

the apologists of tyranny and bloodshed are plainly and tragically wrong. If they are right—if the denial of freedom can be compensated for by good roads, by bridges and harbors and all the luxuries of efficient government—then is the message of Jesus a mistake, the Golden Rule an impracticable doctrine, and the Christian religion, that we profess, a hideous failure.

But we know that is not true. We know that with Him, to whom a thousand years are but as a day, there will and can be no permanent backward turning: That the hearts of men will be opened to the truth at last. Lowell—our truest poet of democracy, has sung:

“Careless seems the great Avenger; history’s pages but record  
One death-grapple in the darkness ’twixt old systems and the  
World;

Truth forever on the scaffold, Wrong forever on the throne,—  
Yet that scaffold sways the future, and, behind the dim un-  
known,

Standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above his own.  
We see dimly in the Present what is small and what is great,  
Slow of faith, how weak an arm may turn the iron helm of fate,  
But the soul is still oracular; amid the market’s din

List the ominous stern whisper from the Delphic cave within,—  
‘They enslave their children’s children who make compromise  
with sin.’”

On motion of Mr. Haskins it was voted unanimously: “That the cordial thanks of this meeting are tendered to Mr. Osborne for his eloquent and inspiring address, and that he be requested to furnish the League with a copy of it for publication.”

The meeting was then dissolved.

You are earnestly asked to hand this after reading, to some other person who will also give it careful consideration.

# REPORT

OF THE

## Eleventh Annual Meeting

OF THE

## Anti-Imperialist League

NOVEMBER 27, 1909

AND ITS ADJOURNMENT

NOVEMBER 30

PUBLISHED BY

THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST LEAGUE

20 CENTRAL STREET, BOSTON

gregational Church in Boston, on February 14, 1909, by Moorfield Storey.

The Philippine Question. Speech of the Hon. James L. Slayden, of Texas, in the House of Representatives, February 19, 1909.

The Anti-Imperialist League. Apologia Pro Vita Sua. By Erving Winslow.

To Caesar All Or Nothing. El Renacimiento, Manila, November 13, 1908.

The Reverse of the Medal. El Renacimiento, Manila, November 16, 1908.

Taft's Term of Probation. El Renacimiento, Manila, November 30, 1908.

Buried Hopes. El Renacimiento, Manila, December 9, 1908.

Hurrah for Idleness! El Renacimiento, Manila, December 11, 1908.

The Filipinos' Protest Against the Enactment of Proposed Tariff Legislation Without Some Promise of Independence. Leaflet from the Boston Herald, April 7, 1909.

Tariff and the Philippines. Speech of Hon. William J. Stone, of Missouri, in the Senate of the United States, April 20, 1909.

Conditions and Future of the Philippines. Article from the North American Review, by Erving Winslow. Senate Document 81.

The Philippines. Remarks of Hon. Francis G. Newlands, of Nevada, in the Senate of the United States, June 14 and 15, 1909.

The Philippines. Reports by Lieutenant-Governor Nelson A. Miles.

Occupation Day. El Renacimiento, Manila, August 12, 1909.

#### NECROLOGY

We have had heavy losses from our ranks during the year:

From the list of Vice-Presidents:

Mrs. Henry Pickering, of Boston, who paid the entire expense of the remarkable publication of Liberty Poems, a selection from the large number of poetical protests elicited by the Philippine War, made and printed under the auspices of the League in 1900. Mrs. Pickering remained a generous contributor to the cause during her life, not only at stated periods,

for she was one of those who made it an urgent request that she should be called upon in any time of need;

General William Jackson Palmer, of Colorado Springs, was a good friend and liberal giver to the League. By private inquiries and investigations some years ago he had convinced himself that the disaster to the Maine was caused by an internal explosion, and that evidence in proof of this existed within the wreck. General Palmer offered at one period to pay half a million dollars through the League if permission could be obtained for raising the battleship. General Palmer's documentary material, which was left to the League, awaits publication;

David Ferris, of Wilmington, Delaware, was a venerable friend who had been a life long advocate of peace and regarded the conduct of affairs in the Philippine Islands with abhorrence and the indifference of his brethren thereto with active indignation;

