

those who live within the boundaries of the sultan's dominions but over all who profess Islam.

To realize what this signifies, it must be remembered that there are about four hundred million Mohammedans in the world. In a moment of enthusiasm millions of these would rally round the green flag of the prophet. They would give their property, to the last cent, for the benefit of the cause. True enough, without modern arms and proper drill these millions would be only a mob, but equipped with arms and under the guidance of European officers, as in the war with Greece, how long would it take to transform them into an army capable of offering formidable resistance?

If the powers of Europe ever intend settling the eastern question permanently, they should not delay the matter too long. Later it may become more difficult than it appears to be now.

DECIDEDLY SORROWFUL.

That incident at Denver in which a United States volunteer refused to be buried in his uniform, has a touch of the pathetic in it. His name was Hicks, and while undergoing exposure in Cuba contracted typhoid fever, of which he died at the residence of his uncle in that city. When men offer their lives to their country, the incidental risks of contagion, famine and all manner of discomforts are understood to be included as inevitable incidentals of a soldier's career. It is hardly ever, if at all, the case that one of them complains when made a victim of either of these so long as the government in whose behalf he runs all the risks is not particeps criminis. When this is not the case, when gross neglect follows needless exposure and the man's life, instead of being an offering on the altar of his country, becomes a thing of no consequence, just a cypher not to be counted, is it any wonder that he feels resentful?

They say that republics are ungrateful. This has some foundation in the case of the earlier republics no doubt, and has received some sort of justification in such cases as that spoken of. They are by no means common, are in fact, in comparison with the country's war record as a whole, very rare indeed and as such might be overlooked as the result of uncontrollable circumstances. When, however, much indifference and gross incompetency in high places bring about the catastrophes, deplorable enough even when insurmountable, what feeling more natural than one of disappointment followed by resentment? The poor fellow who passed away in Denver was not willing that his mouldering remains should be enveloped in the signet of a nation's and a soldier's honor when by cold and cruel inaction those who hold that nation's affairs in their keeping had let him ignominiously perish, as they had so many of his comrades. The country that does not look well after its defenders and by every means within its power make the inevitable rigors as light as possible, is in a state of decadence and needs some great convulsion to break it away from the course it is pursuing toward dissolution.

SERVANTS OF SATAN.

A carnival of iniquity if not crime recently occurred adjacent to the city of New York on a steamer which had been chartered for the occasion. The boat was splendidly fitted up, somewhat after the manner of that of Tiberius 1800 years ago, and which now lies at the

bottom of Lake Nemi, near Rome; that is, it was equipped for an unrestrained, wholesale debauch. The name of the projector of the New York affair is not given, nor is any other for that matter; but it seems that he has abundant wealth, little training and no morals at all—probably a successful politician who always "votes her straight" and dismisses all the "gang" from recognition who fail to do likewise. He is known among the "set," a large part of which accompanied him on the debauch, as Tiberius II. Very appropriate.

The party was made up of 1,000 men, or those who pass for such and who paid \$5 each for the privilege, and 800 women. The World in a long article gives the following account of the personnel of the outrageous business:

"The floating French ball had one significant and, to the participants, tremendous advantage over the genuine thing at Madison Square Garden. There was no policeman on the boat! That there would be fights among the reckless and vicious people was a certainty, but every one there was supposed to be able to take care of himself and herself. The main thing was not to have anything or any one on board which might act as a check to the full swing of unbridled license. Tiberius II in this carried out his promise: 'Youse can go the limit.'

"Now for the people on board. The men of all stripes, the gambler and the merchant; the stock broker and the pugilist; the jockey and the actor; the thief and the church-goer; the ex-convict and the man of eminent reputation, who came to gratify curiosity merely; vicious youth and sporty old age; well-dressed, prosperous manhood, fresh-faced, healthy-looking youth, men with the bloat and lines of long dissipation—all were there. The women, all but a dozen or two, were of one class."

