

## CIVILIZATION

## The Government's Eternal Palaver About Civilizing and Educating Its "Subjects" Ends in Groans and Savage Yells

Some time ago a gentleman residing in Boston, Mass., requested the editor of The Independent to publish one of the speeches delivered by Bright Eyes in that city, in 1879, because most of them bore so powerfully upon the present course of the government in the Philippines. He said: "The principles upon which Bright Eyes made her contest for her race are the very same involved in the holding of the Filipinos as subjects. She won, and I only hope that some Filipino may come to this country who can speak with the same force and power for the people of the islands of the southern seas that she exhibited in the defense of her race. The foundation of all her pleas was law, the constitution and the Declaration of Independence."

In searching through one of her portfolios for an address the following speech, which was delivered in Tremont Temple, Boston, was accidentally found. It is in her handwriting. It was entitled, "Civilization."

"What is civilization? Is it so much the end of life that human beings who have hearts and minds and souls are to be slaughtered? Is it civilization to coop them up on reserves, place them under the power of one man, refuse them a market for their produce, compel them by law to buy and sell to only one man and forbid them intercourse with the outside world? Is it civilizing them to refuse the protection of the constitution and the law when they are robbed, starved and murdered and then when they rebel, exterminate them? The government speaks of the Indians as savages. It must then follow that the government is civilized. Is it civilization for a powerful government representing forty millions of people to force from their homes at the point of the bayonet a tribe of seven hundred unarmed people? Then I had rather be a savage.

"A government officer says: 'The Poncas are good Indians. In mental endowment, moral character, physical strength and cleanliness of person, they are superior to any tribe I ever met.' Is it the civilization of the nineteenth century that when the Cheyennes, cooped up on a barren reservation and were starving, resorted to the rifle to maintain their right to live as any other human beings, were exterminated, and when the Ponca tribe resorted to the courts and the constitution for justice, they were told that they could not appear in court or have any one appear for them?

"Because the Indians had intelligence enough to cry out and even fight against a system that was making slaves of them. (I forgot, I should have said civilizing them), the cry has arisen: 'Exterminate them.' 'The only good Indian is a dead Indian.' For every idle word that men shall speak they shall give an account thereof in the day of judgment.

"The question has narrowed down to this alternative. Either exterminate the Indian or give him the protection of the constitution and the law. Even though we were below the level of brutes you would have no right to exterminate us. We have souls that belong to God our Creator, and you have no right to take our lives as you have been doing for the last hundred years, by following the policy which you say is for the purpose of 'civilizing' us.

"You say that the Indian is not intelligent or educated enough to have the law and the constitution placed over him. I should rather say that that was the very reason that he should have the protection of the constitution and the law. I should think that if we have had ability enough to hold our own against a powerful government for 100 years, if we have had brains enough to learn that your 'civilizing' system was making slaves of our people and to fight against it, if we had intelligence enough to make treaties and were honorable in keeping them, then we certainly have capacity enough to claim our rights under that constitution and the law and by the law defend them.

"The commission authorized by act of congress, July 20, 1867, composed of Generals Sherman, Harney, Terry, Augur and four eminent civilians, reported to congress in these words:

"It is said our wars with them (the Indians) have been almost constant. Have we been uniformly unjust? We answer unhesitatingly, Yes."

"General Harney himself said before a congressional committee: 'I have never known an Indian tribe to be the first to break a treaty and I have never known the government to keep one.' If civilization consists in mak-

ing solemn treaties and breaking them, if the civilization of the government consists in making its army hold the arm of a weak people while its civilians rob them, then I had rather be honorable than civilized. I had rather be brave and die fighting. I think it is cowardice in a powerful government to refuse the protection of the constitution and the law to the last helpless race to whom it is denied. The present policy with its eternal palaver about 'civilizing' and 'educating' has resulted only in groans and savage yells for revenge. Many innocent ones, both white and red, have been placed in bloody graves. For many years the cry of the helpless, 'savage' if you will, has gone up unheeded by all but his Maker.

