

blackened amid the ashes of smoldering fires she can no longer offer resistance or expect conditions.

There is a hope of better things, but it is easy to see that patience is being strained beyond reasonable limits. It is much easier and will result more profitably to both sides for Spain to accept the inevitable now, to let the day of wrath be this day, not some one in the future. The sooner it is all over the sooner will rehabilitation and the healing of wounds begin. No doubt all this is realized at Madrid, and the danger of tampering with the case must also be apparent, in some measure; yet the Latin weakness of expostulating over dead and gone hopes and appealing persistently for terms which of necessity are definitely denied, continues.

It is intimated from Washington that the Spanish reply is by no means satisfactory. It is too argumentative and evasive and engages too much in circumlocution. Also is it given out apparently ex cathedra that in the event of the reply being rejected Spain will at once receive an ultimatum giving her forty-eight hours in which to return a no or a yes without qualification or condition. This would assuredly lend expedition and lucidity to the matter. It would be the Alexandrian plan of untying the Gordian knot, and the wisdom as well as the justice of resorting to it at such a time as this could scarcely be questioned in any quarter.

Spain has had the benefit of wise counsels from some of her European neighbors, and her adjoining one France has done as much for her as could be done and the attitude of neutrality be not seriously infringed upon. The French ambassador at Washington, M. Cambon, has been unremitting, unselfish and impartial in his efforts to effect a satisfactory understanding and bring hostilities to a close, and doubtless he would receive with the keenest disappointment if not chagrin a failure as the outcome of all his efforts. Unquestionably the terms met with his approval before they were transmitted to Spain, for he acted with unlimited plenary power for his client and would have assented to nothing dishonorable or unfair in endeavoring to reach a settlement; so that, as we can all see, Spain's refusal to abide by his work would be a reflection upon him which a sensitive man would receive with very poor grace. All this would do the Spanish government no good and this, too, at a time when goodly offices and kindly feelings should be welcomed with open arms.

One thing or another this country wants to know and will know without further delay—whether it is to be war or peace. We are prepared for either and will accept either so long as it involves no unreasonable sacrifices and no dishonorable concessions. As to these, a majority of the people are quite well satisfied that the case on our side is in competent and patriotic hands.

AGUINALDO.

Aguinaldo, the leader of the Philippine insurgents, according to all accounts, has a remarkable career. At an early age he was given to some Spanish priests at Luzon to be educated. They received him willingly in the hope that some day he would yield a powerful influence among the natives in the interest of Spain. So he was sent to school, first at Manila and then at Madrid. The intention of his benefactors was to make him a priest, but his own inclinations went in an

opposite direction and he joined the army and became a subaltern in one of the regiments at Luzon.

What he witnessed of oppression and inhumanity on the part of the Spaniards who ruled his people led him to organize a revolt in 1896. He was then only 24 years old. The rebellion broke out one morning when Aguinaldo's regiment killed the Spanish officers in command, after which he and his followers hid in the swamps. Soon he had about 5,000 men gathered about him and with these he inaugurated a reign of terror. Spaniards were mercilessly killed. Civil officers who had delighted in inflicting torture on the natives, and priests who had blessed the murderers were treated alike.

At last a premium was offered for the head of Aguinaldo. Governor Augusti was willing to pay \$20,000 for it. The governor, so the story goes, received the following reply from the rebel leader himself: "I need the sum you offer very much and will deliver the head myself."

Augusti ten days later met Aguinaldo and paid him \$20,000, but did not receive the head.

It was a stormy night—a typhoon raging. Augusti sat in his palace engaged on a report of the condition of the island. A priest passed the sentinels at the entrance to the palace and undisturbed entered Augusti's room. He stopped just back of that official's chair with the words: "Peace be with you, my son."

When Augusti, surprised, had turned his head the priest's mantle was dropped, and there stood Aguinaldo, in his hand a 20-inch bolo, the terrible knife of the Malay.

"I have brought the head of Aguinaldo," said the rebel, thumbing the edge of his blade, "and I claim the reward. Hasten, or else I shall have to expedite matters."

