

THE LITTLE MAID ORDERS A SONG.

"O write me a song," said a little maid;
 "O write me a song, I pray,
 To sing when under the elm tree's shade
 I swing on a summer day.
 And put in words
 That tell of birds
 And speak of the hum of bees,
 And butterfly wings
 And flying things—
 O do say much about these!
 Of them all I'll sing
 In my elm tree swing."

"And tell how tassels in corn husks grow,
 How I slide down the great hay mows;
 How Rover runs when each night I go
 To watch while he brings the cows,
 And say 'tis plain
 The peacock's vain
 Of strutting to show its fan;
 And say the sky
 Is blue and high—
 O, please write all that you can!
 And the words I'll sing
 In my elm tree swing."

"And then, you may tell of the roses sweet
 And lilies that grow up tall;
 How little lambs in the pastures bleat
 And hens to their chickens call.
 Just write in rhyme
 Of summer time
 And say that I love each day;
 And pick out a tune
 To sing in June,
 A happy tune for my play.
 With the birds I'll sing
 In my elm tree swing."

—MARY FRENCH MORTON.

DR. HERRON'S ADIEU.

Declares the Cuban and Philippine Campaigns a Disgrace to America.

Cheering crowds greeted Prof. George D. Herron's denunciation of President McKinley's Philippine policy Monday noon at Central Music hall, as the teacher from Iowa College addressed himself to an arraignment of "Imperialism." He lives at Grinnell, Iowa.

He said in part:

"A few months ago this nation had the master opportunity of the ages, so far as politics goes, to initiate an altogether new sort of international politics and diplomacy. But never in history was a nation false to its opportunity; never did a nation more shamefully and ignobly fail, and that in the face of such light as few peoples on earth have known. The attempt to liberate Cuba has resulted in American imperialism and the exploitation of Cuba. The war was unnecessary. The Cubans could have attained their own freedom if it had not been for the influence of the holders of Spanish bonds and their agents in America. There were many ways in which the Cubans could have achieved liberty without the incubus of American interference. The war was decided purely on commercial grounds, notwithstanding the chivalry and patriotism of our people who were deeply generous and sincere in seeking to liberate the Cubans.

Arraigns the Government.

"But the war came on. The people were moved by noble impulses. The

administration gave assurance to the world in opera bouffe language that it was a war of 'humanity.' Spectacular language of every sort was employed to declare that fact to the world. We stood before the nations of the world solemnly pledged to disinterestedness. We stood pledged—if we are represented by our government—to a war in which there should be no appropriation, no aggression, no forcible annexation, but simply the liberation of the people from the oppressors of the islands of the sea. Never did any nation stand more solemnly pledged to a particular course than we did, and I repeat that we have as a nation, if we are represented by our government, today placed ourselves before the nations of the world as a perjured nation. Every pledge made has been broken. No single thing promised has been unqualifiedly fulfilled. American honor, because of our speculation and the wrongs we have inflicted on rich and poor alike, is a scandal and a byword in every nation of Europe today.

"The war from start to finish has become merely a dress rehearsal of the great tragic drama of greed that is taking place in every industrial center of America. Our sons have not been slain upon the field of battle, but by the hordes of speculators and politicians having army 'pulls' and contracts. American greed and commercial debauchery have slain their tens where Spaniards have slain twos.

"Then, again, the Cubans are not free. We have driven out Spain, but the secretary of war is proceeding to divide up Cuba among American speculators and corporate interests. We have driven out mediæval Spain, but American exploitation has gone in. There is not the slightest intention on the part of this administration, moreover, to set Cuba free. It is a foregone conclusion, so far as the existing order of things is concerned, that Cuba shall be annexed and, if necessary, civil strife induced in order that we shall come in to preserve the order by which we shall annex the island. Annexation is the purpose and craft of the present moment—to keep all we can get; to get all that we can. It is absolutely certain that this administration never had any policy or principles beyond pleasing its masters. I do not doubt for one moment that President McKinley is a sincere man—a man who piously thinks that the well-being of this nation depends on the government of America being administered for private corporations—but the most dangerous man in any crisis of the world is the well-meaning man without principles, who becomes merely characterless putty in the hands of his masters.

The Philippine Question.

"It is to the Philippine islands, however, that we must turn when the question of imperialism is raised. What did we find there?—a people who had for a

long time struggled for their liberties; a patriot leader whom Americans at that time were wont to parallel with Washington; a people in reality almost on the verge of victory. Their exiled leaders were invited to return. They came back, trusting us. They helped us conquer the Spaniard in the archipelago. They were victors as well as we. We invited them to renew their struggle upon the expectation that we would gain for them their freedom. Their congress met. A provisional government was adopted, far in advance of any provisional government adopted during the American revolution. Then what did America? First of all, we shamefully and persistently misrepresented the Filipinos to the people of America. What next? We refused to treat with their envoys. It is said we have killed more Filipinos in three months than Spain killed in three centuries. Whether that be true or not, we have been guilty of shooting down men and women seeking for nothing except a chance to assert their liberty. Think of it—the country of Jefferson and Lincoln and Phillips and Garrison, moved by gigantic commercial interests, today engaged in striking at the heart of a people who are in the springtime of the first dawn of national liberty.

"Corporate interests have their way of denying the right of these people to even attempt self-government. I say to you that if you follow blindly in that ruthless slaughter of the first birth of liberty, your turn will come. Furthermore, it is the premeditated and deliberate purpose that your turn shall come.

"Then there comes the ghastly demand of the pulpit that expansion is the thing because it will enable us to carry the gospel to these people. If anything could ten thousand times justify the criticisms I have made of the attitude of the Protestant pulpit, this cry for the carrying of the blessings of American civilization is that justification. It should be the day and the night prayer of every one who bears the name of the lowly Christ that the islands of the sea should be delivered from the hideous devil-worship that we call Christianity."

When Professor Herron's address was ended, President Wheelock of the Christian Citizenship league put a motion to arrange for a great public expression of anti-imperialism, and it was adopted with a noisy affirmative vote.

During the high temperature of April 12, 1899, enervation, inactivity and somnolence made every animal organism feel as wilted and weak as a free-silver democrat in the populist party.

Personal antagonisms should swerve no man in his endeavor to see that justice is unperverted and fairly administered in the community where he lives.