"God help us all to bear with each other, for what are we that we should spend our lives in conflict with each other."

The reason why this speech is almost as applicable to the Filipino problem as it was to the Indian problem, when this Indian girl delivered it in Boston 24 years ago, is because truth is eternal and never dies.

A little while ago Bright Eyes remarked: "It is impossible that you can sympathize with the Filipinos as I do. I have lived under a despotic government—under an Indian agent whose word was law—and I know as you cannot, what it is to long to be free. Because the Indian agent might be a kind man, did not repress that longing."

## A TEXAS VIEW

Mr. McCuiston Believes All Chairmen and Committees Should be Ignored and a Signed Call Made.

Editor Independent: When you called on the people's party national committee for their views, I hoped to see quick responses and harmonious views; but, instead few responses at great variance.

I now believe the only hope of a populist revival is for a signed call by the voters for a convention at a central point; then and there ignore old chairman and committeemen and organize for the future (along old lines) where fusionist and anti-fusionist can take each other by the hand as brothers standing around the grave of fusion, plant thereon the white rose of peace with a united prayer that it shall bloom perpetually and forever.

I fail to see anything practical in socialism or equity in the single tax. I believe a great many of the leaders of both old parties have secretly licked at the same lick log since 1876. I believe the salt for 1896 was the most delicious. These Judases planned the defeat of Hon. W. J. Bryar and put populism in the background, where it awaits a call to arms. Until that call is made, leave me off of The Independent's list or until some of the papers I now have is out; my purse and eyesight is taxed too heavy at present. I have no criticism for the paper. Neither do I write for publication. Permit me to drop one idea here: instead of a single land tax on land, why not have a graduated land tax very light on the first 100 acres and increase on each succeeding 100?

H. M. McCUISTION.

Paris, Tex.

## Convenient Stock Farm

One thousand acres, all bottom land, fenced and cross fenced with three and four wires; 200 acres under cultivation; 100 acres in alfalfa which produces over 400 tons of hay per year; 3 groves that furnish an abundance of shade, shelter, fence posts and wood. Frame house story and half 18x26, frame barn 24x28x18, cattle shed 50x50, hog pens, chicken houses, granaries, corrals, etc. This land lays on the Republican river; the deepest depth to sheet water anywhere on the farm is 28 feet. Two wells and wind mills to supply water back from the river. This is nearly all good alfalfa and sugar beet land and is only 4 miles from a good railroad town. Price \$12.50 per acre. With a reasonable cash payment time will be given to suit on the balance. This is certainly a snap. It is only a matter of a few years till this choice bottom land will sell for \$50 per acre. For sale by Weber & Farris, Lincoln, Neb.

## The Lincoln Postoffice

Postmaster Sizer has sent out a comparative statement of the business done at the Lincoln, Neb., postoffice for the month of May, 1903, as compared with the corresponding month last year. The total postal receipts for this May show an increase of 8 per cent.

Special subscription rate to single taxers, 5 months 25c.



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ALWAYS ON TIME.

For the Tourist who desires to unite pleasure with comfort at moderate cost.  
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## BOSTON

AND RETURN

\$35.15

With a Long Limit.

## N. E. A. at Boston, Mass.

Tickets on Sale June 30th to July 4th. Return limit can be extended to Sept. 1st, 1903.

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City Ticket Office  
Cor. 10th and O Streets  
Telephone No. 235.

Burlington Depot  
7th St., bet. P and Q  
Tel. Burlington 1290

J. W. Wolfe, R. F. D. 1, Eagle Lake, Minn.: I would like to understand the single tax doctrine better than I do. You preach a good doctrine and I hope you will make many converts and put a good, honest, conscientious man in for president next year—one that will care more for the welfare and happiness of the people than he does for money and his own pleasure.