Augusti had no alternative. He opened his desk and took from it \$20,000 in gold, which he gave to Aguinaldo. The latter in turn handed him a receipt, counted the money, walked backwards to the door and bolted.

A man capable of such an exploit is not to be despised, though he may be a Malay. Of his personal character we are told that he is of taciturn, undemonstrative disposition, not given to outward manifestations of joy or sorrow, extremely courteous to all men, kind to women, children and animals. He is slow and deliberate of speech, never elated or depressed, impassive, and, save in times such as these, indolent. Processes of thought were and are slow with him. He is not trustful of the white races, and the reason for this is that Russia, England, Germany and Spain, have given the natives of Asia little cause to believe in a Christian God or a Christian's word. He is aware that of modern civilized nations the United States is the one, alone, which has never broken faith with the Asiatic nations nor plundered for conquest's sake.

The compact entered into between Admiral Dewey and Aguinaldo before the latter set out for Manila from Hongkong is said to have comprised several features, among which are the independence of the Philippines; the formation of a republic under the government of the insurgents; the intervention in case of an emergency, of American and European commissioners to be appointed by Admiral Dewey; the opening of Philippine ports to the world and the restriction of Chinese emigration; liberty of the press and religious freedom, and the building of roads and railroads.

A note is said to have been addressed to the European powers by the insurgents setting forth these and a few other points of agreement between Admiral

Dewey and Aguinaldo. The latter believes in an independent Philippine republic under the protectorate of the United States and that seems to be the program to be carried out by the commissioners that eventually will meet and discuss the future of that troublesome Spanish possession.

TROUBLE AT MANILA.

It appears from a roundabout dispatch which is rather a stale one for these times (being nine days old) that there has been some severe fighting at Manila between the American and Spanish forces. As has been reported, the natives sulked in their tents and took no part at all. It appears that a superior force of Spanish attacked the American position at Malate, a suburb of Manila, and made two desperate charges, both of which were repulsed with losses to the enemy of over 200 killed and 300 wounded. The injuries were not all on that side, however, the Americans having suffered to the extent of nine killed and forty-four wounded. As that was so long ago and the disposition to fight is so clearly manifest, it is quite likely there has been and will be more of it. There were several regiments or parts of regiments in the engagement on our side, among them being Captain Young's battery, A, which left here in May last. It contained several Salt Lake boys and there will be some anxious relatives here and elsewhere, and not without cause, until the details come to hand and it is definitely known who the killed and wounded are.

It is not to be supposed for a moment that the Utah contingent or any other, having gone into the service with the expectation of fighting if necessary would do otherwise than show themselves as willing on the field as they have been elsewhere. Still, the thought that they did their duty bravely and well will be an indifferent solace to the mothers whose anxiety shall prove to have been well founded. Were the boys not so far from home, if they were where they could be reached even by communication within a reasonable time, it would not be so bad. Perhaps, with the ratification of the treaty of peace, or even the suspension of hostilities, the cable service might be restored; but if such information had been transmitted on Saturday last it might take all the rest of this week for delivery at its destination. Meantime, the fighting doubtless goes on, and awful work it may prove to be.

No matter how things may go at Manila, the insurgents are not likely to be satisfied. If the city surrenders they will have to be placated in some way which may not be satisfactory to either of the other parties; if it does not surrender, our forces may have to fight both Spaniards and insurgents, not jointly, perhaps, but separately, which is the worst way of all.

The astonishment of Spain at the summary destruction of the fleets of Montijo and Cervera is even surpassed by astonishment at the way Americans turn prisoners of war loose. The Spanish cabinet evidently has been so amazed at this government's offer to release all the men of Cervera's fleet that it has been unable to make suitable responses.

Lynchers have complained long about the ineffective enforcement of the law in certain cases. Those people in the South seem to have good foundation for complaint, else the lynching parties there would be compelled to give administrators of the law an opportunity of enforcing it once in a while in a certain class of crimes.