

felt? What would be the position of France and Germany in a contest between Russia and England for supremacy in a sphere of influence comprising Constantinople? With problems of this kind to solve, Europe undoubtedly will gladly leave to the United States and Spain to settle their little difficulty without undue interference.

UTAH BOYS FOR THE PHILIPPINES

By this time the two Utah batteries of light artillery under Captain Young may have left San Francisco for their long voyage across the Pacific to the Philippine Islands, on board the steamship China. This is the second expedition to the islands. It consists of four transport vessels and they will be joined at Honolulu by a convoy to protect them on the passage from that port to Manila. It is not believed the little fleet will need an armed convoy, yet it has been thought best to take this precaution and not unnecessarily endanger the lives of so many men. The volunteers and regulars, on embarking, were given an enthusiastic send-off by the people of San Francisco. May their voyage be safe and fame await them at their destination!

SPAIN CONQUERED.

According to Madrid advices the Spanish government has virtually thrown up its hands, figuratively speaking. Sagasta has declared publicly that Spaniards should bear bad news with manly calm. The government, he says, since the unexpected disaster to the fleet at Cavite, has received only three telegrams. The first said that after the destruction of Admiral Montojo's fleet there were sufficient forces to defend the territory and that the natives were to be relied upon. The second dispatch said that the American warships had brought the insurgent chief Aguinaldo to the Philippines, but that he had not been successful in inciting a revolt of the natives. The third message was the communication from Captain General Augusti saying that the situation was desperate and expressing his inability to hold out against the combined opposition of the Americans and insurgents much longer.

This means that the policy of misrepresentation at first so much in evidence has been found wanting and that the members of the cabinet are prepared for the worst.

Rumors also have it that the queen regent has submitted to the pope the question of her abdication in order to allay the popular discontent. It is understood that the support which Sagasta received from all parties in the state is not likely to be continued. There is no possibility of a reorganization of the ministry on broader lines. The conservatives have become restive, although they have no leader, who could take the place of the present premier with any chance of success. At the same time there is an agitation of a national government, which naturally suggests a military dictatorship. The conviction is therefore growing that Spain is about to acknowledge that her existence as a colonial power is at an end. The task imposed upon the United States by the events of the war, to bring order in the chaotic conditions should be much simplified by the retreat of Spain without further serious resistance.

European interference is no longer among the probabilities. In the case

of Japan and China and Turkey and Greece there were considerations which do not exist in the present war. Spain knocked off her feet, torn by internal dissensions, can hope for no sympathy among her stronger neighbors. To them it can make but little difference whether the colonies belong to her or not. Their commercial interests are paramount and as long as no obstacle is placed in their road interfering with their efforts at obtaining larger markets for their products, the change of government does not affect them. The United States will be given free hands to extend the benefits of civilization to the new territories, and when the task is done, Europe will applaud and the various powers will compete for the friendship of the country that gave birth to a Dewey and a Hobson.

HOSTILE SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED

With the exception of Brazil, public opinion in South America is said to be hostile to the United States. The subjoined extract from El Pregonero reflects to some extent the sentiment in Venezuela:

"The advantages which the United States have in view in seeking to establish themselves, unaided by any other power, on Cuban territory, can be readily perceived. The waters of the Gulf and the Caribbean sea will thenceforth be to them as inland lakes; European commerce, naturally so advantageous to Central and South America, will not be long in feeling the consequences of an international rupture which politically will sever the bond of union between Europe and America; the Monroe doctrine will be applied to us in the sense of its widest and most modern interpretation, and will operate against the work of Europeanization initiated since 1825 by our own energy, and with the development of which our future is inextricably bound. The naval policy, commenced twenty years ago by the government of Washington, unequivocal signs of which are the doctrines of the mare clausum maintained in the seal fisheries question, the exterritoriality of American merchant ships in our ports, and the piratical intention to seize the Chilean ship Itata wherever she would be found, whether on the open sea or on our coast, will be felt in its utmost rigor in the whole of Latin America, and especially in those republics where coast line is extended in the sea of the Antilles. Let others welcome this dark prospect as an aura of liberty for Cuban brethren; let them prepare in this contest of races to applaud if they will, though not from political motives, the discomfiture, if not the humiliation, of our race. For ourselves, without in the least degree minimizing our ancient adhesion to the cause of self-government in Cuba and Puerto Rico, provided that it be achieved by and through their efforts only who have a right to effect it, immediately as the question is removed from this platform and converted into a war of foreign cupidity, we do not hesitate to declare that all our opinions, convictions, and good wishes are on the side of Spain. That heroic people yet grasps the sword of Sagunta and of Numancia, that same sword which in the first quarter of the present century they regained liberty for Europe and secured for themselves a proper sentiment of respect. Though disrupted and weakened by a long series of political mistakes and errors, with that sword they may yet renew their former valorous achievements, for they are possessed of that moral fiber which has always made them so strong."

A high compliment is paid to Uncle Sam's boys in blue by the expert military commissioner sent by the London

Times as one of its war correspondents. He says in a communication to his paper:

"The firing discipline during the three times we have been under fire has been excellent, the obedience of soldiers to their officers has been as prompt and intelligent as anything I have seen in Europe, and as to coolness under fire and accuracy of aim what I have seen is most satisfactory."

"In my intimate intercourse with officers and men aboard this ship I cannot recall an instance of an officer addressing a private otherwise than is usual when a gentleman issues an order. I have never heard an officer or non-commissioned officer curse a man. During the engagement off Cabanas the orders were issued as quietly as at any other time, the men went away about their work as steadily as blue jackets on a man-of-war."

According to the New York Herald two-thirds of all the letters which pass through the postoffices of the world are written by and sent to people who speak English. There are substantially 500,000,000 persons speaking colloquially one or the other of the ten or twelve chief modern languages, and of these about 25 per cent, or 125,000,000 persons, speak English. 100,000,000 speak Russian, 75,000,000 German, 55,000,000 French, 45,000,000 Spanish, 35,000,000 Italian and 12,000,000 Portuguese, and the balance Hungarian, Dutch, Polish, Flemish, Bohemian, Gaelic, Roumanian, Swedish, Finnish, Danish and Norwegian. Thus, while only one-quarter of those who employ the facilities of the postal departments of civilized governments speak, as their native tongue, English, two-thirds of those who correspond do so in the English language.

Philosophers have written on the probable effect of the boycott instituted by American women on French dress-makers and milliners. Mme. Faure, the wife of the French president, laughs at the idea. She says she admires American women, and that many of them are well educated, witty and refined, but that fondness for dress is their weakness, and they will continue to patronize Paris, regardless of any boycott.

The friends of Captain Sigsbee, the unfortunate commander of the Maine, are not satisfied with the treatment he has received since the disaster in the harbor of Havana. It is claimed that he is one of the best officers in the navy and that his appointment as captain of the St. Paul really is a slight. It is believed that steps are to be taken at once to advance Captain Sigsbee to some more important branch of the naval service.

The latest figures on the wheat crop estimate a probable yield of 775,000,000 bushels, or 245,000,000 bushels more than last year's yield—and over 150,000,000 bushels above the largest crop ever before grown in the United States. These figures may be too high, but it is believed the indications are that the year will be a record breaker as to the wheat crop.

Tuesday, June 14th, it has been pointed out, should be celebrated as "Flag day" in the United States. If the proposition has not met with general approval, the reason probably is this that every day is "flag day" in this country at the present time.

The opening of Saltair for the season has taken place under favorable auspices. That popular health resort should be well patronized by the people. Summer is here in earnest and everybody is longing for the refreshing breezes from the lake.