

sooner began to belch forth fire and steel than the white emblem of surrender was discernible from the masthead of the enemy's headquarters. The details are very meagre, but as far as they go they lead to the conclusion that the city was immediately occupied and that American rule in the Philippines has begun.

While all this was going on the captain-general escaped; he who at various times announced that he would "resist to the death," would "die in the last ditch" and with other grandiloquent terms conveyed the idea that he amounted to a huge phial of concentrated wrath that only needed to be uncorked and its contents poured out to scatter ruin and death on every hand, at the last minute did not care to face the "Yankee pligs." The men whose great achievements under his very eyes have made them famous throughout the world were "nobodies," and their vic-tories were "accidents;" anyhow, they were too much one way or another to suit him, "and so he fled." Brave man! Valiant officer! What a delightful contrast he presented to such Spaniards as Cervera and Toral, who could afford to be prisoners of war but could not afford to run!

The escape of Augusti, however undesirable the thought may be, brings into mental relief once more the fine hand of the German contingent in Philippine waters. A German craft, so conveniently at hand as to establish beyond cavil an understanding beforehand, received the fallen "hero" and carried him in safety to Hongkong. As the war was still going on, so far as related to the contending forces at Manila at that time—the peace agreement not having been made known to them—the act is to be judged the same as though peace had not been concluded. This makes the commander of the German vessel guilty of a gross breach of friendliness if nothing more serious, one we take it that his government will have to make it right.

The casualties if any are unknown; it is not probable there were any of a serious character, and it was better that the city be taken in the way it was than any other. Things seem to be settling pretty fast now, and with the dying out of the last reverberation from the cannon's mouth will come the greater and grander work of restoration, cultivation and general advancement.

Later dispatches are such as to justify a modification of some of the conclusions above set out, but not in any material way.

WHY NOT SPEAK THE TRUTH?

The Florida Philosopher of Aug. 4th has received a letter from one John D. Nutting of Salt Lake City, a clergyman of the Congregational church. The reverend gentleman very modestly says:

"I do know that I understand Mormonism thoroughly, in both theory and practice; and that the system (mind the word) is as thoroughly foreign to the only religion which has any claim on the regard of this sin-cursed world as probably any other man-made or Satan-made system ever known. There are some good and many sincere people in it, of course, and I treat them with all consideration; but the system is utterly beyond any such feeling by an informed and philosophical person. Roman Catholicism is angelic compared with it."

Many who read this will refuse to believe it, for the simple reason that they have been studying Mormonism the greater part of their lives, and that with prayerful hearts and an honest desire to know the truth and the Foun-

tain of truth, and yet they find that like the birds that fly over the ocean, they have only been able to touch here and there while the great expanse is around on all sides. They have found that truth is without limits and that it takes an eternity to comprehend it. What must they not think of a poor little clergyman who after some superficial investigation boldly tells the world that he has the immeasurable ocean of truth—for Mormonism and truth are synonymous—in his quart bottle of mental capacity? It is preposterous or ridiculous. Of what value is his estimation of that religious system, or any other? A six-year old child is no authority on astronomy; nor is Mr. Nutting on Mormonism.

But his letter to the Philosopher has a particular object in view. The author states that polygamy is now being taught and practiced with renewed vigor in Utah. From what can be gathered from various sources this seems to be part of a conspiracy against the young State. There seems to be a concerted effort to create an adverse sentiment abroad regarding the people of these valleys, and the promoters of that plan evidently rely on the peculiar fact that a falsehood often told finally assumes the appearance of a truth. Hence they repeat the statement that polygamy is still practiced in Utah, in the hope that they will find believers among a certain class of people. Everybody here knows that Rev. Nutting's statement in the Philosopher is not founded on fact; why he made it and why others make it is, we think, not difficult to understand.

