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"AMERICA FOR AMERICANS."—We hold that all men are Americans who swear allegiance to the United States without a mental reservation.

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PROBLEM OF THE WAR.

Victory Entails Responsibilities That are New to America.

Danger to Successful Management of the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico Will Not Be Due to Distance, but to Racial Differences.

It is reason for universal congratulation, says the Atlantic Monthly, that the war is ended (for it seems safe to assume that it is ended) so early and so happily—for us, for the Spanish colonies, and, in spite of her present humiliation, for Spain herself; for the result makes for civilization. There was never a doubt that it would end with an American victory; but that the victory would be so easily and so cheaply won was not foreseen. Nor were the incidental benefits foreseen: for there are incidental benefits as great as the main result itself. Unforeseen, also, were the new obligations that have been imposed on us.

The problem of governing countries not only separated from the United States, but populated by different races and accustomed to different institutions from ours, is a new problem; but it is a problem that our English kinsmen have so successfully solved that we shall be dull indeed if we do not succeed, with their experience to instruct us. The present popular mood regarding this new task, as regarding most other large undertakings in which a national spirit must play an important part, seems to be a deep-seated and safe mood. The people, there can hardly be doubt, prefer to retain the territory that has fallen to them by the fortunes of war, and they do not share the foreboding of the intelligent minority, whose individualism estranges them from the national feeling, and who see grave danger to our institutions in such additions to our political tasks. National feeling is a safer guide to national development than the mere reasoning process of critical minds. At any rate, it at last becomes the only guide.

The danger in our successful management of Cuba and Porto Rico, or even of the Philippine islands, consists, not in their distance from our shores but in their difference of population and institutions from ours. They cannot be converted into American states by any statutes, and no laws can change their character. Nor is there any need that they should now or ever be converted into American states. We are committed to two duties: We have by conquest taken upon ourselves a solemn obligation to the people of the conquered islands to insure stable government, and the nature of our institutions forbids that we should set up any form of government except one that at the earliest possible moment shall become self-government. Even if we wished we could not shirk these responsibilities. We cannot leave the people of these islands either to their own fate, or to the mercy of the now defeated and disorganized Spanish rule, or yet to the mercy of any predatory nation that might seize them. We are become responsible for their development.

Precisely what form the government of these several islands ought to take can be determined only after careful study of their people and conservative experiment with them; but to predict that we shall make a failure in the effort to prepare them for self-government is a childish distrust of our capacity. We have never had a task just like this, but we have had tasks more difficult. Nor will our undertaking such a task involve us in entanglements with European nations—if we succeed. The European nations, it so happens, will look with somewhat greater respect upon American efforts at the government even of Manila than they would have looked six months ago. But without too great regard for European opinion it becomes our duty solemnly and patriotically now to take our new duties and responsibilities in hand, and, as a great nation committed to one great policy of government, to work out these problems for the advancement of civilization. The great republic can have no tribute-bearing colonies;

"The Church herself sunk into barbarism. All remains of Roman civilization had disappeared, even its very language—all became buried in complete barbarism. On one side the RUDE BARBARIANS, entering into the church became BISHOPS and PRIESTS, on the other THE BISHOPS, adopting the barbarian life, became without quitting their bishoprics, CHIEFS of BANDS of MARAUDERS and wandered over the country, PILLAGING and DESTROYING like so many companies of Clovis." (Guizot's Hist. of Civilization in Europe, p. 181.)



but it can help weak people to self-government.

And it will be found that the government of each island will present itself, not as it now presents itself to the timid, as a task involving revolutionary dangers to ourselves and complications with the other governments of the world and a denial of the doctrines of the fathers, but rather as a task that practical and patriotic men can successfully accomplish.

