

The Germans have also discovered a method for obtaining ground slag from steel process, which is used as a fertilizer, and England, although she produces as much steel as Germany, has become a good customer for this article. The Krupp gun factory is another instance of this progress, too familiar to need description, but the latest is the discovery by a German chemist, by the name of Giebler, of a process of hardening steel which makes it, it is said, 14 per cent. stronger, 50 per cent lighter and one-third less costly than the Krupp, Harvey, or Boehler steel. The inventor will not sell the secret of the process to any foreign manufacturer, but will retain it for the benefit of Germany. This, if true, will give this country an enormous advantage in naval matters, for, with a lighter hull, lighter machinery, and lighter guns, a very much higher rate of speed can be produced for a given consumption of fuel, which means also an enlarged steaming distance. A century ago, the English and French makers of scientific instruments were far in advance of the Germans. During the last twenty years all this has changed. The value of the exports from Germany for 1898 was about \$1,250,000—three times what it was in 1885—and the work gave employment to 14,000 people.

Study of these facts has caused Consul Ozum to question whether in the secretaries of war, who disapproved it; and then took it in person to the president, who likewise declined to authorize its adoption. The public has not been informed as to the character of General Miles' plan and the administration has not seen fit to take any notice of the incident.

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