

Proceedings as these in a warlike nation such as France is are never carried on for the sake of making a show or producing a sensation, but in contemplation of real business and because of a determination not to be taken unawares. It would take very much less to precipitate that nation into war now than at any time since the capitulation of Paris to the German conqueror, because her army is smarting under scandalous revelations growing out of the Dreyfus affair and nothing less than a great campaign can be relied on to straighten things out satisfactorily.

France is a mighty power, especially in a military sense. Her standing army is many times larger than that of Great Britain, and her faculty of immediate increase of forces, organization and dispatch is not excelled by that of any nation in the world. Her navy is a little more than half as great as that of her powerful neighbor and about twice as large as that of the United States. France could carry on a desperate war with any other power, and seems to be in the right frame of mind to put her capacity to the test. A most severe test it would be if the British were selected as the enemy. In the interest of humanity it is hoped that no such conflict will take place, but the probability of it rather increases than otherwise just at present.

A CLEVER PUBLICATION.

One of the novelties developed aboardship took place on the cruiser Baltimore, one of Admiral Dewey's fleet at Manila. It was a pamphlet published by two of the crew, J. A. Wiener and H. A. Humphrey. Several of the pamphlets containing an account of the great fight of May 1 have been received in the United States, but more recently a revised edition of the publication, containing a full statement of Dewey's operations up to date, has been issued. The language is remarkable for its clearness, perspicuity, freedom from slang or boasting, and shows great descriptive aptitude. A little dash of coloring, or as the critics would say "fine writing" appears here and there, but as there is no apparent straining at effect this is permissible. A selection, being part of the account of the proceedings of that memorable day, is here given:

"It was a grand picture thus unrolled before us on that memorable morning! The sun was just gliding the distant mountain tops, giving a golden lining to the brilliant eastern sky as the two combatants drew nearer and nearer to each other, belching fire and smoke, until the latter, growing so dense that it shut out the view, hung like a death pall over it all. But we had no time to grow sentimental; other things of a more pressing nature demanded our attention just then. When within suitable range our fleet commenced a series of evolutions, carrying them out with the greatest precision and obtaining the most splendid results. Steaming in column back and forth before Cavite and the enemy's line, we delivered broadside after broadside with terrible effect."

An excellent account is given of the arrival of the Charleston with 2,600 troops under convoy. In this the descriptions are at times quite vivid and animated. The cry of "smoke ahead" raised a genuine sensation of a more or less unpleasant character, heightened somewhat when the forms of four ships loomed upon the horizon. The Baltimore was then alone, and what if the vessels should prove to be

Spanish cruisers? No matter, the American craft bore down on the visitors and all hands were soon gratified in the manner suggested. The meeting was a most enthusiastic one, the account being so well put together that the reader can himself almost feel the thrill that passed through each of the men as the greetings and salutes and the demonstrations of joy were made.

The pamphlet ought to be more widely circulated. It is by all odds the most graphic and interesting account of the matchless Yankee achievements in the Philippines yet published.

UTAH DAY.

Utah day was one of the red-letter occasions of the great Transmississippi Exposition. The weather was fine, the attendance large and the interest considerable. It was noteworthy among other things because of being the first occasion of the kind at which the First Presidency of the Church were present; not only were they all there but all spoke to an attentive, appreciative and extensive audience. The Governor of the State was also in attendance, and these, with the other Utah visitors, made up a showing for "our day" that caused it to be an occasion long to be remembered. All in all, it was a most enjoyable affair in what has proved to be a most successful enterprise. It is now drawing to a finish and the gates will soon close no more to open; but the memories of its splendors and beauties will abide with the visitors in all their coming days.

THE PEACE COMMISSION.

The slowness of the peace commissioners in getting together and the unusual deliberation which has characterized their proceedings ought to have a quieting effect on the minds of the people generally, especially our people, even though somewhat impatient. It should be held in remembrance that grave and ponderous questions are being dealt with and must be adjusted and a hasty conclusion regarding any part or parcel of the settlement might be the means of subsequent controversy. It is better that enough time be taken to make the job thorough while they are at it, even if the task should run some distance into the coming winter. At the same time, the Spanish members are unquestionably practicing their national weakness of dalliance and procrastination to a greater extent than is actually necessary. This will, as a matter of courtesy, have to be, as it has been, put up with to some extent, but if the privilege shall much more be as it seems to have been presumed upon, it will be in order for the Americans to put their feet down and demand definite results at once.

It has been so long since the protocol was agreed to that many readers have perhaps forgotten it. For their benefit it is here reproduced:

1. That Spain will relinquish all claims of sovereignty over and title to Cuba.
2. That Porto Rico and the other Spanish Islands in the West Indies, and an island in the Ladrões, to be selected by the United States, shall be ceded to the United States.
3. That the United States will occupy and hold the city, bay and harbor of Manila pending the conclusion of a treaty of peace which shall determine

the control, disposition and government of the Philippines.

4. That Cuba, Porto Rico and the other Spanish Islands in the West Indies shall be immediately evacuated, and that commissioners to be appointed within ten days shall within thirty days from the signing of the protocol meet at Havana and San Juan respectively to arrange and execute the details of the evacuation.

5. That the United States and Spain will each appoint not more than five commissioners to negotiate and conclude a treaty of peace. The commissioners are to meet at Paris not later than Oct. 1.

This is an exact copy of the synopsis as it was given out by Secretary Day on the 12th of last August. It scarcely seems as though there was anything requiring so much delay. Everything but the last item is absolute and was virtually concluded upon when the protocol was signed. It would appear, therefore, as if all or nearly all of the commission's work related to article 5 regarding the Philippines. The commissioners got together again today after a three days' recess, which was taken at the request of the Spaniards, and it is to be hoped that all hands will now settle down to business and let the waiting world know what is to be the definite settlement of the Spanish-American controversy.

THE FILIPINOS.

A correspondent of Harper's Weekly, writing from Manila, gives his observations regarding the traits of character of the Filipinos. He says in part:

"After the first glamor which surrounded our troops, a glamor due to an exaggerated and almost childish idea of the liberty and freedom we were bringing to the Philippines, the rare differences have made themselves felt, which antagonize the native and exasperate our men. The Filipino is the true child of the East. His moral fiber is as flimsy as the web of the pineapple gauze of which the women make their dresses. He will cheat, steal and lie beyond the orthodox limit of the Anglo-Saxon. His unreliability and the persistency with which he disobeys orders are irritating beyond description; besides this, his small stature and color invite abuse. There can be no doubt that our soldiers are spoiling for a fight. They hate and despise the native for the manner he has lied to and cheated them, and on the whole they are inclined to treat the Filipino the way a burly policeman treats a ragged street urchin. The native is like a child, unreasonable and easily affected by small things. Unable to appreciate the benefit of good government he fiercely resents the rough manner in which the soldier jostles him out of the way."

The description here given of the natives of the islands is used as an argument against the American protection. In common with all Orientals, the Filipinos no doubt resemble big children. Despotism has that effect upon nations. They, no doubt, have the faults of neglected children, but at the same time they probably have many of the good traits of children, too. Many Orientals, though given to deception, hypocrisy, and display a submission by no means sincere, feel their need of guidance and support, and they will take kindly to a master who is kind to them, and serve him with the faithfulness of a dog. This is a redeeming feature of their character. It makes a good foundation for education in the direction of self-government.

If it is true, that the American soldiers in Manila hate and despise the natives, those sol-