

**SENATOR
GEORGE F. HOAR.**

The senior senator from Massachusetts has long been distinguished as a very pronounced type of radical republicanism. His ability has been conceded by all his colleagues in the United States senate. His training and inclination would lead him to support any republican administration in any measure or policy which it might initiate and also to oppose and denounce any measure or policy of a non-republican administration.

But he has without reservation recently declared himself opposed to the policy of expansion by the absorption of insular territory acquired by conquest. Senator Hoar is a puritan in some respects and he occasionally proclaims himself a patriot and not a partisan. At present he holds that no foreign territory can be brought into the United States government without the consent and approval of the United States senate in the exercise of its treaty-making power. He holds that in a government like that of the American Republic no people can be brought within its jurisdiction except by their own free will and consent.

SEA POWER.

The Roman Cicero left among his writings the opinion expressed that "whosoever is master of the sea will obtain the supreme power."

This doctrine he accredits to one of the old-timers of his day, Themistocles of Athens; so that it was no new thing to the British statesmen of Elizabeth's time. Lord Bacon, in commenting on it, speaks as follows: "Thus much is certain; he that commands the sea is at great liberty, and may take as much and as little of the war as he will; whereas those that be strongest by land are many times, nevertheless, in great straits."

We of this generation in America, however, have just been introduced to such questions, first by some books written by a retired captain in our navy, and next by some performances afloat of certain others of our captains, who are still of a fighting age. And we of the interior, with many a two-cent mile lying between us and any body of water that will float more than a duck-boat, have very little knowledge of, and consequently not much sympathy with affairs of deep-sea navigation; though this matter has been to some extent remedied by the exhibits of the Chicago and Omaha fairs, and by the kindness of Eastern editors, who have sent men to photograph things for our information during the past summer.

Another class of us again, who inhabit the lands bordering on the Great Lakes, are as familiar with maritime matters as any dwellers on the Atlantic coast, and as well aware of the advantage of sea-power in a controversy.

There were two partners in northern Michigan, some years ago, who dis-

agreed about the management of a saw-mill that stood on the wooded shore of Lake Huron, and then presently about the ownership of it; but he who was in possession was commonly counted the lucky man. Early in the spring, however, before navigation was well open to any save the bold, there appeared one day the other partner sailing up to the dock in a sufficient ship, the crew of which he caused to land and set to work without temporizing at all, at tearing down the mill in question.

The first partner had unquestionably control of the land, having all the courts of the commonwealth of Michigan at his back; but they were a little too far back, and he found himself, as Lord Bacon had predicted, in great straits; the county court-house being at a considerable distance, in the depths of a romantic pine-wood some 300 miles across, and the roads leading to it lacking even the simple pavement of good intentions, which we concede to some less desirable residence-sections than northern Michigan. So that the result was, that by the time the land-commander got his forces of lawyers, sheriffs, quo warrantos, mandamuses, injunctions and other necessaries assembled, he who held the maritime supremacy had got the saw-mill, from the steam-nigger to the gas-pipe whistle, loaded on board his flagship, and sailed away with it to the neighboring kingdom of Great Britain.

In connection with the well-known fact that our army officers are gentlemen, while the rest of us are something less (gents, for instance) let us consider this saying of a very wise man—wise enough, as Mr. Donnelly of Minnesota thinks, to have written Shakespeare's plays: "Let states that aim at greatness take heed how their nobility and gentlemen do multiply too fast; for that maketh the common subject grow to be a peasant and base swain, driven out of heart, and in effect but the gentleman's labourer."

JEFFERSON ON EXPANSION.

Jefferson aspired beyond the ambition of a nationality, and embraced in his view the whole future of man. That the United States should become a nation like France, England or Russia; should conquer the world like Rome, or develop a typical race like the Chinese, was no part of his scheme. He wished to begin a new era. Hoping for a time when the world's ruling interests should cease to be local and should become universal; when questions of boundary and nationality should become insignificant; when armies and navies should be reduced to the work of police, and politics should consist only in non-intervention, he set himself to the task of governing, with this golden age in view. Few men have dared to legislate as though eternal peace were at hand, in a world torn by wars and convulsions,

and drowned in blood; but this was what Jefferson aspired to do. Even in such dangers, he believed that Americans might safely set an example which the Christian world should be led by interest to respect and at length to imitate. As he conceived a true American policy, war was a blunder, an unnecessary risk; and even in case of robbery and aggression the United States, he believed, had only to stand on the defensive in order to obtain justice in the end. He would not consent to build up a new nationality merely to create more navies and armies, to perpetuate the crimes and follies of Europe; *the central government at Washington should not be permitted to indulge in the miserable ambitions that had made the Old World a hell, and frustrated the hopes of humanity.*—Henry Adams, History of the United States, vol. i, p. 146.

**DISAPPEARING
DISCONTENT.**

Nebraska is rich beyond its own opulent precedents in every element of the true wealth which belongs to peace and plenty. No people working with their heads and hands for comfortable, and even luxurious living, and for every added thing which civilization bestows upon men and women, was ever more blessed than are the people of this commonwealth. Discontent has disappeared from our broad borders like hazy mists before the morning sun. Disappearing discontent which political demagogues are powerless to revive is one of the most grateful signs of the period, and it is not confined to any particular state or section of our common country.

**GOVERNMENT BY
GUNPOWDER.**

Nobody will claim for the semi-savages of the Philippine islands ability to either create or maintain even a semblance of popular government. The fact that these people are incapable of self-government is known and conceded by all men. The only rule that it would be in the power of this, or any other civilized nation, to give to them would be that of gunpowder and the bayonet, a rule of force. The only argument which is entitled to the least respect in support of this policy is that the government of the United States, having the power, if not the right, to rob Spain, shall go out from our own continent six or seven thousand miles and undertake the missionary business in the name of God and humanity, as the peculiarly pious and notoriously humane Thurston might put it, to uplift the savage millions of the Philippines and teach them in the beauties of republican government by the Christian process of extermination, as has been done with the Indian of our own country, as will surely be done, in the long run, with the negro, and as is being done with the plundered natives of the Sandwich islands.