## WHAT IT HAS COST

The Lives of 4,154 American Citizens and \$190,326,586 Besides Thousands of Deceased and Wounded

We think that it is time for the American people to begin to count the cost of their little experiment in the direction of imperialism. The so-called insurrection in the Philippines began February 4, 1899. Between that date and April 30, 1902, when the insurrection was practically at an end, 69 of our officers and 936 of our enlisted men had been killed, or had died of wounds received in battle. Of the officers 47, and of the enlisted men 2,535 had died of disease, and, including deaths from accident, murder, drowning, etc., we had lost 139 officers and 4,016 enlisted men. There were 190 officers and 2,707 enlisted men wounded. Thus the total casualties directly traceable to the war were, up to April, 1902, 329 officers and 6,728 enlisted men. Many have been killed and wounded since April of last year. We have been fighting with the Moros, ladronism still continues, and, above all, the deadly climate is still ruining the lives of our soldiers.

We make no argument now, but simply call attention to one factor of the problem which the president and those who agree with him seem prone to push into the background. It is always well to look at both sides of the question. Possibly in this connection we may be permitted to mention the fact that thousands of Filipinos have lost their lives either in battle or by disease and starvation consequent on the war. Nor should it be forgotten that we paid Spain \$20,000,000 for the islands, and that the war up to April, 1902, had cost this nation \$170,326,586 in gold. In other words, we have paid more than 7,000 lives of brave Americans, over \$200,000,000 in money, and thousands of Filipino lives on account of our experiment in the Philippines.

As we say, we make no argument. Our only purpose is to give the people the facts that are necessary to the formation of a sound opinion on this important question. All we ask is that sensible men should think of what the

Philippine experience has cost us in precious lives and in money. Surely, human life is worth something. Even in these prosperous times money is not so easy to get that men can afford to throw it away. Yet the president talks as though there were nothing in this question except the establishment of American sovereignty in the Philippines and other distant regions—for he says we belong to the expanding nations—and never says one word about the dreadful cost.—Indianapolis News.

W. M. Morning, Atty., Rooms 310-312, Richards Block.

## NOTICE OF SUIT

In the District Court of Lancaster County, Nebraska, Oliver P. Carter, Plaintiff, vs. Martha Carter, Defendant, to Martha Carter, Nonresident Defendant.

You are hereby notified that your husband, Oliver P. Carter, has commenced an action against you in the District Court of Lancaster County, Nebraska, to obtain an absolute divorce from you on the ground of wilful desertion and abandonment on your part for more than two years last past, and also to obtain the custody of your daughter Ina M. Carter. You are required to answer plaintiff's petition in said action on or before the 20th day of July, 1903, or the allegations thereof will be taken as true and decrees rendered accordingly.

OLIVER P. CARTER, Plaintiff.

By W. M. Morning, His Atty.

S. B. Hams—Attorney.

## NOTICE TO DEFENDANT.

To William C. Israel, non-resident, defendant: You are hereby notified that on June 10th 1903 Martha A. Israel as plaintiff filed a petition against you in the office of the clerk of the district court of Lancaster county Nebraska, the object and prayer of said petition being to obtain a divorce from you on the ground that you had been wilfully absent from plaintiff without just cause for more than two years immediately last past and that you have been guilty of wilful and utter desertion of plaintiff for more than two years immediately last past. You are required to answer said petition on or before Monday July 27th, 1903.

MARTHA A. ISRAEL, Plaintiff.

I. H. Hatfield—Attorney.

## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have formed a corporation under the laws of the state of Nebraska under the style of Pointe Coupee Plantation Company, having its principal place of business at Lincoln, Nebraska, with a capital stock of \$35,000, of which \$7,000 shall be paid in before the beginning of business. Said corporation has power to buy and sell real estate, merchandise, lumber; own and operate factories, cotton gins, and saw mills, and such railroads, and tramways with their equipment as may be necessary to operate the same; to borrow money and mortgage real estate to secure the payment thereof. Said corporation began business on March 28, 1903 and shall continue for 50 years; its highest amount of indebtedness shall not exceed two-thirds of its capital stock; and its affairs shall be managed by a board of seven directors. C. S. Allen, I. H. Hatfield, John Carr, Will Owen Jones, Paul F. Clark, J. H. Humphe, H. C. Eddy.

The class struggle—see Karl Marx Edition, July 23, 1903.