

tending to pretty much everything within the domain of labor. The showing, on the face of it, is not gratifying to those who depend upon others' capital and their own craft to make a living; but how is it to be averted? Can the wheels and spindles and cogs be stopped, and all forms of improved mechanism be set aside in favor of the old conditions? Can man's inventive faculty be checked and his right hand forget its cunning? Can the great daily papers of the present time throw their machines away and substitute hand-power? In any and all these respects the reforms which are demanded would suddenly appear, but for how long? Labor, skilled and unskilled, would be in such active demand for a time it could not begin to cope with the situation and the immediate result would be a great advance in compensation. But slowly and surely the ebb tide would come. The businesses would have to curtail their proportions to keep pace with the inability of hand labor to maintain it at what it was, and the falling off in business would be attended inversely by a steady increase in the expenses of operating. The newspaper, for instance, all set by hand, would employ four times as many workers to maintain the quantity of its reading matter without corresponding profit; and going back to the old-fashioned press would be the means of reducing its editions to such small proportions as would make it clearly out of the question to long continue the volume of matter. With the paper's diminution the force would also have to be diminished; there would then be fewer printers, fewer machinists, fewer clerks, fewer editors. The community itself, whose impulses are kept alive mainly by the papers, would become sluggish and indifferent, their patronage would gradually fall off and the shrinkage would continue until the deprivation of employment caused by improved methods would be a very small consideration indeed by comparison. It would be a condition of things so much worse than what we have or have had that they cannot be properly placed together even in writing.

Communities eventually grow up to progressive ideas and methods and are made better thereby. At first, innovations cause some little derangement and even deprivation; but if beneficial as a whole we become adjusted to them finally and are so much ahead by reason of having been thus carried along.

INFORMATION WANTED.

By request of Mr. J. H. Prentiss, secretary of the Alumni association of the University of Michigan, the subjoined self-explanatory letter is published here:

Ann Arbor, Oct. 19, 1898.

The University of Michigan Alumni association desires to collect all the data possible concerning the participation of its graduates and students, past and present, in the late war with Spain. The university has been prominently identified with the war. Secretary Day is a Michigan graduate of 1870, and associated with him at present on the board of peace commissioners at Paris is Senator Cushman K. Davis, another U. of M. Alumnus. Three university professors enlisted, two as surgeons, one as engineer in the navy. Several U. of M. men gave up their lives in the war, one of them at the side of Col. Roosevelt as the rough riders went up the hill at San Juan.

The university is very desirous that the records be as nearly complete as possible, even down to the most minute scrap of information. To this end any person who can furnish the slightest intelligence upon the subject is respectfully urged to forward it to the proper

authorities. Names of men who enlisted, their regiments and stations, class in the university, experiences they may have had in the course of the war, names of women students who volunteered as nurses, and other similar notes would all form suitable items. It is hoped that Michigan graduates and the public generally will respond promptly to this request, and that nothing may be omitted for fear that it shall be regarded as unimportant by the university. Address all communications on the subject to James H. Prentiss, alumni secretary, Ann Arbor, Mich.

THE PHILIPPINES TO BE KEPT.

It is stated on apparently good authority that the American peace commission will on Friday definitely demand the cession of the entire Philippine group to the United States. This has the rare merits of definiteness and coming straight to the point. It is a demand which can only be properly answered by an affirmative or a negative, and it is to be hoped our representatives will not permit the matter to be side-tracked or delayed, which tactics are at present the Spanish stock in trade. The fact that the islands are to be demanded, means simply that they will be taken, with Spain's consent if possible, but taken in any event, and it is useless to mince matters or dally with the situation any further. It has been understood in a general way that there could be no other legitimate outcome to that branch of the controversy, and that all delays in reaching it were simply so much "sparring for wind," or because of a desire to secure something in the way of a concession before reaching the foregone conclusion. Something of the kind seems to have materialized in the Spanish demand that this country assume the Cuban debt, reinforced with the foolish intimation that Spain will resume hostilities if no concessions are made. It looks very much as if the dons were fooling themselves with the idea that because the Americans have agreed to arbitrate at all, we are thereby irresolute and not sure of our ground, under which circumstances all they have to do is to be firm, put on a bold front, and get at least a part of what they ask for.

