

sequences that they could not begin to realize it was theirs, is to say as the infidel says and even worse.

It is so now. Crimes and abominations culminating in one of the most monstrous, most treacherous and most cowardly slaughters ever recorded in the darkest ages of the world's history, have been going on for three and a half years at our very door. We have petitioned, we have supplicated, we have remonstrated, we have done all things that an educated, a progressive and a Christian people ought to do, and all to no purpose. Now come forth the agencies of force, the only things except the aid and guidance of Divine Providence that are left us. The dogs of war are loose, the fight is on and will not end till justice is triumphant, liberty prevails and the sway of humanity is established.

#### SPAIN'S TACTICS.

It has been a constant matter of wonder and surprise that Spain after her defiant attitude not only not ordered her fleet to the probable scene of action but also withdrew the only vessels she had there, capable of some resistance to the attacks of a hostile squadron. But possibly this is a piece of strategy the importance of which will appear hereafter.

It is conceivable that the Spaniards believe that the United States navy will suffer considerable losses while engaged in the blockade of ports in Cuba and Porto Rico, and the bombardments likely to take place. Should some of our chief vessels become disabled either from external or internal causes, Spain's navy kept intact would be stronger in exact proportion to our losses. The enemy must depend entirely on a successful naval encounter and cannot risk anything at the outset. But if any serious injury should happen to some of our ships, advantage could be taken of that circumstance for a supreme trial in a naval engagement. And if this should turn out to the advantage of the Spanish armada, the war would be prolonged until the United States could again procure a superior fleet. Possibly it is the intention of Spain to remain inactive until our navy shall be weakened and then make an effort to fight it.

If this is the policy adopted it is well for our naval commanders to proceed with caution in Cuban waters. Havana can presumably be taken by the land forces, supported by a blockading squadron. There is no necessity of wasting ammunition or risk the ships, if the object can be gained in a safer way, though more slowly. Possibly when the supreme test comes—if it is to come at all—every ship will be needed.

It is also conceivable that Spain entertains a hope that some day the sympathy of European bondholders, when they see one possession after the other swept away from the impoverished country, and their securities, as a consequence, reduced in value, may be aroused to such a degree that European aid will be accorded her in the unequal contest. In that case it would be prudent for Spain to reserve the whole of her fighting strength until later, as it is absolutely certain that she can count on no foreign assistance after she is crushed beyond the possibility of repair. It is not probable at present that Europe will interfere, but French and Austrian sympathies for the lost cause are very strong, and in Berlin it is claimed that German interests are suffering a good deal in the Philippine islands, and there always is a possibility for entanglements where financial interests are involved. If Spain is merely playing a waiting

game, trusting that a time will come when she can send her naval forces supported by those of her neighbors against an exhausted country, she must wait a long while, and the war may go on for years.

#### IT SHOULD NOT BE.

There are murmurs of discontent, not loud, prolonged or distinct, however, regarding some necessary readjustments which it has been found necessary to make regarding Utah's internal military system. The new arrangements that have been made, no matter to what extent they may have improved the service nor how imperative they were, were not expected to escape without exciting criticism from some source, albeit the criticism is altogether undeserved. Least of all has it been or is it now the intention to arrange matters in the interest of any individual or class of persons whatever. Effectiveness is the first consideration, and such changes as have been or may be made have that object in view along with the making of the force consonant with the regulations imposed.

This is a poor time for quibbling; it is a time for action—intelligent, patriotic action, in which the man is to some extent lost sight of in the service which he is called upon to render. Why not look upon it this way, and let it go forth that Utah is not only united in support of the flag, but that the services of her sons are so unselfishly given that there are no petty jealousies to banish and no dislikes to overcome?