Dean Amos Noyes Currier, of the University of Iowa, a very active official of the League, had re-enforced his personal influence by the distribution of tracts and pamphlets, and was a most encouraging and inspiring correspondent;

Mr. Dana Estes, of Brookline, had been a vigorous and active promoter of the cause of the League from the very beginning, having been a member of the earliest committees for organization. He was a constant attendant at meetings, a liberal subscriber, and a wise counselor, who never failed in word or deed at the critical moment;

The Rev. William Reed Huntington, of New York, was a cordial and valued co-operator, whose words of encouragement were a strong reliance.

The Executive Committee have experienced a profound sorrow in the death of their colleague, Mr. William Lloyd Garrison, who had long been one of the most constant and helpful members. Whatever he touched was placed on a higher plane, and his associates felt the constant inspiration and elevation of his influence. Hating wrong, he had no hatred for the wrongdoer. He turned instinctively to that which was good and beautiful and enriched the lives of all those with whom he associated. He is a loss to the world.

#### MEETINGS

The Executive Committee has held its stated fortnightly

towards the result. There is no room for despair or doubt. Let the Filipinos steadily persist in demanding the independence which is their right; let them, by preserving order and using wisely such power as is granted to them, prove their fitness for more, and the promise which Mr. Lodge says the nation has already made will be repeated in terms that cannot be misinterpreted. But whether promised or not, their independence will come. For ourselves we can only press on till the "self-evident" truths are again recognized by every American, and our flag wherever it floats is again, in spirit and in truth, "the flag of the free."

The committee which had been appointed reported that the following list of officers for 1909-1910 was elected:

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Moorfield Storey.

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David Greene Haskins, Jr.

Secretary

Erving Winslow.

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Hon. John E. Stealey.

WISCONSIN.

William George Bruce, Esq.

WYOMING.

Hon. John C. Hamm.

national honor as well as in the name of 8,000,000 of disarmed and helpless people that the government of the United States shall promptly pledge itself to the policy of conceding Philippine independence at the earliest practical period.

MR. F. B. SANBORN said: We have no reason to be discouraged at the present aspect of our cause. The two great parties now stand in relation to Philippine independence much as they did fifty years ago upon the slavery question,—the Democrats upholding slavery, the Republicans opposing it; while today the position is reversed,—the Democrats as a party favoring freedom for the Filipinos, and the Republicans nominally and ostensibly for colonial subjection there. But let the opposition party win, as they very well may in next year's Congressional elections, and you would see the Republicans coming over to the side of Philippine independence, as both parties at the North did in the Civil War, for the emancipation of the slaves. A single political overturn now would dispel all this idle talk about a colonial bureau, and perpetual subjection for the Filipinos. Other political issues would come up, and the Republicans, who now very languidly support Mr. Taft in his inveterate opinions, would throw that issue overboard in their anxiety to save as much of their high tariff as they could from the sacrilegious hands of a Democratic and "Insurgent" House of Representatives. A single party defeat would put a wholly new face on our question, in which a great majority of the voters now practically agree with us. They are tired of the failed experiment in the far East, and will accept any easy solution of our problem there.

MR. JOHN RITCHIE suggested that special efforts be made to increase the funds of the organization, and a number of pledges were given to the Treasurer.

The meeting was dissolved.

On motion of MR. DAVID GREENE HASKINS, JR., it was voted that the Executive Committee should have power to add to its number.

The REV. CHARLES G. AMES offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved: That the Anti-Imperialist League claims direct succession to the founders of the republic, who gloried in this: "That the rights for which they contended were the rights of human nature";

That we reaffirm the earlier declaration of President McKinley that "annexation by conquest is criminal aggression"; and we couple with this the expressed conviction of President Benjamin Harrison, that "any people who hold their rights and liberties only by the consent of another people are really slaves";

That the course of events seems to prove that the permanent subjection of the Philippine Islands must involve our republic in a continual forging of political chains, and

That we therefore renew our demand in the name of our