

THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

REMEMBER THE LORD'S DAY.

The time is at hand when the people seek recreation and amusement at various resorts, by the lake, in the canyons, or in the parks. This in itself is commendable. It is necessary to breathe the fresh air for which this region is celebrated and to enjoy social intercourse, to rest once in a while mind and body. It is well to remember, however, at this time that the Sabbath day is the Lord's day, and that those who are the Lord's people cannot consistently give that day up to social pleasure any more than they can to unnecessary manual or mental labor. That day is specially designated for devotion and spiritual improvement. In the degree in which it is devoted to secular pursuits the people so using it must lose that spiritual vigor that should characterize the people of God.

The plea of many who seek secular pleasure on that day is that they have no other time to give to excursions than Sunday. They are in the employ of others and the time is not theirs. We believe employers would do well to consider a matter of this kind. They would certainly lose nothing if it were practicable for them to arrange it so that their laborers could have a day of recreation in the summer season without having to neglect the duties they owe their God. There should be no excuse for anybody to neglect to worship the Almighty in the public assemblies on the Lord's day.

THE ANTIPODAL WAR.

The somewhat monotonous reports of the trend of West Indian military operations since the great engagement of Monday at Santiago de Cuba, was mitigated somewhat today by receipt of advices regarding another bombardment on a large scale at Calmanera on the day following (Tuesday). This town is about thirty miles east of Santiago and is similarly situated except that the bay is much larger. The forts, as in the other case, command the approaches to the bay and these, also as before, were silenced and practically ruined, so that in the absence of obstructions and explosions, there is or was nothing left for the American fleet to do but to enter in and take possession. It is further reported that the Spanish intended to destroy the town rather than let it fall into the hands of the Americans, and that the entire population, civil and military, had evacuated.

From this it would seem that the Americans now have about as many landing places as they are likely to need for awhile and the naval forces can turn their attention to other matters requiring attention. Twenty-seven thousand more troops are on the way to the island, and getting ashore with full equipments would seem to be no longer a matter of uncertainty.

From the other side of the globe comes the statement that Manila has surrendered to the rebels or will do so at an early day, anticipating which the Spanish soldiers had decided to surrender to the Americans, probably regarding this as the lesser of two evils, one or the other inevitable. It is a long distance for news to travel, and in the present confused state of affairs everything that is transmitted should be held in reserve until confirmed. Of course the capitulation of the city is

only a matter of a short time; whenever a movement in force is or was made against it, it must fall. But as to when and how this will take place, if it has not taken place already, is a matter in which Admiral Dewey will have a word or two to say. Whenever he says it and tells us of it, we may then consider that the particular thing has been done. Perhaps, however, the rebels have not waited for a concert of action and have pushed over the defense and into the city and taken full possession, in which case Dewey would undoubtedly have a job on his hands that might necessitate his waiting for the arrival of the Charleston at least. It is not at all likely that the Americans, after destroying the Spanish fleet and thus making all things else easy, will consent to rebels or any other people reaping the fruits of our achievements, and the right man is on duty there to see that it is not done.

The capture of Manila by either Americans or insurgents or both would doubtless inspire the Spanish government with one more hope—that there being so many foreign powers whose subjects have great interests there, some one or more will intervene at the eleventh hour. It is rather late in the day and Spain is too far gone to look for assistance because of any such flimsy pretext. It is not at all likely that private individuals or private interests will be disturbed except unavoidably, and this is not a cause of war. Spain would act wisely to give up while yet it may retain something.

A NATION WITH A MISSION.

Three-quarters of a century ago James Monroe, President of the United States, formulated into a distinct declaration, ever since called the Monroe doctrine, a proposition which was the logical outgrowth of the American revolution and had been believed in by American statesmen as far as it had ever been discussed or considered by them, ever since the recognition of American independence. It has been insisted in this country that, ever since the formulation of the doctrine by President Monroe, it has been a part of the law of nations, and the press and statesmen of America have maintained this theory with great earnestness.

Briefly defined, the Monroe doctrine holds that no nation of the old world has any right to acquire any new territory or any additional political rights or power, on the American continent. Logically elaborated, the doctrine signifies that the new world must be held to be dedicated to a larger measure of human liberty than the powers of the old world are willing to permit in their dominions, and that it is the duty and the mission of the United States to stand as the new world's guardian in this respect, guaranteeing to the people of all the countries in it secure and permanent possession of such blessings of liberty as they may succeed in winning by their own efforts.

It has long been held that the Monroe doctrine had a logical counterpart, which forbade the United States to interfere in the affairs of the old world, and that this country could not consistently acquire extra-continental territory or political power without first rescinding the rule laid down by President Monroe. This view has generally prevailed in the councils of our nation, and, coupled with the injunction of Washington forbidding entangling alli-

ances, has had the effect of law in controlling our foreign policy. A notable illustration of the strict observance of this rule was the conservative course this government pursued in relation to the Armenian massacres.

A year or two ago the overwhelming sentiment in all the states in the Union would have been in favor of continuing in our traditional foreign policy; but recent events have forced the American people to consider the question whether the time has not arrived for a modification of it, and whether this country may not, with perfect consistency, act as the guardian of human rights in the new world, and also acquire possessions and exert influence in any part of the old. The conservative element among the American people is still numerous and strong, but it is a question if the advocates of a new policy do not preponderate.

The view that the American Union is a great power with a great mission among all the nations of the earth, is gaining ground very rapidly at home, and to some extent abroad, particularly in Great Britain and her colonies; and it really begins to look as though the logic of events may outweigh the philosophy of doctrinaires, and throw this nation into the world's arena under conditions that will compel it to champion against all comers, the principles of human liberty upon which it is founded.

HOW THE DUTCH RULE.

The report made by Consul Robert P. Skinner at Marseilles to the state department regarding the methods of government employed by the Dutch in Java has some interest to the general public at this time. The island, so far from having been the scene of internal disturbances during Dutch rule has been a source of revenue to the governing country and has made steady progress in every direction. It has yielded an annual profit of \$14,000,000 after paying all expenses. This is all the more noteworthy because the conditions of Java are very similar to those of the Philippine islands. The soil and products are practically alike, and the population presents the same characteristics.

The chief feature of Dutch rule in Java seems to be this, that native rulers are employed throughout. Native sultans and chiefs are kept in their positions as long as they are loyal to the home government. To the natives they appear to have full power, while in reality they are but servants to the home authorities. If they go beyond their instructions they are summarily dealt with. Reforms are introduced gradually.

According to the report, the Dutch in Java move very slowly, and when something has been accomplished, it has come about in such a way that nobody knew how it happened. They pay the native priests, support a large native police force, and rule by the hands and mouths of the natives; but all the time they have their own people on guard, and no important move is made without their consent. Thus the people and their chiefs are contented and happy, and they keep them so by maintaining a condition more favorable than they could hope to maintain themselves. They encourage a healthy morale by permitting native and European soldiery to marry and live together in families, and they never send a Dutch official to the colonies unless he is endowed with qualities likely to improve the condition of things. All their officials must work, and work hard. The profitable side of the account is traceable to the operations of the Netherlands Trading company, which is only