#### WAR OPERATIONS SPREADING.

Interest in the pending war is now divided between the Atlantic and the Pacific operations. The United States squadron, consisting of five warships, under command of Commodore Dewey, previously anchored at Miao, north of Hong Kong, has been ordered to the Philippine Islands and is now on its way. The Spanish vessels in that vicinity number six, but as all are inferior to the Baltimore (the best one on the American side), the numbers are regarded as being practically equal, and the Spanish craft are not more heavily manned than ours. The orders are to attack the Spaniards as soon as found, and as the distance to be covered is not very great, there is probability of an early collision, which will assuredly be a "fight to a finish" when it takes place. If the Spanish ships are not found, then the Americans are to proceed to Manila, the capital of the islands, situated on the southwestern side of Luzon, the most northwesterly island of the group; here they are to act in concert with 30,000 insurgents, with the intention of capturing the place and turning the Spaniards out, first there, then everywhere else.

This all has a sufficiently business-like sound to satisfy the most exacting clamor for a sharp and decisive campaign. The dispatches announce that within two or three days a battle will be fought by the antagonists in chief at some point off the Philippine coast, and the authorities at Washington seem to be confident of the result. If it shall prove to be a decisive victory either way, the moral effect in favor of the winner would be very great and might cause an entire change of front here and abroad; while a skirmish, or an inconclusive joinder of forces, no matter which side might have the advantage, would be likely to produce no more serious consequences than considerable increase in the volume of war bulletins. Meantime all eyes are figuratively turned to the far-off Pacific and all ears are open to

hear the din of the strife and its outcome.

The Philippines are a regular archipelago, consisting of some 1,200 islands of greatly varying dimensions, the largest being the one spoken of—Luzon—and Mindanao, the total square mileage being 120,000. Inhabiting these is a population of about 10,000,000, and the products are exceedingly luxuriant and to a great extent tropical, making the islands a source of great wealth to Spain. Undoubtedly she will strain every nerve, muscle and fiber of her being to retain control, but she is caught badly unprepared and it need not be surprising if her hold on the Philippines were shaken off before that on Cuba by a considerable time.

The islands are situated on the western side of the China sea, chiefly between latitude 50 degrees 32 minutes and 190 degrees 38 minutes north, and longitude 117 and 127 east, and constitute the most northerly position of the great Malayasian group.

#### WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

Signor Crispi's estimation of the probable results of the Hispano-American war is remarkably clear except as regards Canada. The ex-premier is quoted as expressing the belief that the contest now on means the end of Spain and the beginning of the expansion of the United States at the expense of Europe. This latter forecast only proves that he is not familiar with American conditions. But in the intricacies of European politics he is at home, and his interpretation of the situation is valuable at this time. There is virtually, he says, no Europe. The so-called concert is a joke. The immediate future is absolutely dark. We believe this is the general feeling among the statesmen of the world. The key of events has been stricken out of their hands. A higher power has taken charge and it may be that a new era is dawning. Is the new century to see a rearrangement of the groups of the human family? Will it from now on be the Anglo-Saxons against the Latin races? If so, the combination is strong enough to inaugurate peace upon earth and to maintain it for a long time.

With Cuba and Porto Rico given their independence; the Hawaiian islands annexed to the United States and the Philippines to Japan. Great Britain probably would consider it necessary to do something for the restoration of the disturbed equilibrium. Nobody can at this moment foretell to what extent British interests in the Canary islands would suffer from the new order of things. If England should find it an imperative duty to station a strong squadron there to protect those interests, and then forget to withdraw it, no objection would be raised by the United States. In fact the Canary islands might be considered a suitable equivalent for Great Britain's neutrality during the present unpleasantness.

In times when the patriotism of a country is aroused to the degree now apparent in the United States, the public need is more than ever, tried servants in official positions. War excitement always furnishes the unscrupulous with opportunities for plunder. Vast sums are appropriated for war expenses, and nobody is going to scrutinize too closely the details of expenditure. The thought of the nation is upon the war and the outcome of it. It is, therefore, of the greatest importance to have the affairs of the people in the hands of persons who need no special guards to see that they are doing right.