It would be as well for the Spanish nation to understand at once, since it affects not to have understood it yet, that the Americans are not timid or irresolute but only merciful and generous. Spain was not only whipped but crushed. Had the victor been any other nation on earth, there had been no peace commission and no vexatious controversies. The terms of settlement would not have been reached in the form of a protocol but as a demand which would have been enforced with but little delay. And our demands are the very essence of mildness and forbearance compared with what England, France, Germany or Russia would have exacted. It is now fondly hoped and believed that our commissioners realize that temporizing with the Spaniards means an interminable squabble and that the only way to secure a settlement is to put their feet down hard and firm and make the other people come to terms.

Guam has been selected as the island of the Ladrones group to pass into the possession of the United States, and as this was agreed to in the protocol perhaps a long-winded discussion of that subject may thus be obliterated. The island is already in possession with our emblem floating over it and has been so since the Charleston landed there, so the transition in the matter of ownership should be a very tenuous formality. It is now the Cuban debt and the Philippines that constitute the

groundwork of controversy, and Spain is trying very hard to play one against the other and by such means secure something not nominated in the bond.

With the almost certainty now before us that the Philippines are to become and remain territory of the United States, we might as well commence shaping our plans and purposes accordingly. First and foremost of the questions to be dealt with is the settlement necessary to be made with the natives, or at least the better part of them, those nearest the centers of civilization. The inhabitants of the interior are chiefly naked savages, to whom the change of ownership in the islands will be an unrealized quantity for a long time to come; but to these and to all the best of treatment consistent with good order, maintenance of justice and advancement of civilization must be extended with a firm but kindly hand. Undoubtedly there will be friction, collisions probably, with more or less of unrest and sporadic revolts; but with a sufficient force on land and water and the disarmament of so many of the natives as can be reached, such troubles should not be very serious or prolonged. Eventually things will be smoothed out and proceed thereafter without jarring.

Undoubtedly the annexing of the Philippines means the retention of the forces already there, greatly to the disappointment of many of them who hoped they might be able to return in a few months at the most. Perhaps there may be exchanges by means of which those who would prefer to be released can be accommodated, but not before everything is stable and beyond the domain of uncertainty for the future. The boys must realize that soldiers have soldiers' duties to perform until they are honorably released and so possess their souls in peace until the day of deliverance arrives.

PROTESTANTISM ARRAIGNED.

Rev. Dr. B. F. de Costa, a Protestant Episcopal clergyman in New York, has created some stir in religious circles by publicly declaring that Protestantism is gradually losing ground in its battle for religion, morals and theology. The gentleman is stating substantially what leading men of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have said for years. From his lips the arraignment of Protestantism cannot very well be attributed to bigotry. He says in part:

"The immorality of the present day is something awful, and what are we doing to check it? The Roman Catholics are doing much more. The more intensely Protestant a people the less religion is brought to bear with united efficiency against vice. There is no class of women in the world, I believe, so pure as the Catholic Irish in Ireland, as the Blue Books of Parliament, quoted by Mr. Stead, prove; and in highly Protestant strict Scotland, the monthly reports of vice, published in the papers almost without a sense of shame, are something awful. What I said in my sermon, and what I repeat, is that Protestantism is fighting a losing battle, not only in religion and theology, but in morals.

"The Protestant church has not the machinery for dealing with the vices of the world in these times. Not one clergyman in one thousand dares preach a sermon on the seventh commandment. The confessional and the refusal of the sacrament in the Roman church are the efficient means for controlling vice which we have not.

"Instead of putting our shoulder to the wheel and fighting against the awful spread of social vice and drunkenness and Sabbath-breaking, we are