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Thursday, April 7, 1888.

**Cosmopolitan Life and International Friendliness.**

In order to understand a country it is not enough to see it live; its present state must be compared with its recent past. A nation is an eternal invalid; there is not one which is not ill, which has not some ulcer of a more or less dangerous nature. But that which is most important of all to know is, what is the course of its malady. One must decide whether the disease is inclined to increase or whether, on the contrary, it is on the way to a cure. Do not hope to know this until you yourself have compared yesterday and today. For this history is indispensable, and especially the political history of the present century. In my opinion it is almost impossible to understand a modern country if one is not acquainted with its political history for a period of the past eighty years; and I would like to say that it is regrettable that one should visit a country before he has made such a study. The English are sometimes great travelers and sometimes very sedentary. I have known some who were admirably well acquainted with France, and that almost without having seen it, and others who had traveled it repeatedly and knew almost nothing about it. The former were not always intellectually superior to the latter, but they had acquired the habit when they read their newspapers of never passing over anything which concerned France without pausing, without meditating upon it, and especially without finding out what the French themselves thought about it. This is the proper manner of judging things. One cannot understand, for example, the movement which is about to trust Norway out of her union with Sweden if he does not study this movement from its origin and if he knows nothing of the phases through which it has passed since the Swedish-Norwegian kingdom was constituted. For my part, I have searched the point where I always try to get outside of myself, in a way, when I have to judge an international question, I say to myself: "What would I think about Cecil Rhodes if I were an Englishman? What would be my opinion on India if I were a Russian? What would I desire in the East if

I were a Hungarian? What would be my colonial ideas if I were a German? And I think that in our modern world this manner of forming one's judgment is the only one which affords any chance of arriving at the truth and consequently of doing any good.—From an article by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, in *American Monthly Review of Reviews* for April.

**National Doom.**

Thoughts about Spain.

BY "NEMO."  
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The demon that has been steadily and relentlessly forcing Spain toward its final national plunge, is preparing to close the compact, wherein Spain as a nation four centuries ago chose wealth rather than wisdom, and pride rather than progress. Even leaving out of consideration for a moment the present conflict in Cuba, the evidences of certain national doom can easily be read.

To render the thought more definite I will make three groups of weaknesses, any one of which will be fatal to a nation in the long run.

**COLONIAL CREED.**—If we look back at the conquests of a few centuries ago, when frequent tidings of new continents and boundless wealth fired the souls of adventurous men, the skirts of no nation will be found entirely free from innocent blood. But gentler times have brought gentler methods, and the value of leaving populous colonies instead of ravaged miles to rule over is found to be ultimately of the greatest advantage to the home country. This is only another evidence that the world progresses. But while the scales of inhumanity have fallen from the eyes of England, and other nations that attempt to vie with her in colonizing policies, Spain is as blind and cruel as in the days of Pizarro in Peru, and Cortez in Mexico. With an absolute lust for wealth the new territories were then regarded as fair prey to be mercilessly stripped of everything valuable and portable. The spirit of the men who carved her vast empire out of a new world has remained unchanged through the centuries. Whatever colonial positions were open have been filled by Spanish nobility; many cases without regard to fitness of the person or the advantage of the colony. Indirect gain from the development of a colony has never been regarded with such favor as the direct results to be attained by squeezing out taxes and farming out lucrative offices. In a progressive age, this is simply a mad spirit of self-destruction. The inevitable has been the loss one by one, of the very jewels of her diadem of empire, until now out of a territory once unequalled either in natural wealth or in extent, there remain the very minor possessions of Porto Rico, Cuba, and the Philippine Islands.

**AGRICULTURAL UNPROGRESSIVENESS.**—About the beginning of the 16th century Spain, possessed of a religious fury adroitly mingled with greed, expelled the Jews and Moors and confiscated their property. It thus inflicted as severe a national injury to itself as France did later when it drove out the Huguenots; for it stripped itself of its best farmers and mechanics. In 1609, I believe, it gave agriculture a further fatal blow by expelling the Christianized Moors. As a consequence the very basis of national prosperity is remarkably undeveloped in Spain. The crudest implements are still in use, and great regions that the Moors had rendered productive, fell back to wilderness. Similar short-sightedness characterized her abroad. When Pizarro landed in Peru, the strip of land fifty and more miles wide, stretching from the ocean front to the foothills of the Andes, supported a prosperous population of many hundreds of thousands. The patient Peruvians had, by vast irrigation works, made this sandy desert blossom like the rose. In some cases they had constructed aqueducts hundreds of miles long, and even pierced mountains in order that this region might be watered. The desert is once more triumphant. The conquerors seeking and esteeming those things only that could be gained by the sword, neglected the real essentials of prosperity, and to this day the evil results are felt. Mexico was a similar victim. The strange

