

gone on. But a minister who reads his Bible should know better. The language reminds me of those in ancient Israel who leaned on Jehovah saying, "Is not Jehovah in the midst of us? No evil can come upon us," whom Micah rebuked. God, the real God, is not indifferent which of two courses we take; He does not take care of us in any case; only if we take the right are we safe, and if we take the other He conducts us to destruction.

Liberty or Mammon.

It is a sublime call which comes to the American nation today. Choose ye whom ye will serve, Mammon or liberty and right. Will you conquer races groping upward to freedom and to light, or will you make yourselves friends to them, assisting them, standing guard over them to prevent aggressions from without? The London Spectator says that an independent Philippine republic would in ten years be either English, German or Japanese. That is what we are to prevent. That is why we cannot withdraw from the China Sea and leave the Philippines absolutely to themselves. That is why I am glad that we have the sort of title-deed that we have. The other nations thereby respect us and know that if they interfere they will have someone else to reckon with besides a republic just in its swaddling clothes. We should give the Philippines a chance. We should not impose upon them our civilization (beyond the mere respect for order, which, in the main, indeed, they already have), but let them develop their own civilization. The world is not all of one type, nor need civilization be a stereotyped thing. We should expect the Malays, under fostering influences, to contribute something to the world. Whatever they may absorb from contact with outside peoples let them absorb, but let them run it into their own moulds; let them add in this way to the variety and wonder and richness of the world. I devoutly hope, I would earnestly pray did I think there was any use in prayer, that America may see where the part of honor and glory really lies, and I can at least beseech you, my hearers, to weigh this whole matter solemnly in your minds, and if you find that you can agree with me, then go among your friends and acquaintances and make converts to your idea, speak in season and out of season, in public and in private about it, for I believe the fate of this nation now trembles in the balance and that action, right action, alone avails.

BAXTER'S CALL TO THE UNCONVERTED.

Among old time theologians "Baxter's call to the unconverted" was regarded as a powerful appeal to sinners to mend their manners and change their thoughts from carnal to spiritual things. But McKinley's call to the heathen of the Philippines to turn from their barbaric

idolatries to the blessed and "benevolent assimilation" of a great and Christian people is louder, stronger and more in the spirit of the church militant.

Hundreds of letters from private soldiers now fighting "niggers" in the islands of the Pacific are published in the newspapers of the United States from time to time. The refined and loving methods of propagating the doctrines of peace on earth and good will to man are variously depicted. A young disciple named Fred D. Sweet who proclaims peace and good will through the Utah battery writes humanely as follows, concerning a battle with the barbarians: "The scene reminded me of the shooting of jack-rabbits in Utah only the rabbits sometimes got away but the insurgents did not." Another young Christian—Chas. Benner, of Minneapolis, Kansas: "It was fine shooting as it was open ground"—speaking of the charge of the Kansas regiment at Calocoan—"and we picked them off like quail." He also says: "Company I had taken a few prisoners and stopped. The colonel ordered them up into line time after time, and finally sent Captain Bishop back to start them. *There occurred the hardest sight I ever saw. They had four prisoners and didn't know what to do with them. They asked Captain Bishop what to do and he said, 'You know the orders,' and four natives fell dead.*"

This sort of piety instituted by the mild and smug McKinley is so unlike "criminal aggression" that it appeals to the pride and patriotism of all those gentle jingoes who howl for a "greater America" without thinking how urgent the need is for a greater president! Baxter's call to the unconverted is obsolete.

TWO HUNDRED MILES.

The Burlington company has declared its intention of building two hundred miles of new lines in western Nebraska during the year 1899.

Are the populists and other vagarists and fallacy followers ready with arms in their hands to march against this invasion of their domains by massed millions of Eastern capital? Will the protectors of the plain people permit this incursion of corporate greed and plutocratic avarice?

Will Governor Poynter, as the commander-in-chief of the military of the great commonwealth of Nebraska, fail to "call out the troops" and repel this vile invasion? How can Governor Poynter fail to remember that agonizing cry of his party emitted at Chicago in 1896 by its oracle and seer:

"Having behind us the commercial interests and the laboring interests and all the toiling masses, we shall answer their demands for a gold standard by saying to them, you shall not press down upon the brow of labor this crown of thorns. You shall not crucify mankind upon a cross of gold!" and at once or-

ganize the militia to drive from our midst these gold-standard hirelings?

Even Otoe county is placed in danger of corporate capital. Already among Nebraska City's permanent residents THE CONSERVATIVE has discovered tax-paying, house-building, and manufacturing-plant citizens who would welcome millionaires and new lines of railroad leading out towards Sterling, through Talmage to De Witt, with warm hands to hospitable and profitable investments.

With every indication and forecast telling Nebraska of the possibility of new lines of railroad and the probability of their early completion, how can the populistic crusaders against capital and corporate power remain inert, unenthused and supine? Will they quietly permit the predictions of 1896 to go unverified? Will they basely submit to prosperity and the pecunious power of corporations disbursing millions of dollars in fair Nebraska for the purpose of destroying the farmers with more and cheaper transportation? Where are the prophets of 1896? Where are the soothsayers who told the plain people of the twenty-five cent wheat, ten cent corn and saleless swine which would rest down upon Nebraska like an avalanche of ice, rock and snow if the gold standard was maintained in 1896 by the defeat of Bryan? Are those prophets now so cowardly, so subdued and weak that they will quietly submit to prosperity and thrift as evinced by new railroads in Nebraska? Can those augurs of disaster now view with tranquillity money begging for borrowers in Nebraska at six per cent? Can those financiers who frothed at the mouth while depicting in 1896 the foreclosures of farm mortgages which were sure to follow Bryan's defeat now smile complacently while farm mortgages are being swiftly paid off all over Nebraska and being foreclosed nowhere? Two hundred miles of new railroad! Shall this outrageous invasion be suffered?

The Railway Age, under date of April 14, relates how "the Burlington has joined the list of large Western systems which will make considerable additions in the way of new mileage this year. Under the charter of the Nebraska Wyoming & Western it is proposed to build from Alliance, Neb., west through a portion of the state not now provided with railway facilities and across Wyoming, following the valleys of the North Platte, Sweetwater and other rivers to the western boundary of the latter state. Such a road would practically parallel the Union Pacific through Wyoming, although at a distance of about 75 miles from the latter for a portion of the distance. Surveyors have been at work in Nebraska for some time past, but the company has not made public its plans until they were revealed by the filing of articles of incorporation in Wyoming. General Manager Holdrege of the B. & M. R., who is one of the incorporators of the new company, states that grading has already been commenced on the line from Alliance to Hartwell, Wyo."