

the King of Spain. We have scattered or destroyed the only organization capable of undertaking government. We have forced ourselves on them. Our duty, therefore, is the very highest. None but the best and wisest can discharge it for us. And if we may judge all by the one we know, the president could not have chosen better. It was no defense of slavery that the slaves were better off, but slavery was a double wrong when they were treated badly. So giving these people good government will at least save us from adding injury to wrong.

"I am sure our friend here realizes the difficulties of the task before him. He will have to deal with rights which have vested under a mixed system of Spanish and native laws and customs. He must take into account strange ideas, prejudices, and manners; but perhaps these may trouble him less than those of the intelligent people who know our history and professions, and who, we are assured, closely follow all that occurs here to find, sometimes, encouragement in their struggle to be free. He will encounter difficulties which we can not even imagine.

"But he is peculiarly fitted for this work. If anybody could do it with credit to himself and us, he can. There is no branch of our laws, state and federal, with which he is not familiar. He has had both to enforce and to expound them. He has youth, strength, courage, and liking for work. He knows how to make use of the work of others. He has always been a sturdy foe to everybody and everything which lead to bad government at home, and knows them wherever and however they may appear.

"Above all, he has two qualifications without which failure would be certain: First, he cannot be brought by any political or other pressure to yield to any of the heresies which this new departure is bringing forth. One of them is the revival of the notion that the constitution is a mere compact among the states and operates only in them. He knows what has been often decided: that all persons everywhere, who own allegiance to the United States, are citizens thereof whether they are also citizens of the states or not. He knows that the president and congress have no authority anywhere except that conferred by the constitution, that such authority extends by its own vigor throughout the entire national domain, and that with it go the personal and civil rights the constitution guarantees to all alike, whether political rights be given or withheld. The provision of the treaty that the civil rights as well as the political status of the native inhabitants shall be determined by congress, must be taken to apply only to rights outside of those conferred by the constitution; otherwise, it would be wholly void. Those people

would have no civil rights whatever now; and when congress acts, it might ignore the constitution and all its amendments. Second, he knows that the sole object of all government is the good of the governed, and the efforts which will, no doubt, be made to provide for securing benefits to others at the expense of the governed will surely fail.

"I believe he has felt grave concern about the course of the government in taking over these distant islands. That concern has been for the effect on ourselves as well as for the effect on their inhabitants. It is well that such a man should be sent to deal with the present problem. The supposed interests of some commercial classes largely influenced the government to do what it did. Signs are multiplying that these may help at last to work out the salvation of all concerned. It was well enough when all was thought to be take; there are doubt and hesitation when it is found that there must also be give. It is not a question of doors open or doors shut—between the different parts of our territory. There are no doors. And if by standing steadfastly by the principles of our system of government our friend here shall still further open the eyes of those who have not fully seen and thus bring interest to the aid of duty, he will not be sorry to find he has another claim to the title of wise and true lover of his country, esteeming her honor above all the islands of the seas.

"There is a shrewd suspicion that the failure of congress to legislate for the Philippines was not unintentional, and that it would be glad to leave responsibility with the president indefinitely. When it is realized that legislative powers can not be thus or otherwise conferred on him, it is incredible that such a course will be longer desired or that public sentiment would permit it. But it does not follow that the work of this commission will be either useless or temporary. If the people shall decide to keep these islands, what this commission does will doubtless be the basis of our rule there. If they decide to turn them over to their own inhabitants, these, following our methods as well as our ideas as all seekers after liberty do, and as they had already done when we fell upon and crushed them, will be glad to avail themselves of what the knowledge and sagacity of these men will have accomplished.

"In any event, we are sure our townsman will win new honors as he has been doing all these years. May God spare him and his to come back to us again, and us to gather here to welcome him as we have gathered here tonight to speed him on his way. We have gotten used to these goings and comings of his, and if the future holds still greater honors for him, as we all believe it does, he must submit to new trials of his modesty by the best of all his friends."

STOCK MEN AND RAILROADS
CONFER.

A conference of the stockmen of Kansas and the traffic managers of the Santa Fe was held recently relative to the new schedule of rates adopted by the company, whereby the carload rate was abolished and a pound rate established. B. H. Campbell says of the conference, in the Kansas City Star:

"Mr. Paul Morton was the principal speaker for the traffic officials, and the work could not have been in more skillful hands. His methods are business like and not oratorical; his arguments persuasive and not threatening.

"The cattlemen acceded to the plan of paying freight by weight, but the weight to be ascertained by the stock yards scales, which will be our selling weights, deducting 500 pounds per carload for fill after unloading. The feed in transit rate to be restored, differing a little from the old plan, but better for both the railroads and the shipper. The complaint of bad service is one that cannot be covered by contract, but the traffic departments have made good promises and we have urged upon them that hereafter the road that gives the best service shall get the most business, though we have to drive out of our way to keep this pledge."

PUBLIC
PLUNDERING. While in the
show business in
1896, Mr. Bryan,

in one of his emotional paroxysms, said with wonderful dramatic effect:

"Show me the head of a syndicate or trust, and I will show you a man who, whenever his business interests are involved, becomes suddenly patriotic and tells you that he loves his country too much to let anybody make more money out of legislation than he does."

Is it wise to go to the other extreme and place the government in the hands of one who hasn't any business? Might he not make use of the opportunity to acquire and build up a private business? Is it less to be condemned to aspire to office for the money there is in it, or to use candidature for office as a means of making money, than to make money out of legislation?

NOTICE. The well-known
publisher F. Bruck-

mann of Munich, Germany, has just issued an elegant work entitled "Das Literarische Muenchen," by the celebrated author, Dr. Paul Heyse. It consists of portraits with short biographical sketches of twenty-five of the most prominent literary men residing in Munich. They are all Germans except two, namely, the American, E. P. Evans, and the Norwegian, Bjoernesgerne Bjoerson. The portraits are drawn from life by Heyse himself, and a genial poem by him serves as an introduction to the volume.