

page and the silent example of this republic, true to its principles in the hour of trial, will do more to extend the area of self-government and civilization than could be done by all the wars of conquest that we could wage in a generation.

The forcible annexation of the Philippine islands is not necessary to make the United States a world power. For over ten decades our nation has been a world power. During its brief existence it has exerted upon the human race an influence more potent for good than all the other nations of the earth combined, and it has exerted that influence without the use of swords or galling guns. Mexico and the republics of Central and South America testify to the benign influence of our institutions, while Europe and Asia give evidence of the workings of the leaven of self-government. In the growth of democracy we observe the triumphant march of an idea—an idea that would be weighted down rather than aided by the armor and weapons proffered by imperialism.

Much has been said of late about Anglo-Saxon civilization. Far be it from me to detract from the service rendered to the world by the sturdy race whose language we speak. The union of the Angle and the Saxon formed a new and valuable type, but the process of race evolution was not completed when the Angle and the Saxon met. A still later type has appeared which is superior to any which has existed heretofore; and with this new type will come a higher civilization than any which has preceded it. Great has been the Greek, the Latin, the Slav, the Celt, the Teuton and the Anglo-Saxon, but greater than any of these is the American, in whom are blended the virtues of them all.

Civil and religious liberty, universal education and the right to participate directly or through representatives chosen by himself, in all the affairs of government—these give to the American citizen an opportunity and an inspiration which can be found nowhere else.

Standing upon the vantage ground already gained the American people can aspire to a grander destiny than has opened before any other race.

Anglo-Saxon civilization has taught the individual to protect his own rights; American civilization will teach him to respect the rights of others.

Anglo-Saxon civilization has taught the individual to take care of himself; American civilization, proclaiming the equality of all before the law, will teach him that his own highest good requires the observance of the commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Anglo-Saxon civilization has, by force of arms, applied the art of government to other races for the benefit of Anglo-Saxons; American civilization will, by the influence of example, excite in other races a desire for self-government and a determination to secure it.

Anglo-Saxon civilization has carried its flag to every clime and defended it with forts and garrisons; American civilization will imprint its flag upon the hearts of all who long for freedom.

To American civilization, all hail!

"Time's noblest offspring is the last!"

Watterson on Cleveland.

If any reader of *The Commoner* thinks that this paper has been severe in its criticism of Grover Cleveland let him read what Henry Watterson, a gold-standard-Palmer-and-Buckner-reorganizer says in the *Courier-Journal*:

Mr. Watterson has but two ends in view, to scotch a movement wholly dangerous in character and to vindicate the truth of history. He has never had the slightest private quarrel with Mr. Cleveland. Mr. Watterson is the last man in the world to make an individual grief the basis of a public attack. He would despise himself if he were capable of it.

His opposition to Mr. Cleveland rests upon the specific statements he has made; that Mr.

Cleveland is an ill-tempered, self-willed man, having neither the intellectual training nor the moral and political inspiration for democratic fellowship or leadership; that he knows little, and cares less, about tariff reform; that such sympathies as he has are not on the side of the plain, common people, and still less with the lowly and the poor, but on the side of the strong, the mighty and the great; that he is personally an ingrate and a glutton; that because of his selfishness and his brutishness he alienated every democrat of consequence in congress who would not serve him blindly; that, in short, he found the party a noble unit and left it a wreck. Where he is best known he is most detested.

Seeing these things, sometimes at long range and sometimes at short range, Mr. Watterson stood aghast and appalled.

And this is the man whom Mr. Hill eulogized and whose sentiments he indorsed! Now that Mr. Watterson has given us his opinion of Mr. Cleveland he ought to give us his opinion of David Bennett Hill.

Fusion in Nebraska.

The democrats and populists met at Grand Island last week and united upon a state ticket—one of the best ever presented to the voters of the state. The following is the personnel:

For Governor.....W. H. Thompson
(Democrat, Hall county.)
Lieutenant Governor.....E. A. Gilbert
(Populist, York county.)
Secretary of State.....John H. Powers
(Populist, Hitchcock county.)
Auditor.....C. Q. De France
(Populist, Jefferson county.)
Treasurer.....J. N. Lyman
(Populist, Adams county.)
Attorney General.....J. H. Broady
(Democrat, Lancaster county.)
Com. Public Lands and Buildings..J. C. Brennan
(Democrat, Douglas county.)
Superintendent of Schools.....Claude Smith
(Populist, Dawson county.)

