THE STAR OF EMPIRE

Is Territorial Extension to Be the Policy of the United States Government?

The Arguments For and Against. Several Important Questions Raised by the Hispano-American War.

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A generous and genuine shedding of tears over the woes of enslaved Cuba has been followed by inquiries of a possible imperial design. The first will necessarily mean that the people of the United States are quite sensitive. It may be held to show that they are too tender to assume that there is virtue in mere sympathy, we conceived to make a vague indistinct of grief, and are resolved to wipe out the prime cause of their distress once for all. In other words, sensitive shocks of emotion lead a force shocked of indignation.

Spain as the owner of territory has generally wound. The other has been spoken—Spain must go. After that, what? Surrender the old adage, the nation, almost at one sides, cries: "The evil cannot be endured. It must be cured." Who shall be the doctor? By the action of laws as salient as those controlling water to run down hill the minds of some practical and conscientious statesmen has turned to the question that the process of cure involves on our part an extension of empire, political if not territorial, perhaps both territorial and political. It will not do to say in throwing the so called imperial movement that its adherents have just made the discovery of virtue, hence display the enviable zeal of saviors. Nor can it be said that the governors of an imperial policy are unable to appreciate the beauty of goodness. Both classes are honest, the one finding an outlet for unchecked force to give

RED CROSS MEN UNDER FIRE CARRYING A WOUNDED OFFICER FROM THE FIELD BEFORE SANTIAGO.

strides of progress, the other piling up general strength by the calmer methods of conservatism.

Wars and scares in territory in the pathway of the party of progress and objectives and difficulties create a formidable bulwark around the party of the conservatives. Beyond the bulwark of both parties as now outlined stands the great body of the people. Their attitude with respect to the principles involved in the solution of this problem is all important. In a democracy the motto "Vox populi, vox Dei," is not lifted up for ornament, but for use. It means something—means that the people are the final arbiters.

For generations the stock phrase of eulogizing our political system has been that "it is the best government under the sun." Even as calm and unemotional a man as General Grant opened his report of the battle of Shiloh by setting forth that Sherman, Prentiss and Wallace had done its work, and nowhere outside of a certain convention in the vindictive proposition ever contained. Up to a few months ago he would have been a rash adviser who would have suggested that the nation go outside its borders to extend the benefits of its system of government. Will it be heard hereafter, the membership of Spain or the future of Divine Providence it is one and the same to effect—a land shall be taken, one in which the inhabitants are not to be considered without the function of voicemen with strike at the root of our national life. The resolution of the Patent bill meeting petitioning against the issuance of patents more this very issue. Without evasion, it says:

Resolved, That we feel duty is to use the power of our government to protect our fellow citizens from the dangers and hardships of the Spanish rule, and to secure to the people of Cuba the right to govern themselves in their own way, and that we do not desire to add to our territory any more than the rights of the people of Cuba, and that we do not desire to take any part of the Spanish possessions in the West Indies, or in the Philippine Islands, or in any other part of the world, and that we will not accept any such territory if it should be offered to us, and that we will not annex any part of the Cuban territory, and that we will not annex any part of the Philippine Islands, and that we will not annex any part of the West Indies, and that we will not annex any part of the Spanish possessions in the West Indies, or in any other part of the world