The main result of the war, the freedom of Cuba from Spanish misrule, has been achieved, but the full fruits of it will ripen more slowly than most men at first supposed. Sympathy with the Cuban insurgents has led many persons to regard them as at once capable of self-government; but the conduct of a part of them during the war has confirmed the judgment of those men who knew them best—that the removal of Spanish rule will not immediately nor easily lead to the self-government of Cuba. The complete conquest of the islands by civilization will be accomplished through American industry and commerce, which will now follow the American arm. Brigands are as certain where roads are lacking as rebellion where government is oppressive. But the future of Cuba presents no insuperable difficulties, though its subjection to civilization may require a considerable time. In his proclamation concerning the government of Santiago, the president indicated the proper course to pursue; local government to be permitted, to be required, in fact; the United States to maintain military control so long as military control is necessary for the security of life and property, but to relax it, and at last to give it up, when a competent local government has been created and tested. The process will not be different in principle from the process of the reconstruction of the local governments of the southern states thirty years ago.

If the Cubans do not at first show capacity for self-government, the certain increase of American influence and even of American population in the island will greatly hasten its coming. The engineer will follow the soldier. The harbor of Havana will be opened to the gulf stream—a necessary and easy piece of sanitary work that the Spaniards have been going to do for a century; the cities will be properly drained, and yellow fever will be eliminated from the scourges of our own shores.

Cuba will present no serious difficulty till the time comes when it may wish to be admitted into the American union as a state. But such a wish is not a sufficient reason for its admission. And the same plan whereby local self-government will be built up in Cuba will apply, with modifications, to Porto Rico. One island will become an independent territory under our guardianship; the other will be directly ceded to us. But the essential elements of their government under our tutelage must be the same, for the moral obligations that we have assumed are the same, and there is but one great principle of government that we can adhere to. How much territory it may be wise to retain in the Philippine islands it is impossible to foresee; but the principle that should govern our action is clear. We want no "colonies," can indeed have no "colonies," in the continental sense; but we must fulfill every obligation to Spain's conquered subjects that our conduct of the war in Asiatic waters has put upon us, without regard to the colonizing ambitions of the European nations; and we shall hardly fail, moreover, to keep what ever strategic advantage our navy has won in either ocean.

The war, then, brings within the sphere of English-speaking civilization two of the most valuable of the Antilles; incidentally the Hawaiian islands and perhaps the Philippine group; and these results can be only good. But in achieving them we have achieved other results quite as great, and no less great because they were unexpected. We have recovered our own national feeling. Four months ago we were a great mass of people rather than a compact nation conscious of national strength and unity. By forgetting even for this brief time our local differences, we have welded ourselves into a conscious unity such as the republic has not felt since its early days. Not only have the north and the south forgotten, in a certain sense, that they were ever at war—for time and industry had already well-nigh brought this result—but the Pacific states are nearer to the rest of the union than they were before, and the great middle west is no longer jealous of the seaboard. We can work out our own problems and build our own future with a steadier purpose.

This consciousness is the keener because of the increased respect that other nations have for us. The United States was never before understood in official Europe, perhaps not even in official England. When the war was begun, most of the continental nations failed to conceal their contempt for us;

they now respect us as they never dreamed they should. Nor is it only our naval victories that have given the world a somewhat new conception of Americans. Quite as impressive has been the absence of the old-time barbarities of war and of warlike violence. To send home across the ocean a captured army, to feed not only the victims of Spanish misrule, but the Spanish themselves, have laid emphasis on other reasons for war than the old reasons of the punishment of enemies and the conquest of tribute-bearing territory. In humanity to the enemy this war is without parallel. Both the power and the aims of the republic are more clearly understood in Europe than a half century of peace could have revealed them, and in no spirit of boastfulness we might add the American character, also.

Nor will the impulse that asserted itself in the war stop with the war. The spirit of the people once having looked outward, American enterprise will seek new fields of conquest—by trade and legitimate adventure. Our navy has revealed to ourselves not less than to the rest of the world our rightful place among the nations. Modern transportation, which we have done most to develop, has changed all international political conditions. By reason of it we are already "entangled" with other peoples in ways that the fathers could not foresee and that no policy can prevent.

