

Mr. Roosevelt's Decision.
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than before the loop had begun, but still ahead of any of the American vessels, though further outside. . . The Brooklyn was ahead of the other American vessels on a course outside of theirs. She was nearly broadside on the Spaniards. The Oregon, Iowa and Texas were close together and lively engaged throughout this run. The Brooklyn and Oregon, followed at some distance by the Texas, continued in the chase of the Colon, which went nearly thirty miles further before she went ashore."

If, after making this loop, the Brooklyn was still ahead of the American vessels and was "nearly broadside on the Spaniards" and if it was after the loop that "the Brooklyn and the Oregon, followed at some distance by the Texas, continued in the chase of the Colon, which went nearly thirty miles further before she went ashore," it seems strange that the president thought the loop of sufficient importance to call for a severe reprimand. It will be remembered that in the testimony before the court of inquiry, it was shown that Admiral Schley and Captain Cook each made the order for this loop. They had not consulted in regard to it, but both appeared to realize the importance of such a movement. Mr. Roosevelt seems to have ignored this significant fact altogether.

Mr. Roosevelt's statement contains so many contradictions and inconsistencies and so clearly reveals the bias of its author, that it does not commend itself to intelligent men. The American people know as much about the battle of Santiago bay as Mr. Roosevelt does; and even though the president has done his best to strike down the "figure on the bridge of the Brooklyn" it is evident he has made an ignominious failure in this respect so far as public opinion is concerned.

There's Yet Time.

The administration has yet time to redeem itself from the shame that has attached to its policy of inaction throughout the Boer war. While no sensible people in this country have advocated American intervention, all patriotic Americans have believed that we owed it as a duty to ourselves as well as to the Boers to at least express sympathy. The democratic platform went that far. But the republican platform was silent and the republican administration has looked on with indifference at a little people's brave struggle for liberty. Considering the history of this country, its ancient ideals, and the precedents that we have established in similar cases with regard to other countries, this course of inaction is strikingly un-American.—Houston Post.

Inharmonious Statements.

While Governor Taft is minimizing the difficulties of subjugating the Philippines the country is hearing the awful story of Major Waller's expedition, whose command was almost decimated in making a march of only thirty-five miles. The hardships of the march were due to the natural difficulties of the country and not to attacks by the natives. If the expedition had encountered foes in addition

to its other troubles or had no relief party been sent out to its aid it would have been annihilated. What this country wants is the whole truth and nothing but the truth about the Philippine islands.—Indianapolis News.

The Transport General Ferguson.

The transport Gen'ral Ferguson, she left the Golden Gate,
With a thousand rookies sweatin' in her hold;
An' the sergeants drove an' drilled 'em,
An' the sun is nearly killed 'em—
Till they learned to do whatever they were told.

The transport Gen'ral Ferguson, she lay at Honolu'
An' the rookies went ashore an' roughed the town;
So the sergeants they corralled 'em,
An' with butt an' barrel quelled 'em—
An' they limped aboard an' set to fryin' brown.

The transport Gen'ral Ferguson, she steamed toward the south,
An' the rookies sweated mornin', noon an' night,
Till the lookout sighted land an' they cheered each grain o' sand—
For their blood was boilin' over for a fight.

The transport Gen'ral Ferguson, she tied up at the dock,
An' each rookie lugged his gun an' kit ashore;
An' a train it come an' took 'em where the tropic sun could cook 'em—
An' the sergeants they could talk to them of war.

The transport Gen'ral Ferguson, she had her bottom scraped,
For the first part of her labor it was done;
An' the rookies chased the Tagals an' the Tagals they escaped—
An' the rookies set an' sweated in the sun.

The transport Gen'ral Ferguson, she loafed around awhile,
An' the rookies they were soldier boys by now;
For it don't take long to teach 'em—
Where the Tagal lead can reach 'em—
All about the which, an' why, an' when, an' how.

The transport Gen'ral Ferguson, she headed home again,
With a thousand heavy coffins in her hold;
They were soldered up an' stenciled, they were numbered an' blue-penciled—
An' the rookies lay inside 'em stiff an' cold.

The transport Gen'ral Ferguson, she reached the Golden Gate,
An' the derrick dumped her cargo on the shore;
In a pyramid they piled it—an' her manifest they filed it
In a pigeon-hole with half a hundred more.

The transport Gen'ral Ferguson, she travels up an' down,
A-haulin' rookies to an' from the war;
Outward-bound they sweat in khaki, homeward-bound they come in lead—
An' they wonder what they've got to do it for.

The transport Gen'ral Ferguson, she's owned by Uncle Sam,
An' maybe Uncle Sam could tell 'em why;
But he don't—an' so she takes 'em out to fight an' sweat an' swear
An' brings 'em home for plantin' when they die.

—Life.

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