That class can readily be imagined. Drunkenness, indecent conduct of all kinds and general depravity held high carnival until nearly daylight, when the boat returned, bearing a lot of stupefied, limp, bespotted libels on humanity who were dispersed variously. This is what is held in places to be enjoyment!

AS TO THE PHILIPPINES.

Aguinaldo's plans and purposes, as interpreted by his representative now in this country, appear reasonable enough from an American point of view. Felipe Angoncillo states that he has been sent here in order to seek to obtain for the Philippines official representation on the peace commission, or, if this is not practicable, to secure for them a hearing before the terms of peace are finally decided upon. The reason for the request is said to be a fear that the Spanish peace commissioners may misrepresent the people of the islands and thus unduly influence the proceedings. The request is natural and may be taken as a proof of rather more intelligence than the leader of the Philippine insurgents has been credited with. As the deliberations of the peace commissioners concern the future of the Filipinos, it is to be hoped that a hearing can be secured for their representatives, even if they cannot be given a place on the commission.

Much has been said about the objection of Aguinaldo to American rule in the islands, but as Angoncillo states the case, no strong argument can be advanced against his position. He says, if it were the purpose of the United States to secure the Philippines for the purpose of colonization with a view of crowding out the native population, any measure looking toward the consummation of such a purpose would be resented, while there would be no op-

position to American control of the revenues coupled with responsibility for good order and a stable government. It should not be so difficult to arrive at a satisfactory understanding on this basis.

It is clear that the Philippine problem cannot be disposed of thoughtlessly. By the splendid victories won by the navy and army, this counting incurred responsibilities that must be shouldered. To this nation was given the mission to break the spell of darkness that for centuries has bound ten million human beings and to give to them the blessings of civilization as planted upon this hemisphere in the land choice above all others. Whether this can best be accomplished by giving to the Philippines an autonomous government under the protection of the Stars and Stripes, or by annexation pure and simple—which also means self-government—is for the statesmen of the country to decide after a thoughtful consideration of all the contingencies likely to arise, but the main issue must be met. This country must dispose of the fruits of the victory in a manner consistent with the lofty declarations of principles of humanity in accordance with which the war with Spain was commenced and pursued to the end.

ANTI-RELIGIONISTS.

Along with other unfairness and lack of consideration for others in the political strifes of our time, stands prominently the disposition to make religion or religious convictions a mark of disapproval. To judge from the utterances of some of the journals and speakers of the day, church and state should not only be kept separate, but religious principles, however honestly maintained, should be held in subjection if not put to one side during the period in which the individual may be engaged in promoting the interests of a partisan cause. The question as to which feature—justice or absurdity—predominates in such conclusion it is not necessary to discuss at this point, but certainly both are very prominent factors in the composition.

There is in every country and every considerable part of every country an element which repudiates Holy Writ and denies the existence of a common parent. They not only have the privilege to do this secured unto them by our governmental system, but the additional right to proceed further and, defending their own ground, assail that of others. To such people nothing not with and of them is sacred. Proclaiming themselves liberals they show by their actions and words that they are the most libelous and intolerant of all the earth's people. They would if they could override the laws requiring a decent observance of the Sabbath day and make all times and places common as relates to religious practices.

This, it will be understood, presents the extreme phase of the case; it has its modifications in what, for the want of a better term, we shall call bigotry, all however springing from the same common source. Bigotry is, as otherwise stated, a modified form of infidelity. The mind has been opened only to such information as accords with the bent and inclination of the individual. Where there is no spiritual characteristic at all, there is general unbelief; where there is something spiritual but not enough to bring the person up to the point at which he is enabled to look with leniency upon those who differ, he is, to the extent of that deficiency, a bigot. He may, in such a state of affairs, be honest as relates to his dealings with his fellow men, but is rankly dishonest when it comes to allowing them any of their rights outside of the business relation. The mere fact that another person actually be-