

ing stations in every sea—this is a necessity. Steam has taken the place of sail, and coal is now, in war as in commerce, a necessity, and so America must prepare for the future and guard every highway of American commerce, or we will have no commerce to guard. It is a fact, that not one sailing war vessel is now in the course of construction either in America or England. There is not one war vessel afloat which could steam from here to Manila and back without coaling."

In other words, as it was more sentimentally expressed by the speaker in another place, "the American flag has been raised in the four corners of the earth never to be taken down," and our arrangements must correspond with the new departure. In this connection, it is significant that not a few Democrats also favor the expansion policy and a majority of our members of the peace commission are believed to incline that way. The President seems to be more or less passive regarding the matter as relates to the Philippines and will doubtless be satisfied with whatever the commission may accomplish; but there seems little doubt that the great majority of the American people stand by the doctrine enunciated by Mr. Estee, if indeed they do not go further. Certainly a number that is not small demand the annexation of the entire Philippine archipelago. Anyway, we may rest assured that the Spanish flag will never again wave over Luzon.

#### LET US BE JUST.

So little has been heard of Admiral Montijo lately that some people have measurably forgotten about him. It will be remembered that a dispatch appeared some time ago in these columns saying that there was a disposition on the part of the Spanish authorities to court martial him for cowardice at the battle of Manila bay, where his whole fleet of eleven vessels was sent to the bottom. At that time the "News" took occasion to say a word for him and show by the record that not only did Montijo not act timorously or backwardly in that terrific engagement, but exactly the reverse. The admiral has recently made a report of the engagement, which has been received and published by the navy department. He is held in the highest esteem by Admiral Dewey, and the latter is the last person who would bestow unmeasured friendship upon a poltroon or even one who was deficient in courage.

Speaking of the report, that exceedingly up-to-date and war illustrating paper, Collier's Weekly, says Montijo's language is concise, plain-spoken, undeclamatory. Behind it whose reads may see the picture of a brave foe, the figure of a gallant old sailor fighting coolly, determinedly, never despairfully; firing his guns until there are no gunners left to fire them; passing when his ship is shot from under him to another; answering the hail of shell with the few cannon that remain undismounted still, encouraging his personnel; directing rescues; resisting to the last, resisting while his little squadron goes to the bottom about him, and, at the end, when wounded himself, retreating indeed, yet as a lion retreats, his face to the foe. Cervera himself could not have done better and, with entire deference to that hero, might not have done as well. The Weekly concludes that "It is men like these and courage like theirs, the royal grit of them, their efforts to do or die, the fashion in which they front death and

defeat, that should enable us to discover in Spain some of the luster of the glamor she has lost."

The Spanish soldiers and their commanders have had misfortunes enough in the war without burdening them with false suspicions or even withholding merited praise. It is all the more honor and glory to our own forces that they overcame a foe so daring and desperate. Montijo, Cervera, Toral and many others fought as brilliantly and as bravely as any men in like positions ever fought, and although defeated, the victors in either case will bear witness that each Spaniard went down fighting.

#### AFTER THE "NEWS" AGAIN.

The "News" has no information for a paper or an individual that calls for it in the name of Delty, to mention whom in such connection seems to be almost blasphemy. The "News" construction of honesty and manhood might possibly be information to some people, because it is identical with that of Noah Webster, LL. D., and this paper displays much more of those desirable qualities in its every number than is possible with one who continually perverts sentences and distorts conclusions.

Whenever the Democratic party or the Republican party is the object of attack or criticism in these columns, the work will be done in such a way that no one need for a moment misunderstand or be in doubt. Remarks intended for general application may have some reference in an incidental way to almost any organization; it would be a difficult matter indeed to escape them all. If we say, for instance, "there are untruthful men in politics," it all becomes a political paper to froth at the mouth (metaphorically speaking) and tear a passion into tatters because its party is neither specifically accused nor excluded. Such a thing is too suggestive of what the late Charles Sumner said of one of his fellow senators who, a Republican like himself, had voted "not guilty" in the impeachment trial of Andrew Johnson and had made a brief speech defending himself—"whoever excuses, accuses."

The "News" has no quarrel with any political party and does not intend to have any.

This article is not an apology; it is a statement of facts which has been made before in substance, and which it was supposed would not have to be made again. But some people are so obtuse, or so perverse!—it doesn't matter much which in a practical sense.

#### A DREARY DAY.

The snow king began his reign rather earlier than usual this year—October 1—although it has snowed in this part of Utah as early as the 10th of September. It should be remembered that our altitude is somewhat above the average and we are closely hemmed in by lofty mountain ranges, from the peaks of some of which the snow has never disappeared to this generation at least, and perhaps never will be entirely effaced, at least so long as earthly conditions remain as at present. Under such circumstances a variance of a month or even more from the normal now and then need occasion no surprise.

Speculations as to the conditions likely to prevail during the coming winter are now in order. Some of those who claim to have "signs" prefigure

a moderate temperature as winters go, with an abundance of snow. This is welcome information. If information it be, amounting as it certainly would to an augury of another bountiful harvest next year. But basing such conclusions upon what we are having now would be a rather idle proceeding. This kind of thing at this season is never long-winded; it is only a blizzard which, according to precedents, will soon wear itself out, with the chance of fine weather following and continuing for a month or more. Still it is pretty uncomfortable today without a fire indoors or an overcoat outside, and we may fairly regard this as a sort of "curtain-raiser" for the principal performance which follows hard upon and is likely to have a run reaching up and even into the time when the roses bloom again.

#### COLONIES AND OFFICES.

Another argument advanced against the falsely so-called "Imperialistic" policy of the United States is that the extension of an American protectorate to the Spanish colonies would necessitate a number of new offices in this country. This is regarded as serious on account of the expense involved.

It is probably true that the new foreign policy of this country would involve the addition of another secretary to the President's cabinet, corresponding to the minister of colonies of some other countries. The new cabinet officer would also have to establish several bureaus dealing with the finances and other questions arising out of colonial affairs. Possibly it would also be necessary to create a separate military service for duty in the various dependencies, and there would thus be room for many office-seekers. But it cannot be admitted that this country is justified, for any such reasons, in shirking the moral responsibilities incurred by the remarkable victories over Spain. It cannot be urged truthfully that this country is too poor to undertake a magnificent mission of humanity involving millions of human beings.

The fact is that the natural resources of Porto Rico, Cuba and the Philippine Islands are such that with American methods it would take but a short time before they would yield enough to render the possible acquisitions self-sustaining and profitable. Spain's trouble with her colonies has not originated in their poverty, but in the methods by which they have been kept in poverty and slavery. The experience of Great Britain and Holland prove what a rational mode of government can do for the benighted races of the earth, and American methods should not prove less successful. Let the Spanish colonies be liberated from mediaeval misrule and they will, before long, pay all the officers needed for the regulation of their affairs and the insurance of a stable government.

#### THE PIONEER ROAD.

If the county commissioners would look after the old road by which the Pioneers came into this valley and take the measures necessary to preserve it from vandalism, their action in this regard would undoubtedly meet with general approval. The attention of the "News" has been called to the fact that at a certain place this road has been obstructed by persons who claim it is private property, and that the general public is denied the use of it. Recently, so the story goes, a man came on horseback over the road. He was in a hurry, having re-