

tion of triumphing over the carnal and the rewards of righteousness and mortification. A child thus trained is more likely to become one of the governed, who in spite of the system will be of value to the community he is a member of.

Divine government is certainly no less arbitrary and undemocratic. The moral law began to operate with the first man and after society was formed and became self-conscious the whole body of the law was recognized. It is in the constitution of man and ratified or not it remains and not one jot or title can be altered, or expunged and nothing can be or has been added. If a man murders, his conscience either ossifies or it is a raw stinging spot which keeps him awake and finally drives him insane. A liar has an uncomfortable time with himself and bears his neighbor's contempt and he knows it. A thief is a coward and the prey of an imagination more vigilant than the police or the best detective system ever operated. All others who break the commandments suffer in their own bodies and minds adequate punishment, long before clumsy and slow man law overtakes them.

The governed therefore have not even the representative one fifth directing power. It is written that all nations must conform to the contemporary standard of civilization. Rebellion means destruction. For a long time China has stood still but she escaped urging by the procession because of her isolation. Now Russia has grown far enough south to be inconvenienced and crowded by the inert Chinese lump. The English are pushing north, not necessarily aggressively and for land grabbing purposes but because they are growing and need more room and on the south is the ocean. Japan on the east and Australia on the southeast have begun to do business like the rest of the world and the Chinese will have to join the procession or be run over and crushed. Commerce is the great civilizing, moral force. Missionaries can be tortured and killed, sermons are not heeded, essays and all sorts of literature have but little influence, but commerce cannot be deflected by a Chinese wall, by Chinese religion or customs, or by Chinese inertia. The consent of the governed has nothing more to do with the question than it has in the parental divine or national system. Railroads will be built through China, east and west, north and south by Russians, French, English or Americans, or by all these people. The Chinese do not want the foreigner, but the foreigner is good for them. The foreigner has grown as far as China and for centuries Chinese inertia has turned him back, but America is next door, England and France are south, Russia is north, and Germany has a foothold in China itself. The hour is at hand when the walls will fall at the shout and charge of the nations of the world upon China. The law of nations has been broken. The Chinese have killed at least one minister and perhaps all who were unwelcome representatives of the world in China. For the barbarity they have dared against the age China will either be dismembered or in conjunction with the most modern Chinese the powers will establish a government which is not an anachronism.

Long Range Guns.

Notwithstanding the long range of the latest guns, their rapid firing possibilities and their smokeless powder, reports from Africa show a smaller death rate from gunshot wounds than in the days when men fought hand

to hand battles with spear, short sword or spiked clubs. The man of the stone age who fought with a bludgeon was deadlier than anything that has ever been invented. Camp life could not kill him, for he was born in a cave if he were a member of the aristocracy and on the damp ground if not. He was not subject to malaria or dysentery for he had the stomach and entrails of a gorilla. Civilization makes men tender and squeamish, and the rigors, smells and unpalatable menu of an army on the march kill more soldiers than bullets do. Therefore fewer soldiers are killed by bullets and more by disease than in the days of Alexander the Great.

Humanitarians who have welcomed the perfection of guns with the hope that the increasing deadliness would make war impossible are disappointed at the actual results of their use. The small bore, long range guns make a clean, small hole in the human body. There is little danger of blood-poisoning from the wound and bones are not shattered by the impact of the ball which is in too much of a hurry to inflict greater damage. In the old days when armies fought not five miles apart but within arms length heads rolled off and bodies were cut in two from shoulder to trunk. There was much less work for the surgeons after the Black Prince and his men had done their best. In the years to come the great peace maker will be commerce. Wars disturb the market and interrupt trading and the trader will discourage gingoism and insist on arbitration.

A Chinese Point of View.

Perhaps no country more than Columbia resents outside interference or would so unitedly and bravely resist an attempt to divide this country among foreigners. Every now and then a rumour is printed in the newspapers that the Pope of Rome has designs on this country and is instructing the bishops and priests to drill their parishioners in the manual of arms. The rumor is, of course, unfounded but the suspicion shows how tetchy we are about the integrity of the American government.

Suppose the Pope, who is wise and prescient should conclude to make Columbia a catholic country. Suppose in every hamlet there was a priest working to convert the children of protestants into catholics, and openly endeavoring to convince the children of this protestant country that the religion of their fathers was wrong. Suppose they succeeded in making many converts. Suppose the priests gradually assumed civil power and decided disputes between catholic and non-catholic. Unless the government stopped it, there would be riots and it is certain that many would be killed. Now between the catholic and protestant religion there is a greater difference of form than of faith and creed. But between confucianism and christianity there is a chasm. The nationalists among the Chinese believe that the missionaries are helping make smooth the path of the foreigner who is coming to divide China among themselves. The missionary has no such intention. He has expatriated himself for love of man and from a desire to help them. The Chinese nationalist or boxer, believes that he is a land-grabber and is in collusion with the powers whose armies and countrymen wait on the borders of China for a division of their ancestral acres. And the Chinamen are frenzied with hatred of the foreigner whether he is an ambassa-

bor or a missionary. Our country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty or tyranny, it does not matter. It is sweet because it is where we were born.

Desertion.

If Admiral Dewey had sailed out of Manila Bay after destroying the Spanish ships he would have done what the anti-imperialists now say this government should have ordered him to do. Then there would have been an oriental slaughter of Spanish residents, combatants and non-combatants, and the United States would have been the mock of history. When one government is destroyed either anarchy or another government will take its place. Had Admiral Dewey left the peaceful residents of Luzon to the oriental cruelty of Aguinaldo and his followers, Mr. Bryan might have brought an unanswerable indictment against President McKinley's administration.

The Noise Nuisance.

Since the beginning nothing has been done to lessen the noise in large cities until lately. To be sure ordinances have been passed but policemen were not instructed to enforce them, and policemen, the world over, are very strict interpreters of their duty except when a fee is in prospect. New York physicians are prescribing isolation cures for the patients whose ear drums have been shocked to the point of nervous prostration. In so small a place as this there are more and louder noises than business requires. If the policemen were so instructed a reprimand would greatly lessen the sum of the noises. For instance the men who deliver ice announce their arrival by a curdling yell that for the moment by its unexpectedness and fierceness paralyses the nerves. It is a purposeless yell, because the icemen put the ice into the refrigerators themselves and the noise only gratifies the human instinct for conspicuity. The boys who hawk papers on Sunday mornings intrude upon the householder's right to peace. It is doubtful if they sell more papers for the disturbance and they have lost many a sale to many a tired man who makes up his mind never to purchase anything from a leather-lunged, cavern mouthed boy who can make a noise like that which disturbs Lincoln every Sunday morning. The street fruit and vegetable merchants might be compelled to hawk their wares less loudly. An earnest buyer will be attracted by a mild invitation and indifferent ones cannot be convinced by yells. To effect reforms such as these requires time. It is easier to teach youth. If this city in her youth is taught the gospel of quietness, it will learn the lesson more easily than a metropolis.

The Constitution in China.

A writer in the New York Sun explains why it is that the Chinese, the learned Chinese, have so clear a comprehension of the constitution of the United States. It seems that an attache of the first Chinese legation that accepted our invitation to Washington, whose name was Tsai Sih Yung, was a scholar, a graduate of Doctor Martin's college in Peking and had also taken his bachelor's degree in the Chinese examinations. In Washington he formed a close friendship with Doctor Edward S. Holden, an astronomer at the United States naval observatory. Tsai told Doctor Holden that the legation had come to this country to effect a treaty between the emperor of China and the presi-

dent of the United States. When told that the treaty must be ratified or rejected by congress he was interested and expressed a desire to study our constitution. Eventually with the help of Doctor Holden and the advice and comment of Justice Bradley of the supreme court, the document was translated with a marginal commentary into Chinese and Tsai sent it home where it has been deposited in the library of the foreign office, or tsung li yamen in Peking ever since. A copy of it was also deposited in the library of the university of California. There is no other such declaration of federation in the Chinese collection and the Chinese being a literary nation, with great reverence for the written word have studied the constitution of this country very carefully. It is the only constitution of a foreign country with which they are familiar. When the time comes for an adjustment, America will have the advantage of being understood by the Chinese even if we do not understand them. They know that we are not anxious to acquire new territory, and there is no incident of recent history to contradict this sound conclusion. The writer already quoted says:

"Our opportunities at the present crisis are unique. Every European government is distrusted by all the officials at Peking—by those friendly to foreign inventions as well as by those who hate and despise the foreigner and all his works. We desire and we mean to have the freest opportunities for trade and above all things the fullest protection for our citizens in foreign parts. It may be necessary for our troops to join with those of Europe and Japan in a punitive expedition. It may even be necessary to raze the walls of Peking to the ground, to plow the site and to sow it with salt, as the Tartar Chief Jenhiz Khan was used to do with the rebellious cities of Bokhara and Turkistan. All this will be understood as a deserved punishment for acts which even the Chinese cannot defend. But in the final adjustment of relations America may hold a unique place; and this position of moral vantage should be safeguarded in all our acts.

The Lectern League.

Ministers and other church officers frequently complain that the women of the congregation whose time and energy were devoted to church work before the club movement, now only give to the church odds and ends, unconsidered fragments of their time and in consequence, the church work languishes. A club of more than one hundred and twenty five of the representative women of Denver have recently been formed for "The perfect understanding of the holy catholic and apostolic church in its universal relations, divine and human." It was started in May just when club work ceases, the club-world over, but it met an instant reception and welcome, from members of all churches. The name and the constitution imply an exclusive study of the history of the church of England and the church of Rome, and its meetings have been addressed by bishops of the English church, but I am informed that the members are not preponderantly catholic or episcopalian. The study is divided into five departments: biblical, historical, liturgical, missionary and art and music. Meetings will be held on the first and third Fridays of every month, from October to June, when relevant papers will be read and discussed. The biblical group has outlined a three year's course of study, and the old plan has