We can only hope that the time will be coming when opponents of Mormonism will find it to the advantage of their cause to carry on their warfare in the spirit of truth and honesty. Is it too much to expect that of gentlemen who profess to be the heralds of the Gospel to a benighted world?

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

The French press apprehends trouble between Russia and Great Britain about China. Briefly stated the situation is this:

Some time ago Russia obtained a concession from the Chinese government to build a branch railroad to connect the trans-Siberian line with the ports on the Liaotung peninsula "leased" by Russia. China, too, is building roads with the assistance of British capital. One of these is to run from Tien Tsin, the port of Peking, southward to Chingiang, near the mouth of the Yangtse river, and will connect the Gulf of Pechell with the valley of the Yangtsekiang. An extension of this line from Tien Tsin northward to Newchwang, at the head of the Liaotung gulf, will connect the British sphere of influence in the Yangtsekiang valley with the Russian great system of railways in northern Asia, and it is concerning this extension that the difficulty between Great Britain and Russia has arisen.

The southwestern half of the extension, from Tien Tsin to Shanhaikwan is under construction. A concession for the section from Shanhaikwan to Newchwang has been given to the British Hongkong and Shanghai bank. Russia objects, claiming the right to control this connection was part of the concession for the Manchurian railway. If the British concession is persisted in, Russia threatens to seize Chinese territory. The British government insists on the concession and promises to support China with all its power in case of encroachment by any foreign power as a consequence of it.

A short time ago it appeared as if the Chinese were willing to listen to

English promises in preference to Russia's threats, but lately there was a decided turn in the Tsung Li Yamen in favor of Russia, and now Great Britain demands the dismissal of Li Hung Chang from power, on the ground that he is responsible for the changed policy.

It would seem that this should bring matters to a crisis. If Great Britain must strike for her prestige in the far East, now is the time to do so. When the trans-Siberian line is completed, Russia will be in a position to dictate terms to her competitors for Chinese territory.

To the United States the struggle in eastern Asia is not without interest. Not only has the friendly attitude of Great Britain during the war with Spain placed the United States under obligations, which cannot be ignored, but the American trade interests involved are extensive. It is no secret that the great commercial powers are struggling for "spheres of influence" to secure markets for their own manufactures to the exclusion of all others. To our country the English method of keeping the "doors open" is the most advantageous and it is not impossible that in our own interest some day we will have to stand up for Great Britain. Developments in the East will be watched with great interest.

PEACE AND PROSPERITY.

The close of the war and the assurance of peace should mark the beginning of an era of prosperity for the United States. All the conditions are believed to be favorable. There is every prospect of an abundant crop. Exports of agriculture and manufacture reached an unprecedented figure during the last twelve months. The railroads are doing exceptionally well and bank clearings are growing in volume. Besides, it seems as if the eternal rhythm that is manifested everywhere in the universe rules business conditions too. Periodically prosperity and depression occur with the regularity of the ocean tides, and we are just far enough from the last low tide to be justified in the expectation of better conditions.

For several years war rumors have been a disturbing influence. The war spirit should now be quelled for a long while, and business confidence be restored as far as this country is concerned. That would mean more investments, a free circulation of money and consequent prosperous conditions.

FIGHTER AS WELL AS LAWYER.

The New York Herald is not known for friendly disposition towards Utah or her citizens. The following complimentary notice of Captain Richard W. Young on account of his part in the battle at Malate is therefore all the more valuable. It appeared in the Herald of August 11:

"One of the interesting figures in the recent battle of Malate was Captain Richard W. Young, commander of the Utah Light Artillery, which drew forth the commendation of General Greene for its work in repelling the Spanish attack. Captain Young is a grandson of Brigham Young, the late Mormon Prophet. He is well known in New York, as he was stationed on Governor's Island as judge advocate of the Department of the East, while General Hancock was in command, and prosecuted several important cases.

"Captain Young was graduated into the artillery from the West Point Military Academy. He resigned from the army to practice law in Salt Lake City, having been graduated from the Co-