

the commercial side of "expansion." He said on this subject:

"But we are told again, gentlemen, that we need new territories in which to extend our trade and in which to exploit our enterprises. Is any man in Georgia, is any man in Virginia, is any man in the undeveloped states in the South anxious to send out of this country any of its wealth, any of its enterprises, any of its industry to increase the wealth and enterprise of foreign nations rather than our own? Have you reached that stage of industrial development, of prosperity, of wealth, of growth in this commonwealth that you can say to your people or to the people of the parts of the United States, 'Take your money, take your energy, take your enterprise to the Philippines or to Hawaii or to the Ladrone Islands, or to Cuba or to Porto Rico and develop those countries, because we do not need you at home?'"

"Fellow citizens, we do not now need and do not need for many generations to come new regions to develop, new countries to make prosperous, when we have three million square miles in such a country as this to develop and make prosperous. (Applause.) And as for the increase of trade, what increase of trade can we reasonably look forward to in the acquisition of the Philippines and Hawaii and the other islands?"

"The reciprocity treaty with Canada alone would give a more healthy increase to our trade than we can expect from all these people. The expense of maintaining the army and navy necessary to protect them will be far greater than any increase of trade we can get from them. If we annex them our tariff laws extend to them. We cannot monopolize their trade like Spain did, else they will rebel against us as they rebelled against Spain."

President Wilson thinks that the United States has already gone too far to retrace its steps in this new career, and he did not attempt to propose any other solution of the Philippine problem than the one proposed by McKinley. Thus his address was without political plan and scarcely as effective as it might have been made. If we are to float on helplessly with McKinley into an indorsement of everything that is included in what that gentleman wishes us to regard as "Destiny" then we might as well abandon all our efforts at government and make McKinley president for life at once, after the fashion of Diaz of Mexico.—New York Times.

Do we imagine it, or has there really been an unusual amount of wanton bloodshed about the country since the soldiers came back to their homes, and especially during the election week? Are we becoming so very military a people that the manners of Bret Harte's mining camps need be revived among us?

**EXPANSION VS. PROTECTION.**

The old-fashioned protectionists and the new-fashioned expansionists when amalgamated and made incarnate in one human organism form a very paradoxical personality. Formerly the protection part of this human hybrid protested that competition by American laborers with the ignorant and impoverished workmen of the Sandwich islands and the Philippines would be degrading and disastrous to our own wage-earners. But now the consolidated jingoism and protectionism in one man, are vociferous and vehement in proclaiming that by admitting all this ignorance and pauperism to an equality in this republic with our intelligent laborers great good shall come to the latter. THE CONSERVATIVE opines that when expansion comes in protection goes out.

**THE CENTURY.**

The next issue of THE CONSERVATIVE will publish a discussion of the question "When Does The Next Century Begin?" which first saw the light in December, 1798, when it was printed in The Norfolk (Virginia) Herald by Peter Porcupine.

And now, a hundred years having elapsed, the question is again up for debate. When will the nineteenth century end? When will the twentieth century commence?

When the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine (1899) shall have closed and the year nineteen hundred (1900) shall have opened will the nineteenth century have been completed? How can ninety-nine be counted a hundred?

**A NUMEROUS CROP.**

Nebraska always prolific in cereals, opulent in cattle and horses, and plutocratic in hogs, is more than Croesus-like in its yearly production of statesmen. But the crop is always more numerous when fertilized for a senatorial election, as it is for January, 1899. So now there are sprouting statesmen, budding patriots, blooming United States senators springing into fragrance and beauty from nearly every precinct in Nebraska. But the chilling blasts of the approaching winter will freeze and wither all of them but one.

Fighting may be all wrong, but if there must be fighting we want it to be well done on the part of our representatives. None of his thousand generations of war-like ancestors, wherever they are, need be ashamed in this respect of Private Edwards, of a Kentucky regiment now on service in Porto Rico. This private was set to guard a certain plantation, accompanied only by his gun; and while so employed, was approached by a committee of the society of the Black Hand, an amiable Porto Rican organization, which makes a business of burning houses and tortur-

ing and murdering women and old men. This committee contained some hundred armed men, but Private Edwards and his friend so arranged matters that there were four vacancies in it when it retired; three of its members staying behind with bullet holes in them, and one with a bayonet-wound.

Harper's Weekly thinks that a recent speaker was about right in saying that "the danger is that we are to be transformed from a republic founded on the Declaration of Independence, guided by the counsels of Washington, into a vulgar, common-place empire." Its editor thinks that would be pretty bad.

And yet Harper's Weekly conspicuously exemplifies, in its own affairs, an extreme detachment from the wisdom of the fathers. It is quite possible that the late George William Curtis, if the current copy of The Weekly were allowed to circulate where he now is, would be quite as despondent over the two pages devoted in it to recent football games, as George Washington would be likely to be over any dangers now threatening the nation which he tended in its infancy.

**ADVERTISERS IN THE CONSERVATIVE.**

Those intelligent citizens who have availed themselves of the columns of THE CONSERVATIVE for advertising purposes are well pleased with results attained.

The Western Cold Storage Company of Chicago, the John Deere Plow Company of Moline, Illinois, and other prominent patrons of the THE CONSERVATIVE are realizing that through it they reach a very well-to-do, staid and substantial class of citizens who are able and ready to buy for cash any useful, valuable thing upon the market.

An awful responsibility rested for a moment on the representative of the Austrian government at the late meeting, in Vienna, of the Friends of Peace, upon the conclusion of Mr. Mark Twain's address to that assembly. He spoke in English, or more probably in American—and the question at once arose whether his remarks should be overset into German. One may doubt whether Mr. Twain's utterances could be got into the German language in their entirety, or what they would precisely mean when they did get there, and if they would be exactly flattering to existing European governments. The Austrian functionary seems to have thought it wiser to let things alone, so the Friends of Peace are probably still wondering what the bushy-headed foreigner was saying; as are a number of people also in England and America.

As we expected, peace is causing backslidings in the navy. The Gloucester did not stay converted, and the Maria Teresa did not stay saved.