

manity and honor of the people of this Nation? Why do they not tell what is true, that we have sent to these islands 600 teachers who are now engaged in the work of educating the people, and that the people are gladly taking advantage of the opportunity to attend the schools, which are distributed throughout the pacified districts?

Why do they not tell how we have established courts of justice where every man may have a fair trial without purchase and without price—something unknown heretofore in the experience of the government in the Philippine Islands? The truth is, we have established today the only secure, just, honorable and stable government that has ever existed in these islands. Under the rules of our Administration, men have been liberated from jail who had grown old and gray within their cells, not knowing what charges were against them, not having been brought before any court or given an opportunity to be heard in their own defense. But I have not time to tell you all we have done. Suffice it to say that we have put into force in every district that has become pacified the same wise and beneficent laws that obtain here for the protection of individual rights and the preservation of individual liberty.

How can we surrender these islands without acknowledging before the world our incapacity to establish and maintain a civil government there? By solemn treaty we have taken the islands, and now shall we set them adrift to return to anarchy and chaos, finally to be taken up by some wiser power, some nation which studies more carefully its duty to civilization and to the commercial interests of its people as well? No. Our duty to civilization demands that we retain the Philippine Islands, and every consideration for our own honor and our standing before the world unites in demanding the retention of these islands.

Now is it possible that the people of Oregon, situated as we are on the Pacific Coast, interested as we are in the upbuilding of commerce with the Orient, are going to declare in favor of the policy which can only mean death to our new justifiable hopes of controlling the commerce of Asia? When the people of Asia see the Stars and Stripes withdrawn from the Philippine Archipelago and the flag of some other great power go up over them, that great respect which they now entertain for this Nation will depart with our flag.

The people of the Pacific Coast are interested in this question as no other people are. The eyes of the whole country are watching Oregon. Shall we send word throughout the country that Oregon is indifferent on the question of the retention of these islands? Shall we lend encouragement by our vote to those who are seeking to compel the withdrawal of our flag from the Philippines? To me it seems impossible—impossible from every point of view.

I will not believe that the people of Oregon favor a course so destructive to our commercial interests and welfare.

The Democratic party tells us the cost is too great. I answer them no cost is too great which preserves the honor and good name of this Nation. There are some things into which the consideration of cost does not enter. A Democratic Senator said the other day in Congress that the cost of the Spanish War has been too great; that we had better have paid every claim that Spain had against the Island of Cuba than to have engaged in that war. Strange it seems to me that there are men who have estimated and measured these questions on the basis of dollars and dimes. Where the honor of this Nation is involved there is no room for the consideration of cost. But I tell you that notwithstanding the cost in money, the cost in blood, great as they have been, the cost has not been too great.

On the day that our brave boys marched up old San Juan Hill against that awful rain of shot and shell, the sons of the men who wore the blue, the sons of the men who wore the gray, side by side, faltered not but pressed onward until they had planted the Stars and Stripes and victory on the summit and crowned themselves and the American name with imperishable glory, the old Mason and Dixon