creatures whom Montezuma ruled were exceedingly progressive. But their works and plans and agricultural gains were scattered to the winds by their blood-thirsty conquerors, and to this day the spiritless Peon seems sunken beyond all hope of revival. Thus everywhere, at home, abroad, Spain has prepared the way for her own undoing.

**THE GRADEESPIRIT.**—For centuries after the destruction of the Roman Empire by the Gauls and Vandals, the human intellect was practically benumbed. A pall of darkness was over all; the nobles were almost as unlearned as their serfs and the serfs were utterly hopeless. Aspiration lay like a giant chilled by the cold. But since that time stimulation of thought has caused the great heart of the world to throb with increasing power until the feeling of a common humanity thrills in some degree even those most separated by birth and wealth. But against the tendency of the people to think and act, hope and accomplish, the proud and stubborn spirit of Spanish Grandeeism has stood out resolutely. The rising tide of human aspiration cannot be withstood. If a government, even though hoar with age or crusted with heroic deeds, try to turn deaf ear to the cry of the poor for life and liberty, for education and for hope, the cry will not die out but its pleading tone will be turned into the fierce and fateful growl of a cornered beast. Thus has it been with Spain. Her more organized than Nihilism in Russia, is Anarchism in Spain. The nation is honey-combed with lawless sentiments. The men in power are under the hopeless necessity of guarding against the home population as if it were an invading army. No other government in Europe, not even Russia, is in so serious a condition. Spain stands revealed before the world as not having controlled the growth of hope and thought, but as having withstood it. The inevitable disaster draws nearer each day, and is not delayed by the fact that Spanish statesmen welcome foreign complications as offering a favorable diversion of the direction in which the combative spirit seeks to expend itself.

Much more might be written, but why multiply words? Spain is being hurried to her doom by the blinding forces within her. Her brutality in peace and in war make her unworthy of kingship with the sisterhood of progressive peoples. She is a survival of bloody times that have for many nations long ago passed away. It will indeed be a strange historic parallel, if the Anglo-Saxon race that first embred her career in the western world, should also be the one to finally expel her!

Fallen the pride of Aragon,  
The lordly might of high Castile;  
Mark how the closing shadows steal  
Where erst the sun of empire shone!  
As some strong seed unthinking spent  
In costly vase or fragile jar,  
Its sturdy roots down-stretching far  
Burst outwards, seeking nourishment:  
So when a new world had its birth,  
The swelling seed of wide domain  
Fell on the barren soil of Spain,  
It withered there for lack of earth.  
Thus many dawning lives we see,  
Closing too soon in dark despair—  
Too narrow-souled to rightly bear  
Full-grown responsibility.

**Inspired by Cuba's Need**

Innocent blood from Cuba cries,  
Until it's heard beyond the skies.  
Wake up, ye sons of American soil,  
Make every drop of blood to boil.  
Rise up, ye sons of the brave,  
To liberate the Cuban slave.  
Strike, strike with all your might,  
And wipe the Spanish out of sight.  
Such cruelty in Cuba's land,  
We can no longer stand  
To arms and let all nations learn  
That Uncle Sam is very stern.  
—W. H. K.

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- Java and Mocha, 35c; 3 lbs. for 90c.
- Extra loose green coffee, 25c.
- 10 lbs. Soft A Sugar, 50c. 9 lbs. Granulated, 50c.
- 2 lbs. Light Brown, 50c.
- Corn Starch, 5c; 3 lbs. for 12c.
- New Rice, 5; very nice.
- Best N. O. Molasses, 14c. a qt.
- Syrup, 18c. a gal.
- Light Syrup, 35c. a gal.
- Chocolate, 18c.
- Baking Soda, 4c. per lb.
- Baking Powder, 5c. 1 lb.
- Raisins, 7c.
- Silver Prunes, 12c., extra nice.
- Oatmeal, 10c., 3 packages 25c.
- Crushed wheat, 15c., 2 packages 25c.
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