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Neutral Intervention Impossible.

The prominence which the President's message gives to the discussion of intervention "as an impartial neutral by imposing a rational compromise between the contestants" indicates a preference on the part of Mr. McKinley for that method of dealing with the situation in Cuba.

A very little consideration will suffice to show that neutral intervention of the kind thus proposed is simply impossible.

It would involve, as the President himself concedes, "hostile constraint upon both the parties to the contest, as well to enforce a truce as to guide the eventual settlement."

Are we prepared to send an armed force into Cuba which shall assume an attitude of hostility toward the insurgents as well as toward their Spanish oppressors? Do we desire to assume the functions of a military police, standing indifferent between the conflicting parties on the island? If we undertook to play such a part, is it not plain that we should incur the deadly hatred of both combatants and be unable to impose our will upon either, without an enormous sacrifice of blood and treasure? An American army in Cuba, standing between Spanish foes on one hand and Cuban foes on the other, would not be in a pleasant position.

No; we are without reason for interference in Cuba at all, unless we go there as friendly to Cuba and correspondingly unfriendly to her Spanish oppressors. It is as the active ally of the insurgents that we should intervene, and with their co-operation sweep the Spaniards out of the island, which they possess only to wrong. Once down away with Spanish misrule and the future of Cuba will take care of itself.

The dominion of Spain over Cuba is an evil thing—a thing so evil that neutrality of sentiment in regard to it would be a national disgrace. The American people do not feel neutral about it. They are not impartial. In a contest between that which is right and that which is wrong, impartiality is not what is needed for the welfare of the world. It is the victory of the right. There are some subjects in regard to which a man ought to be ashamed not to be prejudiced. He should be prejudiced against lying and stealing and against villainy of every sort. He should hate such a Government as that of Spain in Cuba, and, hating it, should desire its destruction.

We regret the atmosphere of gray neutrality about the President's message.

Elkins Had the Message Changed.

The message was changed Sunday night at the last hour and after the Cabinet had its meeting. This was done at the request of Senator Elkins, who wants nothing but peace, and is frank enough to say so. He has been a constant representative of the Spanish bondholders, and he has won his point.

Bonds to the extent of \$1,000,000,000 are outstanding, and Cuba is the security for them. If Cuba is free and independent the bonds are made practically worthless.

If the United States steps in and pacifies the island and forces the Cubans to accept the Canadian form of government Spain claims she is willing to give, the bonds will be saved. Or if the United States sets up a Government in Cuba which the bondholders may approve, this Government would probably bind itself to assume the debt.

That is the simple explanation of why the President's message turns out to be the document it is,

Nobody can successfully deny it. The bondholders won this round, and patriotism got a black eye.

Perhaps the most amazing feature of the message was the explanation of the treacherous "ultimatum" that the United States sent to Spain recently. This "ultimatum" proves to be nothing more than a request on the part of President McKinley to Spain that the latter proclaim an armistice until October. Some of the President's best friends are bitter over their treatment in this respect alone. For a week the Administration has permitted to go unchallenged the statement that the President had declared to Spain that Cuba must be independent. Everybody until Monday was firmly convinced that he had done so. The State Department gave out the information. It proves to be untrue. It was a polite request that Spain cease hostilities during the rainy season. And Spain has complied with this request.

Diplomatically, Spain occupies a splendid position. She has done everything requested of her and has done it at the suggestion of the six European Powers, who received their inspiration from the Queen Regent, who in turn was operated upon by the Pope, and the Pope's interest was secured through the efforts of Archbishop Ireland, acting for the Administration at the suggestion of Mr. Elkins.

Thus does the West Virginia Senator enjoy the distinction of having involved the United States in the worst diplomatic tangle she has ever been in. As an evidence of how the Powers feel the visit paid by their representatives to the Spanish Minister Monday afternoon, after the reading of the message, may be cited. Great Britain is presumably our friend, but Sir Julian Pauncefote called, as well as the representatives from Germany, Austria, France, Italy and Russia. Each one of these gentlemen, it is understood, expressed the sympathy of his Government with Spain because, after having complied with everything asked of her, the President should even suggest the advisability of intervening at some future time.

