

LOPEZ REPLIES TO SCHURMANN.

*Says He Has Misrepresented Filipinos,
but Is a Good Imperialist.*

Boston, Nov. 5.—Senor Sixto Lopez this afternoon gave out the following statement in reply to that recently made by President Jacob G. Schurmann, of the first Philippine commission:

“President Schurmann has formulated what is said to be the ‘reply’ to my open letter to him. I had pointed out that he had ‘cruelly and carelessly,’ but I believed ‘unintentionally,’ misrepresented the condition and degree of education in the Philippines. I showed, by facts within my own personal knowledge, that there were 488 teachers in my own province of Batangas, or one to each 639 inhabitants, whereas Dr. Schurmann had represented that there were only 31 teachers, or one to each 10,072 inhabitants. I pointed out that the conditions in Batangas obtained throughout the whole archipelago, with the exception of Central Mindanao. I stated further that ‘the fact that the Filipinos are an educated people is practically admitted by Dr. Schurmann, and all classes and conditions of men.’

“To all this and other matters about higher education Dr. Schurmann furnishes no reply and expresses no regret at his cruel misrepresentation, which he practically admits by his inability to deny or controvert the facts.

“Instead of furnishing any reply, he turns upon me with a tirade of utterly irrelevant and erroneous statements about the alleged savage and disunited condition of the Filipinos, and he makes the most unwarrantable assertions that I ‘do not deny that the Filipinos are uneducated and ignorant.’ He further declares that I, by inference, admit the truth of everything in his report, whereas in my several letters and statements to the American press I have specifically denied practically everything he says I admit.

I shall have occasion to refer, later, to Dr. Schurmann’s “reply,” but in the meantime I may point out that after declaring that the Filipinos are abject savages, ready to tear each others’ throats and lapse into anarchy, and that they are “marked by dense ignorance.” Dr. Schurmann closes his “reply” by stating that “it is the mission of our republic to save the Filipinos, who in general are most promising, estimable, and even lovable people.” Thus the truth will come out in spite of all attempts to hide it. Dr. Schurmann is one of the best imperialists. If his “reply” is a sample of the “fair” treatment which we may expect from the best imperialists, then may heaven defend us from imperialist rule.

SIXTO LOPEZ.