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DEWEY AS AN EXPANSIONIST

The papers which have been classifying Admiral Dewey as an anti-expansionist are mistaken in their person. In a letter received by a London editor the great chieftain remarks: "After many years of wandering I have come to the conclusion that the mightiest factor in the civilization of the world is the imperial policy of England." The Boston Journal a few days ago printed an extract from a letter by Dewey to the president of Norwich university in which the admiral among other things, said: "I trust that the entire archipelago will be retained by the United States. Any other arrangement will lead to no end of trouble."

These expressions show Dewey's position on the expansion questions. In the one first quoted he mentions the advantages to the world which the extension of the rule of a great enlightened nation brings. In the second one he shows his belief that the acquisition of the Philippines by the United States will benefit this country, the islands immediately concerned and the world. On the Philippine question the admiral speaks as an expert. He knows the islanders better than any other man who has been talking about them recently. He has studied them on the ground and under conditions which have given him a clear insight into their character and capabilities. The general conditions on the islands are known to him better than to any other American.

Undoubtedly Dewey's view is the view which is held by the majority of the people of the country. Like the admiral, they "trust that the entire archipelago will be retained by the United States." They are convinced, like him, that "any other arrangement will lead to no end of trouble." The country has confidence in Dewey's judgment. The ultimate fate of the Philippines can not be determined at present. Nobody can tell what will be the course of wisdom in relation to the islands fifty years, or twenty years hence. Many things which it is impossible to foresee can happen before the shortest of these periods expires.

But all the islands will be held by this country, and governed by the United States, for the present, and, no doubt, for all time. The form of government will be determined by the exigencies of events.

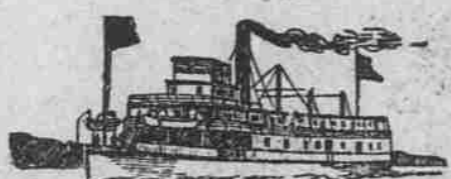
A Statesman reader asks us the correct pronunciation of the name of the Filipino rebel leader, Aguinaldo. We have not the assurance in such latitudes of one of the Oregonian's editors, who attempted a few days ago to give in English, and in cold print, the correct pronunciation of a French title of a book—and (so a Frenchman at our elbow says), made a very poor "stab" at it. There are no hard and fast rules for the pronunciation of words and names of foreign languages. We could not get the proper accent, twists, twirls and gestures of the tongue, the gutters and the nasals and the bur-r-rs, however much we tried. The only way to find out how to pronounce Aguinaldo's name is to go and ask him—and he is himself very poor authority; and then he might be laughed before the journey could be made. Better still, pronounce it to suit your own taste, and let everybody else have the same privilege.—Salem Statesman.

Gomez will probably be as ardent an annexationist as Garcia was in the latter's days. Garcia at first was as strongly devoted to the cause of independence as his commander was, but a study of the situation after the United States had liberated his countrymen convinced him that only by

annexation could Cuba remain free and be prosperous. When Gomez takes a careful look over the ground he is likely to reach a similar conclusion. A few days in the United States will probably remove the prejudices against Americans which his isolation and consequent ignorance fostered. Gomez may yet have an important civil post in Cuba under American authority.

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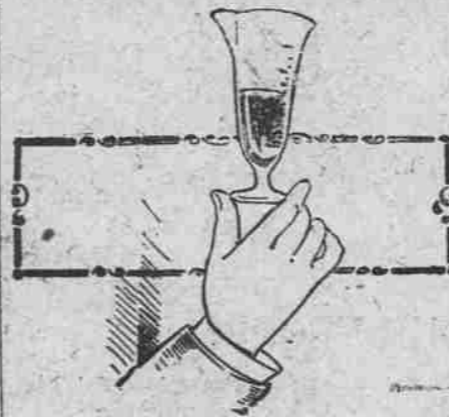
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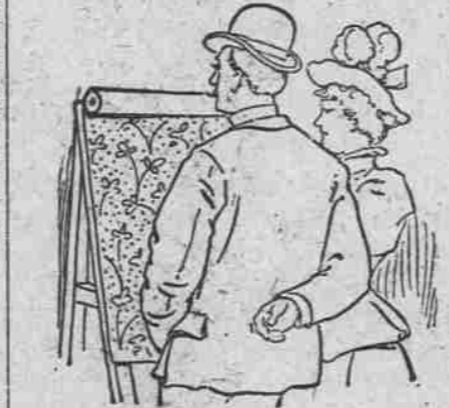


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