"No Reply."

Concerning the blowing up of the Maine the President says:

The destruction of that noble vessel has filled the national heart with inexorable horror. Two hundred and fifty-eight brave sailors and marines and two officers of our navy, reposing in the fancied security of a friendly harbor, have been hurried to death, grief and want brought to their homes and sorrow to the nation.

This is the first word of horror or indignation that has come from the President during all the fifty-six days since our battleship was treacherously blown up in Havana harbor by a Spanish submarine mine.

The facts have all been made known to him. Captain Sigsbee's declaration, the report of the Board of Inquiry, the unimpeachable testimony of physical facts, and finally the published statement of the English manufacturer of this very mine, have left no room for doubt that the responsibility rested upon Spain.

Yet Mr. McKinley says, "The responsibility remains to be fixed." Why this lawyer-like quibbling? The verdict of the country and the common sense of the world have fixed the moral responsibility upon Spain. If Mr. McKinley wanted the responsibility pinned down more closely why did he not ask the Spanish authorities who the men were in charge of the key-board switch that alone could have fired the mine, according to its manufacturer? Why did he not demand the discovery and surrender of the miscreants?

Instead of this he cites the insulting Spanish proposition to "arbitrate" the matter, and says, "To this I made no reply!"

Incredible omission! Why did he not tell Spain plainly that a self-respecting Government cannot arbitrate with assassins, or submit to question the findings of its own expert court of inquiry, or allow any other court than itself to judge of the heinousness of a crime that is without a precedent or a parallel in all history?

Congress at least should be of a more resolute mind.

The attention of the representatives of the great Powers of Europe is respectfully invited to the spectacle of our American Consuls in Cuba and Porto Rico fleeing with their wives and children from the imminent danger of massacre. They should study the spectacle carefully "in the interests of humanity."

In Case Privateering Was Resorted To.

Spain and the United States are the only two maritime countries of consequence that do not adhere to the Declaration of Paris, made in 1856, which agreed to abandon privateering. The third country is Mexico, which has little merchant marine and less navy. Thus far we have heard of no applications to our Government for letters of marque either from home or foreign merchant ships. Spain's commerce, it is true, is far inferior to ours. When she has taken all her merchant vessels that can be used as auxiliary cruisers or as armed transports there will be still less of it, noticeably in the transatlantic trade. Our Navy Department, however, has had compiled a list of the Spanish merchant marine, and it comprises over twenty lines, including over 160 vessels.

Nearly sixty of them are put down as in the transatlantic trade, although a portion of them may run also to England or to Africa. Over forty more trade with England and Germany or also between coast ports. Four go to the Canaries, eight to North Africa, and as many more to the Balearic Isles, while over forty are put down exclusively to the coasting trade. A very large portion of these steamers are freight boats, while the Government has already taken some as auxiliary cruisers or transports.

But while there are thus spoils in prospect for privateers, we do not look for much, if any, resort by our Government to letters of marque. The reasons for this conclusion are many. To begin with, our true policy is to do with the ships of the navy the work which used to be intrusted to privateers. We have not only fitted up a flying squadron, but have bought for the navy many of the fastest liners and steam yachts that could be secured. The stimulus to exertion which comes from the moiety of the prize belonging to the captors, after due condemnation by a court, should be furnished, as far as possible, to the Government's own crews.

Again, there is a great scarcity of seamen for our navy, and commissioning privateers would still further reduce the supply. The Government for this if for no other reason would find its true policy that of making its regular navy furnish the only means of taking part in the war on the sea, and the only method of earning prize money. We already see a move in this direction by its allowing short terms of enlistment, and even enlistment for the voyage, to those who continue to serve on the purchased merchant ships. This gives them an advantage like that which attracts men to privateering, and insures ready exchange in case of capture. In the civil war we found this policy advisable, ships and crews being taken into the regular naval service, and their officers commissioned with appointments as acting naval officers.

