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OBSERVATIONS.

What We'll do to Dewey.

After all it is very little we can do to express our gratitude and hero-worship to Admiral Dewey. We can cover our towns with bunting, employ all the brass bands within reach, invite him to dreary hotel banquets, where, on account of the number simultaneously served, the courses reach the table covered with goose pimples, and after the exhaustion of eating impossible meats and salads force him to make one speech and listen to a dozen more, and when he gets off a train, or appears on the street either in a carriage or on foot, we can cheer and shriek at him, until his travel-tired nerves quiver in response. We can do all this, and we will do it just as soon as his reserved New England shoe touches the New York pier. There is nothing considered more complimentary by the American people than to get together in a vast crowd and yell at somebody.

It has been suggested that a grateful people buy or build Admiral Dewey a house. Such a gift would constitute a more genuine and unselfish test of appreciation than the yelling referred to, because it requires very little to start a chorus of that sort and we take such pleasure in it that most anybody can inspire it, outside of Nebraska. We are a silent, saturnine people in Nebraska, careful not to exhibit unwarranted enthusiasm over a diva that takes our breath away with her singing, or over an orator, who can turn the east into a howling mob, or over car loads of soldiers, who in their journey from the Atlantic to the Pacific slope have

been greeted at every little town by the American yell, until the train crossed the boundary line into Nebraska.

After the battle of Blenheim, the Duke of Marlborough was presented with a castle by Queen Anne and parliament and the Duke called it Blenheim. The American people might give a house to Admiral Dewey and request him to call it Manila. Such a testimonial would last longer than cheering and longer even than a hotel banquet, and be a witness to the travelers who come after us, like the piles of stones erected by the children of Israel in their journey through the wilderness, of a memorable occasion and a great man.

Little Americans.

John F. Bass in Harper's Weekly, a paper opposed from the first, to annexation, expansion or any degree of enlargement, says, in writing from the Philippines:

"Indeed the one danger in the situation here is that public sentiment in the United States will interfere with the prompt and rapid progress of the war * * * The time for compromise has gone by. We can never take the present Filipino government into our confidence. A new set of natives must be put at the head of any native government established here, and in order to do this the force of Aguinaldo and his party must be broken. Nearly all the conservative Filipinos left him when a breach with the United States was imminent. At present he is surrounded by the very worst elements among the Filipinos. Any negotiations with the insurrectionists today, therefore, will encourage these men to make exorbitant demands and ultimately may mean death of the thousands of misled Filipinos as well as many of our own soldiers. Any compromise will mean the triumph of the lawless party and in the end an infinity of trouble. Let us show that firmness and energy which might have prevented this outbreak if used eight months ago. For if we vacillate now, I see nothing but dark days ahead for the Philippines * * * Occasionally a woman with her children or an old man sat disconsolately near a heap of smouldering ashes; as I rode through mile after mile of this desolation the conclusion forced itself upon me, that our government with its weak, vacillatory policy and want of tact, and Aguinaldo and his followers, with their nagging trickiness, and their misrepresentation of our every act, would be called to account for all this destruction, when history, in cold blood shall write the truth. Either we must show we are stronger than this people or get out of the islands. Otherwise how can we hope to establish any government here?"

This from a correspondent of a paper strongly opposed to American supremacy in the Philippines to a paper with which he is in harmony, is fairly good evidence as to the character of Aguinaldo and his followers and the high-handed course which it is absolutely necessary this country should pursue there. All the correspondents are unanimously of the opinion that Aguinaldo is working for his own exaltation and does not know inde-

pendence from absolutism. American belief in the insurrectionists is but discouraging the lovers of law and order in the Philippines and lessening the faith they have in the United States as a strong government and the ultimate source from which independence will come.

The Strategical Filipinos.

The telegraphic reports and soldiers' letters from the Philippines are invariably encouraging. They say Aguinaldo, Del Pilar and the other insurgent commanders "wish to surrender" that "the insurgent army is utterly demoralized" et cetera, et cetera. Yet on the very next day the first pages of the daily papers are full of reports of a battle with these same discouraged and disorganized Filipinos who have killed Americans by the hundreds since the insurrection began. After all, they are very clever fighters, and dig their trenches just in front of a cover of timber into which they retreat before the American charge which is all in the open, and beyond the timber and another open stretch the Filipinos dig another trench from which to fire at the Americans. In consequence, the American campaign has been a series of charges across exposed ground on soldiers in trenches. Yet the intrenched soldiers have never been able to hold their position against the impetuous assaults of the Americans, who would be certain to slaughter them in the trenches when they reached them. But before the Americans reached the trenches, as one of the correspondents said, the killed would outnumber the living. It is fortunate that a barbarian is mortally afraid of the civilized man, as an animal is afraid of man, and Aguinaldo himself cannot keep his panic stricken soldiers in their trenches before a fierce American charge. The fear of the unknown and of the supernatural, of fire and of water can make poltroons of Americans in the same way. Barbarians are more ignorant than the Americans, therefore the terrors of the unknown are increased for the barbarians and that terror is added to the actual prowess of the American.

College Riots.

The public is accustomed to excuse the tendency of college boys to ignore property rights and the laws of decency whenever they desire to express their joy over a college victory or disapprobation at an infringement of what they consider their rights. Separately, undergraduates are apt to conduct themselves like other boys. There are no more petty thieves among them, or rowdies, or bullies, or disorderly individuals than among the youth of any other class. But together, under the excitement of victory or defeat or on any college anniversary or festa they will steal any small object like chickens or signs,

they will disfigure public buildings, and behave generally like rowdies and bullies. If they are in sufficient numbers they will attack policemen or shop keepers or anybody who chances to object to being bullied and imposed upon. The mob of Princeton students who attacked a Wild West show for daring to give the customary parade upon the streets, was a good example of a college riot. The students attacked the procession of cowboys and Indians from behind buildings and when one cowboy turned his horse to charge twenty or more of them they tumbled over each other to get out of his way and most of their injuries were received in flight. The trouble was, the cowboys are in the habit of resisting evil with force. They have not learned that petty larceny which places a young man in the chicken thief class, if he be outside of college only gives him an enviable reputation for frolicsomeness if he is. The community is really to blame for the habits of students ensemble, and like fond and indulgent parents of troublesome children the community is not to be pitied for the depredations which its own imbecile good nature has encouraged and developed.

Queen Victoria's Abdication.

There seems to be a more than usually strong rumor that Queen Victoria after her eightieth birthday which will occur on next Wednesday, will withdraw to Balmoral. The Queen, it is positively affirmed, has given her last drawing room and has revisited for the last time the scenes of her childhood in Kensington Palace. In another month the Prince of Wales will be King of England, according to the assertions of many of the English correspondents who have risked their reputation for accuracy on the positivism of this prophecy.

The Czar's Sincerity.

The sincerity of the Czar's disarmament proposition has been questioned and his attitude or that of his official representative at the Peace conference towards the first practical proposal made by England, appears to justify suspicions which the Czar himself is said to resent. England's proposition was that the nation's regard the merchant marine of all nations as neutral in time of war, the merchant ships to carry no arms. The merchant marine of England is so much larger than that of any other nation that such an international agreement would be of greater advantage to Great Britain than to any other nation. Russia's merchant marine is comparatively insignificant. If the Czar is in earnest, however, and is really trying to bring about universal peace his representative might, at least, have discussed the subject with the delegates from other nations, but he peremptorily refused even to argue the