

and let the world know that there is one town in Nebraska, at least, where capital, foreign or domestic, may be safely invested. You have a great opportunity to give your city's "solid growth" a real "boom" and I advise you to take advantage of it.

I hope the "shadow of the starch works" may never grow less, and that many other shadows of big industrial plants may soon envelop your town, and that, collectively, these shadows may, in due course of time, become so dark and deep as to obliterate any politician, national, state or local, who may undertake to obtain political preferment for himself by attempting to destroy them. I hope sincerely that the old town, by populist candidates so contemptuously termed the "Home of Trusts" in Nebraska, because the "disease" of home industrial thrift "exists" there, will, on November 6th., proclaim through its voters that Nebraska City is a safe Missouri River harbor for both labor and capital; I hope it will go "16 to 1"—sixteen for Industrial Growth and Prosperity, to one for Industrial Destruction and Poverty.

Yours truly,

JOY MORTON.

IMPERIALISM.

In reflecting, in a lazy way, upon the subject of so-called "imperialism," about which so much bad breath is at the present being worse than wasted, I am reminded of a paragraph penned by Thomas Paine concerning a similar situation, and with reference to a severance of allegiance to British rule by the American colonies. I do not recall his precise language, but its import was as follows:

"The argument is advanced," he wrote, "that the colonies have prospered under British rule, and wisdom and prudence dictate that we let well enough alone." "And this," continues Mr. Paine, "is equivalent to saying that because a child has prospered on milk, he should never have meat, or that the first twenty years of one's life should constitute a precedent for the next twenty."

To prescribe baby food for this great nation by that universal doctor, Windy J. Bryan, or anybody, is an insult to the common intelligence. The highest wisdom, by changed conditions, becomes folly, and to apply the political formula of 1776 babyhood to 1900 manhood is to annul advancement, and prescribe nursing bottles for adults. We want meat.

The duty of the statesman is to prescribe, not for conditions that did, but for conditions which do, exist. The treaty by which this nation acquired the Philippine islands is not a measure pending, but accomplished. We must speak of it in the past tense. Of what avail, then, is it to cry out against the manner of its acquisition? Noise is not logic,

nor declamation argument. That territory is ours, a part of our country, and it is as much the duty of the president to control and protect it, as to crush rebellion and preserve order in the original states; and to fail in this is to subject himself to impeachment, dishonor and disgrace.

So far as the present campaign is concerned, "Imperialism" is but a name—a gaudy fiction devised to hide the defeated issue of 16 to 1, and the boisterous mouthings concerning it are about as pertinent and profitable as the study of a last year's almanac, or a reference to an abrogated time table. The more you study, the more you are misled.

The withdrawal of our troops from China at the present juncture is the best possible evidence that the present administration has no design upon foreign territory, nor any tendency toward "imperialism." Our army, recently at Peking, is now en route to Manila, and the president has defied the world, and discomfited the powers, by its prompt and unconditional withdrawal. There is no longer room for the word "imperialism" in our politics. Give us meat.

PLAIN CITIZEN.

Omaha, Oct. 13, 1900.

A REPLY TO "DIE PHILIPPINER."

EDITOR CONSERVATIVE:

In THE CONSERVATIVE of October 11, 1900, I find an article signed by E. P. Evans, purporting to be a review of a book entitled "Die Philippiner." "Die Philippiner" seems to be some recent book published in Germany by Von Ferdinand Blumentritt.

It is a little difficult to say from the article in THE CONSERVATIVE how much of the alleged facts in that article relating to the Philippines are statements of Mr. Evans and how much are statements of Von Ferdinand Blumentritt, the author of "Die Philippiner." After reciting the title of the recent work of Von Ferdinand Blumentritt, the article in THE CONSERVATIVE proceeds to state that the author of that work "is universally recognized as one of the best authorities on the subject." I question this very much. The purpose of this article of Mr. Evans seems to be to extol the work of Von Ferdinand Blumentritt, to show that the great majority of the people in the Philippines are Christians, highly educated, and in every way fit for self-government, and to abuse the various orders of Roman Catholic priests who are now, and for centuries past have been, in the Philippine islands.

Whether the statements in the article in question are statements of Mr. Evans or the statements of Von Ferdinand Blumentritt, I propose to demonstrate from the article itself that, so far as it is a slur on the various orders of Roman Catholic priests in the Philippines, it

contains its own refutation, and to show that the sweeping charge that is there made against these various orders of Roman Catholic priests is untrue.

I quote from that article as follows:

"The Christian Malays, numbering about 8,000,000, of whom nearly seven-eighths belong to the three leading tribes, Tagals, Bisayas, and Dokans, constitute virtually the Filipinos, since it is with them that foreign powers have to deal in their commercial and diplomatic relations with the archipelago, and with them that the Americans will have to solve and settle the burning Philippine question. Blumentritt characterizes them as highly gifted and progressive people, worthy of the esteem and sympathy of all civilized nations. He instances some jurists like Marcelo H. del Pilar and Mariano Ponce; scientist like Dr. Jose Rival; journalist like Graciano Lopez Jaena; artist like the painter, Juan Luna, whose picture "Spoliarium" took the first prize at a Paris exhibition. If the Filipinos, under Spanish domination, could produce such eminent men, what may they not be able to accomplish when they enjoy the advantages of a free government with a career open to every talent,"

In the early part of the same article, the author, in speaking of the present population of the Philippine islands, states that there are only about 20,000 Negritos, and that the number of Malays who are not Christians is about 600,000. He then shows, as quoted above, that the great body of the Filipinos (Christian Malays) are intelligent, civilized people and number about eight millions (8,000,000), who have produced great jurists, scientists, journalists and painters. Who made these eight million Malays in the Philippine islands Christians? I venture to say that no one today who has the slightest information on the subject, or who will consult authorities, will deny that it was the Roman Catholic Spanish priests who made these people Christians, educated them, and to whom they are indebted today for all their enlightenment.

Writer Inconsistent.

Then I find in this same article in THE CONSERVATIVE the following:

"The plea that the Filipinos are not fit for self-government is a poor palliation of a breach of faith and easily disproved by facts. Not only is the proportion of learned men larger than in Servia, Bulgaria and Montenegro, but also the persons unable to read or write is less than in the Balkan peninsula, Russia, many provinces of Italy, Spain and Portugal, the South American republics and some of our own southern states. Indeed great care is bestowed upon elementary education and as a rule common schools for boys and girls are well organized and efficiently conducted. That they could be greatly improved is undeniable, but their deficiencies are due not to the indifference of the Filipinos, but to the interference of the monks."

Schools and institutions of learning