

government in the Philippines or Cuba? Stop a moment! Think! Government in the United States means at present the machine in power. The people are proverbially fickle. If they do not smash a machine that does not run to suit them, they have a habit of shelving it to give it a rest and setting up a new one. If government in the United States is not, in this sense, with the consent and will of the governed, what is it? In point of fact, the existing government in the United States may be a weak government with a strong people, or a strong government with a weak people. All this depends on the disposition of the people. But no republic offers a strong government except when the government created by the people represents their strongest intelligence and is supported by the active strength of the people in an aggressive majority. The present government is weak because it has no surety in the support of the people. Can such a government guarantee a strong and permanent government to the Filipinos? Not for a moment! The next election in the United States is liable to be on the basis of the *inviolability of the constitution. No taxation except for the maintenance of the Union and domestic welfare.* A political revolution in the United States is almost sure to leave the Filipinos, and perhaps the Cubans, without American support.

In support of this an ultra-expansion paper says: "No question is involved concerning the future government of the Philippines. Congress can do as it chooses. The present congress may declare in favor of permanent occupancy. The next congress may declare in favor of abandoning the islands. The following congress may go ahead and retake them, peacefully or forcefully, as it may elect. No one congress can dictate to a future congress. Future congresses can undo the action of past congresses."—(Memphis Appeal). If that does not describe anarchy what else does it picture. The Filipino is in a pitiable plight. He has no choice between the devil (Spain) and the deep sea of anarchy—Americanism.

A Hard Task Ahead.

These foreign complications are liable to prove hot irons to Americans. Things are by no means permanent. The land and the people alone constitute what permanency there is. In spite of all authority to the contrary, the constitution is as permanent as the people. To speak paradoxically the government has usurped the government in the United States. That is, if the people are the government *de facto* and the constitution the law. The people have not given their intelligent consent, but they have given their indifferent assent to machine despotism and government usurpation of their dictatorship. In the United States there is taxation with very little representation. Machine representation is unlimited. That of the

people is limited by their subserviency to the machine. What kind of a government machine despotism will give the Filipinos is to be seen by lifting the curtain shading the political arena in the United States. The last state of those people may be worse than the first. That people which have not yet learned the lessons of permanent self-government, and who through indifference permit their government to relapse into machine despotism and party usurpation certainly is not fitted to give a government to other and still weaker people.

It has been said that the government of the United States has acted contrary to and in defiance of natural law, the declaration of independence and the constitution. It remains to prove those assertions. First, as to natural law. Self-preservation is the inevitable necessity of life. Under what conditions will a man endanger his life? In order to save it. Under normal conditions of mind he will not expose his life for any other purpose. Taken at its full meaning there is no other necessity. "But what of heroic self-sacrifice," some altruist says? All that the world generally calls heroism is a form of emotional insanity in which the actor loses sight of self in the face of some disaster to others. Joan of Arc is a striking example. That is pseudo-heroism. True heroism is the result of intellectual self-control. The doing of duty by the sailor, soldier, fireman, may be heroic, but it is not heroism. It is largely training and *esprit du corps*. In a rather adventurous life the writer never knew of but one hero. That was a woman whose grounds bordered on the bank of a river. She was washing one day down by the bank and the child with her fell into the water and was swept away with the current. She might have saved the child at the risk of her life. Instead, with a pallid face and form erect as if of marble, she walked to the house. When asked "why" her only reply was "there were four babes there, they needed me more." As Edwin Arnold says, "the gods act sometimes thus."

If a sane man will only expose his life to save it—this principle rules the actions of all men instinctively, as well as intelligently—and property, in some form, is an essential means to the preservation of life, then he who has it will only expose it in the hope of increasing it that his life may be more secure. That is natural law, is it not? For that reason men enter into union with others, form combinations, states, nations, copartnerships, trade organizations, trusts. Never for the good of the others! Always for self! For self they all pull together. Thus is the good of the whole assured.

Criminal Warfare.

Nations being organizations of men to strengthen their self-maintaining abili-

ties; normal governments being institutions organized by men who depute powers to them to carry out the conditions of organization, it should be evident that the power creating would not give more authority over itself than it itself had. Altruistic self-sacrifice is impossible to the sane under the inevitable necessity. In other words, if self-preservation is the inevitable necessity and nations organized and governments established by individuals to maintain it, the creating power will not give the created authority absolute control over its life or that property which is necessary to its maintenance. When the government assumes this power it becomes a despotism and the people have yielded their rights, having lost the might to maintain them. They are imbeciles requiring guardianship. Is it not evident that under natural law the government of the United States had no right to expose the lives of citizens, or to take of their property, for purely aggressive war, or for the benefit or use of aliens? Is not the government guilty of that usurpation of power over life, liberty and pursuit of happiness which the fathers declared to be inalienable rights given them by their Creator? All aggressive warfare is anarchistic except when imposed by the inevitable necessity of self-preservation. This is true of the individual or nation. It is anarchistic again when the aggressive party miscalculates its strength and weakens its self-maintaining ability through its aggressiveness. Mere wars of ambition or conquest have invariably led to the injury or destruction of the aggressor. Persia, Macedonia, Rome, Napoleon, France, Spain.

Having declared themselves free, having made themselves so by their individual might, those British freemen, now become American, took steps to maintaining themselves as men capable of self-maintenance, in a true sense, self-government. They established a nation and organized a government to uphold and maintain the conditions in which they mutually agreed to stand shoulder to shoulder, life for life, for their individual preservation. In so far, and not one jot farther, did, or do, they give the government authority over their lives or property. It is only when they individually refuse to maintain the conditions which they agreed upon with one another, that the government has authority over life, because the inevitable necessity holds them and the government to the law as the means to self-preservation.

The Constitution.

No endeavor of the human intellect ever codified natural law so clearly as the fathers when they agreed that: "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote