How America Will Receive the Hero of Manila Bay—The Olympia's Reception at New York.

SINCE that historic spring, 1898 years ago, when all Rome impatiently awaited the return of the great Caius Julius Cæsar and his victorious legions from the battlefields of Hyspania no great nation has ever prepared to welcome home a conquering hero as America is now making ready to welcome Dewey.

From Cæsar to Dewey is a far cut, yet there is much in the home comes of our great admiral that suggests one of those ancient triumphs of the Cæsars. Not our admiral of Roman ancestry, neither native born of Vermont, but born one of the home-made-to-order words, but terrible in action. Both, under the wing of the eagle, left their native hearths to glorify the lands of their birth or foreign warfare, and both wore the diadems of their fellow citizens.

There will not, however, be three triumphal entries in New York city when the Olympia comes home, nor will every good citizen of the republic receive a portion of grain and money, as did the populace of Roman during each of those old imperial city triumphs. The bodies of the Olympia will not walk on purple cloth and there will be no rumbling of war chariots in and down Broadway, but certain things there will be which, would have made those primitive old Roman citizens sick with envy and they more behind the tiller.

Just what those things are is no easy task to enumerate. The American mind is an inventive one, and the American carries his inventity into all walks of life. Every subject of Uncle Sam has had almost a month to ruminate over just how the hero of Manila should be welcomed home, and when an American thinks a year and a half over a thing it is going to be startling to say the least.

The welcome to Dewey will in every sense be national, but for obvious reasons, every one in the nation cannot take a direct and active part in it. New York, therefore, as the great gateway of America, will be the special scene of activities, as it will be at New York that the returning admiral will first land. There will be other festivals at other places, and from Maine to California the Stars and Stripes American eagle will press her exultant brows and scream with delight, but the one particular scream which is going to make the welkin ring is to float up from New York.

The celebration will begin on the evening of Thursday, Sept. 28, when, as is well known, the Olympia is expected to be near, coming her way up Sandy Hook. When that occurs, all the United States is going to turn a handspring. Should the Olympia come earlier than Thursday, it will be a surprise to every soul who stands Admiral Dewey, for the admiral knows what he is warned, and has the habit of upsetting just when that is the case and not before. Should the Olympia, on the other hand, not appear at the appointed moment, a few million people will realize that it was because of a power greater than man's.

When the huge anchor of the Olympia slow down and the drops her great anchor and swings at rest in lower New York bay, a long cannon in Miss Columbia will jump to her feet. Then the people will see what a lively girl this same Miss Columbia can be when she gets started. For from Weer's island to Grant's tomb the cannon of the rest of the new world will blare as in a golden fury of fiery sonorous. All along the Jersey coast and down Long Island there will be fireworks and fireworks, while from Governors island and Liberty island there will also burst up a million volcanic of pyrotechnics. In the meantime the great electric star will flare out on Brooklyn bridge "Welcome Dewey" and a hundred dazzling searchlights will sweep the waters of the Hudson, the East river and the upper bay, all crowded with the ruddy glow of "red fire."

What the Olympia feels will think of this outburst it is impossible to say, for, warm as that may anticipate their welcome home will be, they can hardly be expecting to be greeted by 10,000 worth of fireworks in one night.

But Thursday evening's remembrance will be merely an overture to the two days' celebrating which is to follow the first arrival of the Olympia. Friday, the 29th, is to be the great day of the reception, and early on the morning of that day the Olympia will lift anchor and steam slowly up the Narrows to join Admiral Sampson's North Atlantic squadron, which will arrive from Tompkinsville. As the Olympia passes up the bay the heavy guns of Fort Hamilton and Fort Wadsworth will fire a salute, and no one can imagine the shouts of the people when the flagship of the world's first admiral passes down the two miles line of the assuring squadron. The crescents and tops of the harbor will pile in the general rendezvous, and when the Olympia has run the gauntlet of Sampson's ships she will anchor at the head of the line and then the official and formal welcoming of Dewey will take place. This will be performed by Jose Admiral Sampson, who will go aboard the Olympia and carry to the returning admiral the good wishes of the navy and the government.

After these formalities have been performed the great naval parade will take place. In this parade the Olympia, with the entire North Atlantic squadron in escort, will steam slowly up from Tompkinsville to the North river, where the whole fleet will proceed as far up the water front as Grant's tomb. The successful portions of so many vast fighting machines and their numerous evolutions as they file up the Hudson will make a very beautiful sight. It has been decided that it will be just before reaching Grant's tomb that the Olympia will fire the customary salute, after which she will come to anchor to the sound of booming guns and the blare of brass bands.

At this time the only sight the thousands of watching people will get of the hero of Manila Bay will be a very distant one, as the admiral is not to land before Saturday morning, the day of the great land parade. When this admiral parade takes place, Dewey and his men will begin to realize just what Uncle Sam thinks of his salute home. The sights that will meet the eyes of these sailor boys will be wonderful indeed. It has been estimated that no less than $500,000 has been expended in different ways on the Dewey welcome. The Washington centennial inauguration celebration of the last decade has hitherto been regarded as the one plus affair of all such things in the homeopaper. At this centennial there was expended to round somewhere $1,000,000. The inaugurations which have just been taking place in New York city, however, have quite overshadowed those of the Washington celebration, and every decorative establishment in Manhattan has been working overtime to rise to fill orders.

The extraordinary feature of the Dewey reception is that the decoration of civic buildings, private houses, hotels, shops, and even churches, will be on a plan more elaborate than ever before. It has been customary on such occasions to decorate only those houses and buildings which happen to be on the direct line of the parade, but this time no such limitation will be observed. New York will have on a gala dress worthy of the hero of the battle of Manila Bay. The one special feature of the gala dress will be the Dewey arch, which is now nearing completion on Madison square, just where Fifth avenue, Broadway and Twenty-fourth street intersect. This arch is said to resemble somewhat the famous Titus arch at Rome. It will be, however, a more triumphal affair than the Roman prototype, for no "lacquered marble" has been used in its construction. The triumphal arch is made of white stone and is lavishly ornamented with figures of appropriate design.

These figures represent the anniversary of the United States as a nation. The arch is ornamented by four groups, bold in design and poetic in conception. One group represents Patriotism, or the call to arms. The second group represents War, or the fight with the foreign foe. The third group stands for the future, which, of course, means the homecoming of the victorious fighter, while the fourth and last group will represent the boon of Peace, the returned volunteers again taking up the peaceful occupations of their home life. Extending on either side of the arch there is a double line of ornamental columns, constituting a fit approach to the one central piece. The different groups on the central arch are treated in an allegorical way, but here is the foregrained portrait realistic groups. There will appear such portrait figures as Farragut, Decatur, Paul Jones, Perry, Porter, Hull, Carlisle, Porter and MacDonald. Besides these there will be medallions of other naval heroes who could not be included in such heroic groupings, each figure being 12 feet in height. Here then can those of the great officers private of New York have been at work some time, but work for some time, and while the material cost is reckoned at $50,000, 50 actual days is many times that number spent. On it the four materials over the main archway will be lighted up with figures illustrating the Atlantic and the Pacific on the northward and the South and the East every on the other. The expense of such an arrangement is, of course, the important consideration of New York or the discovery of the best world. In addition to that the arch itself will be represented by fine oil forms drawing a wing-spread ship containing a figure of Victory. On the whole, the arch is one of the most beautiful structures of its kind ever put up in America, many of our best artists and sculptors having greatly volunteered their services to their country.

Besides this one great arch there have been smaller affairs of a like kind erected in tributaries and clubs, to say nothing of the two huge columns which have been put up in Brooklyn, and which may be seen from all parts of the harbor.

It has been estimated that 20,000,000 yards of bunting will be in use to celebrate Dewey's return. Orders for the decoration of residences and other buildings have been given, with a cordiality that is unprecedented. The big insurance companies and the clubs and houses of Manhattan have expended large sums for decorations, one of the first mentioned having increased over $10,000 for the sole day embellishment of their buildings from roof to basement with bunting, flags and the national colors. The great demand for bunting and fancy red and blue has caused the price of these materials to go up considerably, and it is reported that even the present prices of their own. Brooklyn bridge will be the center of attraction, and it is said that the electrical display which will flare up along its many stringers on the night of Sept. 28 will be visible in all directions for one or miles. Before the admiral and his men reach Sandy Hook they will be able to read through the darkness the glaring "Welcome Dewey"

ADMIRAL DEWEY IN FULL DRESS UNIFORM.

The Dewey Triumphal Arch to Outglory the Famous Titus Arch of Rome.

tioned six floats of fireworks. New York's old city hall will be washed down with enough electric light bulbs to illuminate the whole dark continent, and strings of many colored electric lamps will be festooned from every tower and tree about the park in front of the hall. The same designs will be carried out in conjunction with the Brooklyn municipal building decorations, while two long processions of fire floats will parade both the North and East rivers, as if Gothamites do not go about for several weeks suffering from snow ophthalmia it will not be the fault of the Dewey reception committee.

The different railway companies operating ferries about the harbor have entered enthusiastically into the plan, and every scow, barge, tug and car ferry afloat will soon take a floating garden of Jericho lights. Private yachts and excursion boats will be the same, and, under a rain of rockets and Roman candles, the entire lower part of New York, the Battery and the inner bay will look like a fairyland indeed. There will also be floats laden with hundreds of young voices singing patriotic airs.

Just what plans many of the private concerns and different individuals intend to carry out are not yet known, as these are kept secret until the 28 and 29 days, when the springing them on an astonished public. It is known, however, that every electrician in Greater New York is at present working overtime and that enough electricity will be expended during the three nights of the celebration to light every child in the United States to bed for the next two years.

Just how many thousand, or rather, million, people will congregate in Manhattan and line the banks and shores along the Hudson and the bay to witness the return of Dewey it is impossible to say. Military delegates are coming all the way from Texas and Florida, and throughout the west Dewey reception clubs have been formed. Admiral and special commissioners have been in New York for some time trying to arrange for space and accommodation for the great crowds that will come and are expected. Trains are announced from all parts of the country. It has been found that New York can accommodate as many as 1,000,000 guests at a pinch, and it is felt that many more than this number will be here to hail welcome Dewey. Just where they will all be stowed away is a difficult question to answer, but there will certainly have to be a great deal of coaxing up in the city for a few nights. New York hotels are the largest and the best in the world, but on this occasion they have been taxed to their utmost, and already it is no easy thing to secure a room or bed. The result has been that the hotel manager has been forced to call in his assistants the long absent and much indulged landlady and boarding house keeper. Lodging houses and apartment lofts will be in communication with different hotels, and so these the overflow crowds will be sent for accommodation. In this way all the visitors to New York will find accommodation of a more or less suitable kind. On the whole, it will be one of the most representatively American crowds which ever came together in one city. Every member of that great army of enthusiasts will come intent on just one thing, and that one thing is to help to welcome Dewey. He will be willing to put up with a lot of crowding and jostling and general rattling, for he knows that he is going to see sights the like of which he will probably never see again in all his life. It is not every day an American admiral can find a Manila to blow up, so the people of this republic are going to make the most of it.

While these celebrations are taking place all good Americans will remember that even while we are burning powder to welcome home a long absent hero there is still many a hundred hero in the far east. The thought of these brave men who are still fighting for their flag and country will not, however, cast a cloud over the festivities of the Olympia's return, for even though Uncle Sam still has troubles on his hands those troubles are of such a nature that their reward and their compensation will come in the form of another harvest of heroes. With Dewey we celebrate first, for Dewey was first at Manila.

But what about the hero of all this, the modest little admiral himself? How will the hero who receives the most enthusiastic and genuine welcome ever extended by the American people wear his exceptional honors?

Every one who knows anything of Dewey knows how to answer this question. The victor of Manila Bay will wear the same sized hat on the evening of the 30th of September as he wore on that hot spring midnight when he and his fleet steamed quietly up under the guns of Corregidor and hammered the perils of the uncharted Spaniard. Proclaimed a hero by the world, acted by Europe and resolved by his own people, the quiet little man who made his way so well may always be relied upon to do the right thing in the right place. So from Maine to Mexico the American people stand up and, with their hands on their hearts, say and say again, "Here's to you, Admiral Dewey!"

ARTHUR TITCOMB.

New York.

A STRANGE MEETING.

At two tables in a New York restaurant recently sat two parties of well dressed men. One set was talking of the conditions of certain stocks and the other stations telegraphy. The conversation finally drifted to military telegraphy, and he illustrated how very it is to silently convey information between two persons having knowledge of the Morse code, one of the party took a knife and a pencil and began to if sending a message.

"Site track special at South Dead switch. Boon stock train for Chicago has right of way."

The man who sent the message then signed "C. L."

"You see," he went on explaining to the party, "no one knows what I said, but if they understood the Morse code, a conversation could be carried on without any trouble whatever."

"Were you ever an operator?"

"Yes," smilingly replied the other, "I held a track at South Dead for the Illinois Central in 1891. My call at that time was 'K. P.,' and the man in Chicago who had me every night signed himself 'C. L.'"

"In that same operator," said the member of the first party, and, after a little more conversation, it became known that both men had lost their positions over the same dispatch. There had been a question as to whether one sent the message wrong or the other received it wrong. That was just eight years ago. Today one of the men is a banker reported to be worth $10,000, and the other is a well known theatrical manager.

SHE WANTED TO KNOW.

It is perhaps unnecessary to state that the following story comes from Scotland. An old lady from Mull, who evidently was not addicted to giving away her pennies, even to deaf and dumb beggars when they asked for them, had speculated in a penny in the vend gas machine, as her friends had told her it was cheaper than the ordinary way.

At first she was very much enamored of the workings of the thing, but after several gasopyrettes a peculiar expression dawned upon her face, like that of one who, having ventured head and shoulders into a trap, finds that return is impossible.

"Ah!" she said at length to her good man. "It's a nice wee bit tay, but, hoots, man! I'm sayin it's easy enough to stick your pennies in, but how are ye to get them out again?"

THE CZAR'S RING.

The czar of Russia is said to be very superstitious and to have great confidence in relics. He wears a ring to which he believes is imbedded a piece of the true cross. It was originally one of the treasures of the Vatican and was presented to the czar for the use of the czar for diplomatic reasons. The ring which the czar sets upon the ring with its imbedded relic is shown by the following fact: Some years ago the czar was traveling from St. Petersburg to Moscow. He suddenly discovered that he had forgotten the ring. The train was stopped immediately and a special messenger sent flying back on an express engine for it. Nor would the czar allow the train to move until several hours afterward, when the messenger returned with the ring.

Just Stray Facts.

Mr. Alexander H. Sherman, mayor of Chicago in 1894, is still sore and in perfect health. He is the last surviving chief of the old volunteer fire department, and was a member of the first "hook and ladder" formed in Chicago.

James J. Hill, the oldest son of President James J. Hill of the Great Northern railroad company, has been elected third vice president of the road. Louis W. Hill, another son, is second vice president of the Eastern railway of Minnesota. The title of general manager is not attached to that of the new office of third vice president, although J. N. Hill will perform most of the functions of a general manager.

Yokohama reports are seldom seen in French papers and the shorthand writer gives a very magnificent part in Parisian journalism.

A volume of Filipinos valued at $1,000 is to be presented to Admiral Dewey. This book contains between its solid silver covers a wealth of printed matter, from profound editorials on the national to humorous poetry regarding him, and from the comments of the president and cabinet down to the jokes of street urchins.

George Tyndall, who has been chosen to the presidency of the Washington Traction and Electric Street Railway company (the position declined by General Wood), was himself a soldier. He volunteered as a private in the Twelfth New York regiment at the first call for troops in 1861 and rose to the rank of major.

In Syria a skilled laborer is paid from 18 cents to 31 a day. With the exception of a few silk factories, operated by French merchants, there are no large enterprises whatever. In winter the Syrian workingman has nothing to do, he does on credit until spring comes, when he can find work. Near the end of March the daily wage is about 18 cent, but it reaches 25 cents during the "rush" in the latter part of April. The work of house construction is very hard, owing to the entire absence of machinery.

Lord de Grey, eldest son of Lord Ripon, is said to be the best shot in Great Britain.

The new director of the St. Petersburg library is Lieutenant General Bobikoff. Thirteen years ago he published a life of General Todleben, and he is now at work on a monster biography of Emperor Alexander I, of which four volumes are completed and 18 more are to follow.