

## THE THRESHOLD.

The slender threshold bar there lies  
Between the great, wide world and mine,  
Before the realm of rest and peace  
It holds its strong and steadfast line.  
And none, unbidden, cross beyond,  
A stern defense its presence yields;  
With strength as of a mighty host  
The guarded sphere of home it shields.

And only memories come in  
To bring their welcome guests at will,  
Whose footsteps wander in and out,  
Or wait and linger on the sill.  
In never-ceasing line they come  
From out the shadowed years long flown;  
In never ceasing line they go  
Beyond this threshold once their own.

When quiet hours bring waking dreams  
The grave ancestral guests appear,  
A throng whose eyes seem ever more  
To rest where ties of home were dear.  
And fancy calls the pictured forms  
To fill the space within the door;  
Their watchful faces smile above  
The slender bit of oaken floor.

Their treasured words that time has stored  
In hoarded fragments, brief and rare,  
The records of their noblest deeds,  
Seem whispered in the hallowed air,  
Until the plain, long-trodden bar  
Becomes a sacred household shrine;  
Fond thoughts cross o'er it with the dead  
To threshold of the life divine.

—MARY FRENCH MORTON.

## THE PRESS ON THE CENSORSHIP.

We do not favor making Gen. Otis the scapegoat for the war department or the white house. There, and not in Manila, lies the responsibility for the miserable business which has been going on in Luzon for the past five months.—Hartford Times (dem.)

A campaign of deception must result disastrously. The people of the United States want the truth. They demand the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and the correspondents at Manila have given the administration something to think about.—Syracuse Journal (rep.)

It is upon the president that the retributive blow must fall, and he must act and act promptly by sending a commander to the Philippines who will tell the truth and permit others to tell the truth to the people at home. The country asks nothing more than the truth; it will accept nothing less.—Philadelphia Times (ind. dem.)

Suppressing information is a sorry performance for any official to be engaged in anywhere. The truth inevitably comes out, and the final sufferer is the fool in office who thought to hide his incapacity, or perhaps get a chance to retrieve his deserved failures by another and a more successful chance, by "keeping the facts from the papers:" something that never has and never will work.—Worcester Spy (rep.)

The inference is unavoidable that either Gen. Otis or his superiors at Washington are afraid of the truth, and afraid not for military reasons, but for political considerations. It is due to the censorship that hardly a soul in the

United States today knows just what is going on in the Philippines, where American interests, American honor, and American lives are at stake.—Chicago Record (ind.)

The censorship in force is, as Gen. Otis admits, entirely for the purpose of withholding a full knowledge of the actual facts from Americans at home. This is quite unnecessary; it is, indeed, sure to produce a distrust and uneasiness greater than accurate and positive information, however discouraging, could do. Mystery and uncertainty are more agitating than a full understanding of the situation can be.—Indianapolis Journal (rep.)

The failure to order a sufficient force to Manila months ago, whoever may be responsible for it, is bad enough; the failure to realize that a force much larger than that available was absolutely necessary, whoever may have been responsible for it, is worse; but the deliberate attempt on the part of Gen. Otis and the war department to conceal the actual situation from the country is the worst of all.—Philadelphia Telegraph (rep.)

The people of the United States, in whose name and upon whose resources this war in the Philippines is being carried on, have a right to know the truth in regard to it. A censorship to keep information from the enemy is justifiable, but it would be ridiculous to claim that this one in the Philippines had been set up for any such purpose. Avowedly it is to keep information from reaching the people of the United States, who have a clear right to it.—Portland (Me.) Press (rep.)

## MORE WATER FALLS.

On Friday evening, July 28th, 1899, there was a rainfall at Arbor Lodge of seventy-three one-hundredths of an inch. On Thursday previous there was a precipitation of six one-hundredths of an inch, so that in forty-eight hours there was more than three-fourths of an inch of rain upon the growing crops in Otoe county. This beneficence of Nature is received with general joy and gratitude. It rewards labor and encourages industry.

The only exceptions to the late refreshing showers and crop-savers have been taken by populists and other fusionist office-hunters. These patriotic pursuers of places of profit thrive best when crops fail. An era of drouth is fertilizing to fusionists. When wheat has the chinch bug and corn languishes for rain, populists are at their best. But now their tears, shed in dread of prosperity, vie in quantity with the rain drops from the benignant skies. The clouds can not weep fecundity upon our fields without causing tears among popocrats.

The Philadelphia Press (rep.) is out of patience with that "child of a protective tariff," the American Tin-Plate Company, for "precipitating a contest with its labor over the wages scale." This action "challenges the entire issue," in the opinion of The Press, which regards it as a "safe general proposition that a monopolized industry, protected by the tariff, which has a wage conflict on its hands, in a time of great prosperity, has done its permanent interests injury, risked its own production, and dealt a blow to the entire cause of protection."

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