

people are not paralyzed, the final settlement of the account with the United States will bring about an internal revolution and an adjustment of the government. Thoughtful Spaniards expect this and are preparing for a new era in the history of the country.

#### THE MILES-ALGER CONTROVERSY.

For some time past it has been charged in certain quarters that political influences obtained in the war department and had more or less potency in shaping the course of the campaign as a whole. This is shown to have militated greatly against General Miles, who, as the head of the army, was held responsible by the people for everything that took place in a military way, while he was held in restraint by the civil authorities. This would be a bad state of affairs if true, and as it is made to appear that General Miles himself stands by the statement, it must be received with some credence if not entire belief.

Recently Mr. J. D. Whelpley, a correspondent of the Kansas City Star, published in that paper statements in line with the foregoing. He had had an interview with the general and published as coming from him some severe strictures of the department. The genuineness of the interview was first questioned and then denied altogether. The correspondent has just returned from Porto Rico and the position in which the denials place him causes him to get on his war paint. He now reaffirms what he said before and claims that General Miles will stand by the record as it is now made up. That paper also publishes a lot of telegrams between the department and Generals Miles and Shafter, these being intended as confirmatory exhibits in the controversy.

This is all very regrettable, the more so in that the war was successfully conducted on the whole and satisfactorily closed. The worst of it is that the controversy does not promise to diminish with the advance of time, at least not in any immediate period, and if it gets to be much more intense than it is there is no telling what the upshot may be.

#### OUR CAMPAIGN.

Referring to a cotemporary of this city, the State Journal of Ogden observes that the former "worries itself or is worried" because of the "News" occasionally discussing politics. Says the Journal:

"We have noticed that the 'News,' in its discussion of political and other matters of public interest, is always fair and dignified, and its bias is at all times in favor of right and justice. There is no moral reason why the Church organ should repress its honest political views, than that the leading men of the Mormon or any other church should speak out boldly, whenever the spirit moves them, in favor of the men and principles of the political party to which they profess allegiance. That, of course, would disgruntle the machine politicians, but no others."

Our Ogden neighbor shows a kindly feeling and a correct one in the foregoing; but the "Deseret News" is not in any sense a political newspaper, that is, it supports none of the political parties as such, realizing, however, that there is merit as well as some little demerit in all. If a man or woman who is a candidate for public office should receive favorable mention in these columns—as is frequently the case—it is not because he or she represents one or another of the different political organizations, but because of

the belief on our part that such mention is deserved without reference to such person's affiliations. The same is true of any measure which this paper may speak of approvingly or even advocate; the support is given because the measure is, according to our judgment, a good one, as an independent proposition, no matter as to its surroundings or backing. That is all there is of the matter, and no one can truthfully say that the rule stated has been or will be departed from in these columns.

Because of this straightforward course—which some few seem utterly unable to understand because it is straightforward, perhaps—there be those who take upon themselves the trouble to arrange and put forth meanings for us. It is a perfectly gratuitous, not to say impertinent, performance, one that may give satisfaction to the warped, biased and contracted mind that conceives it, but not to intelligent, fair-minded people. It might as well be understood once for all that this paper is fully capable of conveying its meaning in every case and invariably does so; those who see fit to distort its conclusions may be artists in that particular line, but their example is a good one to let severely alone.

To what lengths, breadths, and depths of moral turpitude will not the blind, stolid, indiscriminate advocacy of partisanship lead the one who so engages himself! It gets to be so that he can see no merit in anything that his party does not put forth nor uprightness in any man or woman that is not of his particular class; also is he blind and deaf to his party's shortcomings. He eats party, drinks party, sleeps party and talks party, until he becomes wearisome and even contemptible. How different this state of things from that which characterizes the independent, clear-brained, patriotic citizen! It is not that a person may not be zealous in the advocacy of his political preferences or unwilling to assist his party or partisans along in a contest for supremacy, not at all; these things are looked for and if conducted in a proper way are not censurable. It is only when unbridled zeal runs away with the judgment and personal fairness that politics becomes objectionable, sometimes outrageously so.

There is now at hand what promises to be a heated and prolonged campaign. As a purveyor of news this paper will not ignore the conflict nor any of the principal events growing out of it. On the contrary, it will mention people, features and results without restriction other than such as preserves reasonable moderation and as nearly as possible absolute fairness. No one will be praised or censured because of his party membership, and no issue before the people condemned or applauded because of its origin and support. In this line of action the "News" will have the self-consciousness of being right, of not only advancing what it conceives to be the proper policy but of wilfully injuring no one who prefers to take some other route; and neither sneers, misrepresentations nor falsehood will cause it to swerve one way or the other. Vituperation, coarseness, partiality and vindictiveness will be omitted from this paper's campaign; would that it could be from that of every other publication!

#### KEEP THEM APART.

One of the tendencies of the times in certain places that deserves to be frowned down is that of making or seeking to make party capital out of the war. It is doubtless the case that the principal military and naval officers of the United States have political inclinations and preferences, and certain that nearly all the rank and

file have; but very few, however, if any at all, permit politics to interfere in the slightest degree with the full performance of duty. Orders from the proper source are obeyed and the political or other bias of that source is not taken into consideration for a moment. It is said that Admiral Dewey has Democratic leanings; if so, he is an American first and a party man afterwards if at all. He did not pound Montijo's fleet to pieces as a partisan, but as an officer of the United States, loyal to his country and obedient to the orders of his Republican superiors. Perhaps there is a "soul with heart so dead" here and there as not to appreciate so decidedly proper a state of affairs, but they are either very few and distantly divided or their discordant singing is very low indeed.

A Chicago cotemporary—the Record—takes the proper view of this subject. It points out that the war was not a Republican war nor a Democratic war. It was an American war, and as such it received the united support of the American people. The effort to make such a war an issue in politics is regarded as likely to redound to the disadvantage of the party that tries to degrade patriotism into partisanship. The war is over. It was supported by all parties and by citizens regardless of party while it lasted. Now that it is a thing of the past the people will not relish having it made a cause of dissension and party bickering.

It is conceded that a successful war inures more or less to the welfare of the party in power, whatever it may happen to be; but it is also shown that if the Republicans try to make party capital out of it they will not succeed. On the other hand, if the Democrats pursue a nagging policy and show that their chief concern regarding the war was the fear that it might be beneficial to their opponents, their fears are likely to be realized. The Record concludes as follows:

"Now that the war is over the candidates should return to the discussion of questions that should naturally constitute the issues of the campaign had there been no war. The party that is quickest to do this, and to turn entirely away from the war as a matter having anything to do with politics, will strengthen itself in popular favor. The people doubtless will be glad to honor with their votes any individual war heroes who may chance to be candidates, like Roosevelt in New York and Wheeler in Alabama, but they do not care to have the war spirit played upon by stay-at-home politicians for their own personal and partisan benefit."

These words have the right ring. Those who are glad the war is over chiefly because it allows the different parties to have an unrestricted sweep in the coming campaign, are sadly destitute of the primal principle which enters into the composition of all truly national citizens. Let Paul plant and Apollos water; let politics have its sphere and be kept out of every other.

It appears to be true, as a Washington correspondent of the Springfield Republican says, that so much money is piling up in the treasury through the war revenue act and war bond sales as to present a serious financial problem. "Still Secretary Gage affects great uncertainty of mind as to the need of further bond issues," is that paper's conclusion.

Queen Victoria receives and reads every day a letter from each of her children and children-in-law. If her bent was that way, she ought to make a good correspondence editor for a daily paper.