

to supply, "in the name of humanity," the proper rations and comforts to our own kith and kin in the army invading Cuba?

And if such "impeachment" is not to be tolerated of what use is a commission to investigate the alleged delinquencies of the War Department? How can a commission, after being thus menaced by the president himself, find any truth in the rumors of incompetency which have been circulated about Secretary Alger and the War Department and General Miles and others "who planned and achieved?" What is the entire significance of President McKinley's sentence above quoted and who will interpret the same?

WORDS, WORDS. The management of the Omaha Exposition have

the public classified under two comprehensive heads, which they denominate respectively Ladies and Gents. Now, lady is a good old English word, and one properly applicable, we doubt not, to all female visitors to the exposition; but the masculine equivalent of lady is not gent, but lord; or, according to a somewhat more recent usage, gentleman. On the whole, however, we would perhaps hardly advise the management of the exposition to placard their grounds, in directing the movements of an American assemblage, with signs of Lords and Ladies; and we presume it would be useless to remind them that the words Men and Women would cover the ground amply, and in a manner quite beyond the reach of criticism.

THE FRENCH METHOD. The suicide in prison of Colonel Henry, supposedly

by order of a French court of justice, strikes an American as a strange form of punishment. The French no doubt think it a proper legal proceeding; at least it is not rare in their annals. Here is an almost exactly parallel case, found in a narrative history of the XVII century. It is an episode of the Flemish wars of Cardinal Mazarin's time. A French army is besieging the city of Gravelines.

"A battle was thought to be at hand, and the Duc d'Orleans gave orders to have powder distributed to all the regiments. The artillery officer who was in charge of this matter replied to the majors that he was out of powder, as a great deal had been burned before Gravelines, and that they would have to wait until a new stock was received. Though the fighting had been heavy, it was astonishing that the powder should have given out so suddenly, and the majors went and reported to Marshal de la Meilleraye, who was grand master of the artillery. This marshal was a very honest man, and everyone knew that he would not for anything in the world

have taken part in any rascality, supposing that there was any going on in the artillery.

"The marshal sent for the officer who was complained of, with his mind made up to make it hot for him. As soon as he saw him, he told him that he was going straight to have him hanged, and that he had a quarter of an hour to prepare for death. The powder-officer was not disturbed by the marshal's violence, even when the latter informed him that the Duc d'Orleans had endorsed his sentence, but merely answered that they would both be sorry for it when all the facts came to light. The marshal was furiously enraged at this calmness, and demanded of him if he had not received orders to provide himself with so many thousand-weight of powder, and if, counting everything, half the stock must not be remaining.

"The other acknowledged the correctness of the marshal's statement, but answered that he had acted upon the prime minister's order in refusing the powder, and handed the marshal a letter from the cardinal, which ran thus:

"'You are to remember the oath that you took when you were given your place. You promised the king to be faithful to him. The faithfulness which he requires of you is to prevent his being robbed, so far as may lie in your power. A great dissipation of powder is made every year, without anybody knowing where it goes to. Your superiors take every occasion to order great quantities of it distributed, and it is not all employed in the king's service, but the price of it comes into their pockets, as His Majesty knows very well. At all these encounters you will therefore make them repeat their orders three or four times at least. Find some pretext for not obeying promptly. Otherwise you will be considered to be a sharer in these thievings.'

"The marshal could not finish reading this document for wrath. He saw himself designated as a thief, and the chief of them all, since he was chief of artillery. The Duc d'Orleans coming in at this time, M. de la Meilleraye showed him the letter. He wondered that a sensible man like the marshal should mind so small a thing. Everyone judges people by himself; what was there strange in the cardinal's seeing robbers everywhere? The war was costing the prime minister's avarice dear, and money spent for powder was so much money gone up in smoke.

By such arguments the Duc d'Orleans tried to quiet the marshal's dissatisfaction. But the latter represented that the cardinal's avarice, by inciting inferiors to disobedience, might have cost the army dear if Piccolomini had learned of our lack of powder and delivered a vigorous charge upon our lines. The duke had no objection to make to this, but declined to punish the insubordinate officer himself, alleging that he did not

wish to trespass upon the marshal's jurisdiction.

"M. de la Meilleraye was considerably embarrassed, and ordered the provost to confine the officer, pending a decision upon his case. The next morning the man was found hanging from a beam in the wretched house in which he had been confined; it was given out that he had hung himself, out of despair, but nobody explained who had taken him a rope to hang himself with, a stout nail to attach it to and a hammer to drive in the nail.

"This death made a good deal of talk, as much as the refusal of the powder had done. The slanderous circulated the story that the duke had taken this means to rid himself of awkward testimony, for there is no man safe from the tongue of malice. However this may be there was no further lack of powder in the army."

Colonel Henry's out-going from this world, under similar circumstances, merely suggests that France and Frenchmen do not perceptibly change in military methods.

YOUNG AMERICA'S IDEA OF ISLAND DEPENDENCIES.

Not long since THE CONSERVATIVE listened with intense interest to a discussion of the expansion policy, now proposed for the government of the United States, between a successful merchant and a prominent railroad official.

What department of the government will supervise and manage the Philippine Islands, Porto Rico, Cuba, and all the other ocean-surrounded territory that it is proposed to make part of the United States? Will there be a new Department of the Colonies or will the State Department create within itself a bureau or division for the colonies?

And a boy thirteen years of age—a Chicago boy—rising to the occasion, said:

"I think congress will create a Department of the *Exterior*. It will properly attend to the government of all our island dependencies."

THOSE ANGLO-SAXONS. The London Athenaeum, in

reviewing the illustrious Mr. Rudolf Rassendyll, ventures to hope that his excellent qualities are characteristically "English, or at least Anglo-Saxon."

This would appear to be an instance of a very common confusion of terms. Would the writer imply that the manly virtues of the English people were imported wholly by the German tribes who immigrated prior to the 9th century? Or has he an idea that Anglo-Saxon is a wider term than English, and covers the Scotch, the Irish, the Americans, the Canadians, the Australians, the British Indians, the South Africans and the scattering upholders of English ideas?