Mr. Thompson, the candidate for governor, is a democrat "rock-ribbed and ancient as the sea," at least it dates from his birth and has withstood all attacks. On two occasions he has been the democratic candidate and stepped aside in order to secure fusion between the reform forces and now he has received his reward. Mr. Gilbert, the second man on the ticket, was one of the most prominent recruits of 1896 and has already served as lieutenant governor for one term. Mr. Powers is one of the pioneer populists and a man of conspicuous integrity. Mr. De France and Dr. Lyman are men of probity and character; Mr. Smith is one of the most popular educators of western Nebraska. Messrs. Broady and Brennan are democrats and both favorably known throughout the state and add strength to the ticket.

The democratic platform (to be found on another page) is sound on both state and national issues and appeals to the patriotism as well as to the pecuniary interests of the people of the state.

The harmony and enthusiasm which prevailed at the two conventions presages a victory for the entire ticket.

Dodging and Misrepresenting.

The following editorial appeared in the *Kansas City Journal* of June 16:

A QUESTION OF THE FUTURE.

Quoting certain expressions from *The Journal* and other papers of the country, the *Literary Digest* notes what it calls "a slight, but perceptible change of helm lately by a number of republican journals in their course of thought on the Philippine problem." This change of helm is with reference to "possible independence for the Filipinos which has not heretofore been openly considered by the journals that support the republican Philippine policy."

If there has been little discussion of possible independence for the Filipinos it is because the republican papers have felt that it was not a timely subject under conditions which have existed in the islands during the last four years.

The title to these islands came to the

United States in an honorable manner. There has never been a transfer of domain and dominion in the history of the world which kept closer to the laws of nations. To the natural title growing out of our conquest of Spain, we added the title which goes with a purchase in fee simple. Under the usages of the world we rightly held dominion over all the Philippine people. These people plunged into rebellion without pausing to ask our government or the American people what was proposed for their future. So long as that struggle lasted it was as unwise as it was unpatriotic to talk of yielding to the demands of rebellion. The democratic party made a presidential campaign on the issue that we should grant the demands of rebels in arms against our government. That campaign prolonged the war and cost us much in life and treasure. And it drove the patriotic press of the land into an attitude which has been mistaken for a settled conviction that we must hold the islands forever. In reality the greater part of the republican press felt that the future of the islands was not a proper subject of discussion while war was going on—that the proposed independence could not be rightly taken up for discussion until rebellion had been put down and the sovereignty of our government was recognized.

Those who followed the speeches from the republican side during the recent debates in the senate need not be told that the republican party regards the future of the Philippines as an open question. Now that the war has ended and this future becomes a proper matter of discussion, it is found that neither the republican press nor the republican statesmen are of one mind with respect to what may happen. In the democratic press President Roosevelt has been presented as one who is for keeping the islands under every possible circumstance or condition. Yet President Roosevelt has never declared for such a policy. In his Decoration Day address he showed that he regarded the future of the Filipinos as an open question, saying:

"We believe that we can rapidly teach the people of the Philippines not only how to enjoy, but how to make good use of their freedom; and with their growing knowledge, their growth in self-government shall keep steady pace. When they have thus shown their capacity for real freedom by their power of self-government, then, and not till then, will it be possible to decide whether they are to exist independently of us or be knit to us by ties of common friendship and interest."

Here is the best thought of America in a nutshell. It is impossible to decide at this time what shall be done at a period which at best may be many years away. Yet our democratic friends have already made two decisions with respect to the Philippine situation. First, they declared that the only right and patriotic course was to haul down our flag and come away immediately. In less than a year they had confessed the error of this position. During the recent debates in congress all of the debaters on the democratic side abandoned the policy of "scuttle and run" on which their party had made the campaign in 1900. In fact, they gave full support to the policy being pursued in the islands by the republican administration, save as they wished to give the pledge of the United States for ultimate independence. They are as wrong in this position as they were confessedly wrong in their position of 1900. They are as wrong as they were when, with a few republican associates, they tried to force congress into the fatal blunder of recognizing the Cuban republic. Indeed, it is so obviously wrong to promise something in advance of the development of conditions pertaining to it, that it is inconceivable that such a wish could be had by men laying claim to statesmanship.

The democratic party has been trying to use this Philippine problem for political purpose. Yet, with their usual blundering proclivities, the democratic politicians started wrong and continued wrong in appealing to the people. From the start it has been the Filipino that was prominent in the democratic eye. It was a question with democracy how best to serve the interest of the native in our new islands. To this day the democratic press is lauding the rebel Filipino and denouncing the patriotic federal army. Democracy has never chosen to take into account the interests of the United States in the Philippine situation. It has striven to effect a political hegira by working up sympathy for a lot of devilish black men 10,000 miles away. Now, the American people are as just and tender-hearted as