The great outward pressure that all nations feel is the pressure of commerce for new markets; and statesmen, whether they know it or not, minister to trade, and through trade to civilization. With larger and further-reaching political duties, too, which appeal to the imagination rather than to the private greed of men, our public life will once more rise to the level of statesmanship.

John Ireland's Red Hat.

Rome, Sept. 12.—Mgr. Guido, auditor of the vatican, said today that up to the present the pope has not given any order for the promotion of Archbishop Ireland to be a cardinal. Nevertheless, Mgr. Guido would not exclude the probability of this nomination. A powerful faction is working to induce the pope to also elevate Archbishop Corrigan to be a cardinal. —Special cable to Chicago Tribune.

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CHRIST'S SECOND COMING AN ISSUE

First of a Series of Articles on the Subject by Rev. A. D. Fairbanks.

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A. D. FAIRBANKS.

Any Bible question should depend upon the Bible for its expression, and the subject of Christ's second coming ought to be submitted to the rule strictly and fully.

For forty years, in which time I have given a large share of it to Bible study, I have devoted much of that time to earnest and persistent investigation of the subject I now propose to consider in the four or five articles which the editor of The American has kindly consented to publish. It has now been thirty-one years since I published a "Scripture Chart," setting forth my views as then held on the subject of "Christ's Second Coming." I then thought that I had given the question an inexhaustive investigation, and reached conclusions that could not be gainsaid, purely from a Scripture standpoint. But strange to say I had only disposed of 1,000 of my charts when I discovered a serious blunder, and not being willing to impose upon the people an unwholesome production, I suspended, at once, the sale of my laboriously and expensive publication. It left on my hands 3,000 unsold copies, which I have still. Of all Bible questions none has been rent, disjointed, and tangled more than this. Thousands of glib-tongued and pens have jumped into the field of exposition with the merest smattering of a knowledge of the Bible treatise of the subject to which we now have reference. But faults in the explanation of the word of God not only lie at the door of superficially informed men, but at the door of well informed, studiously painstaking men. In the latter class can be found notable examples among our Advent friends.

Their ability and painstaking, as well as their honesty and piety, cannot be questioned. All of this is

equally true of other men whose views of the Bible on this subject widely differ from theirs.

The treatment of this subject, even from any one denominational standpoint, has been, thus far, notoriously kaleidoscopic or, perhaps, chromotropic, and for this reason anything new or strange should not be carelessly or skeptically passed by. I will open this treatise by first noticing such portions of the 24th chapter of Matthew as are considered by our Advent brethren to be in unquestionable support of their theory.

That the chapter is a treatise of "Christ's Second Coming" I am as fully persuaded as are any who believe that it is; but I am as equally well convinced that that which is vitally important to a clear and correct understanding of its true import is generally overlooked.

It is, I believe, needful to have a critical enlightenment on the question that the disciples propounded to Christ in the Mount of Olives, and, also, of that which led up to it, in order to arrive to a clear understanding of the answer. As may be seen by the first verse of Matt. 24, Mark 13:1 and Luke 21:5, the disciples direct Christ's attention exclusively to the temple. Christ's immediate observation includes nothing more. Either their words or his have not the remotest allusion to any other matter or subject.

From this fact it would be quite natural to suppose that the disciples, in their subsequent question, while with their Lord in the Mount of Olives, would not associate two subjects so distinctively wide apart, so remote in time, so evidently disconnected every way, as must be the two events, in case they are 2,000 years apart, or nearly that. Let us examine into the question and turn on to it, in the way of investigation, such light as the scriptures afford. The question reads, in the King James version (see Matt. 24:3, "Tell us when shall these be? And what shall be the sign of thy coming and of the end of the world?" But in the Emphatic Diaglott the same question reads, "Tell us when these things will be, and what will be the sign of thy presence and of the consummation of the age." rendering that any such scholar must admit is borne out by the original text. With reference to the word *alon*, *alones*, it is an undisputed fact that its first and well established meaning is age, dispensation, indefinite time, and

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