Another consideration is that ships of the regular navy are not only under stricter discipline than privateers, but have other motives than prize money in view. Their officers must look out for professional reputation and strict obedience to orders. For this reason, too, they cause less anxiety in regard to respecting the rights of neutrals, and that would be important in a war with Spain, where so many powerful maritime nations would jealously watch any infringement of their privileges by a belligerent.

A still broader consideration is that our navy is so far superior to Spain's that we do not need to resort to privateering, and one of the chief incentives to it has always been that a country having only a small navy could obtain auxiliaries rapidly and at a slight cost. With that motive wanting in our case, we may prefer to secure the commendation that would certainly come from those nations that are bound themselves by the Declaration of Paris, in observing that while we are not so bound, yet we voluntarily abstain from issuing letters of marque. We should reserve our right to privateers, but should refrain from exercising those rights in dealing with Spain.

And how would it be with private interests? It seems to us that they would have little encouragement to apply for letters of marque. The venture would hardly pay. The days of sailing craft have gone by, and to fit out an arm and a steamer, and then maintain her in coal, is costly, apart from the difficulty of getting coal in foreign ports. Then comes the danger of recapture and the expense of running to a home port for the adju-

dication and sale of the prize. When we consider that the Government has already taken so many of the latest merchant vessels, that it needs for its own ships all the guns it has or can be got, that there is little that is tempting in Spain's commerce, that such part of it as does not instantly withdraw from the seas on a declaration of war will undoubtedly go well armed, and finally that the war might be over before a privateer had paid for her outfit, we may well doubt whether there would be a great rush with us for letters of marque.

The case of Spain, as has been shown, is somewhat different, and yet even there nearly or quite all the foregoing considerations, taken up one by one, would seem to be in some measure operative. Accordingly, although the Madrid Government may find it good policy to threaten us with privateering it seems likely that the very conditions of modern warfare, and particularly of a conflict between Spain and our country, would make it an element of minor importance, even on her part.

Spain's Other Island.

Cuba is not the only land involved in the present situation, says the *Baltimore American*. It is generally conceded that if Spain gets out of Cuba it will leave the hemisphere, and that means the loss of Porto Rico. Once Spain owned 18,000,000 square miles of America, and now the very few thousand that are left will soon slip from her. It is the most amazing national declension of the century, and the cause of it all has been Spain's cruel, weak, despotic, dishonest policy.

A general idea of Cuba's remarkable fertility and general natural wealth is known to the people who read, but few appreciate the fact that Porto Rico is quite well worth the having. Of the Greater Antilles Porto Rico is the fourth in size. Its area is quite as large as all the Eastern Shore counties of Maryland, being about 3,500 square miles, and it is so fertile that four crops a year can be raised. It has a population of between 800,000 and 900,000, about one-third of whom are negroes, and a very large majority of whom have mixed blood. The population is of the sort that can stand the climate, which is very hot.

The Police and Quacks in Germany.

The "Fatherland" is not a happy hunting ground for quacks, as probably many of the fraternity have found to their cost. The latest quack nostrum which have been exposed are those of which the late Count Mattei made himself the compounder. His successors and the German public have just been informed that the "Mattei" treatment has nothing to do with Hahnemann or his disciples, and is to be considered utterly worthless. "This is plain speaking, but is undoubtedly the proper method of treating a fraud of the kind. If the authorities acted in so praiseworthy a manner with regard to the numerous vendors of quack nostrums in this country, the American public would be many thousands of dollars in pocket within the next twelve months, and there would be a perceptible diminution in the dissemination of fraudulent advertisements.

St. Louis, Mo., is to have a brewery, and it acquires that privilege in an unusual way. At the municipal election, held there lately, the voters of the city were called upon to ballot upon the question of allowing a brewery to be established in the city. Under the provisions of the new manufacturing law, 50 per cent of the voters were necessary to carry the proposition. The result of the election was that over 85 per cent of the vote was in favor of the proposition. A syndicate of Pennsylvania men will establish the plant. This is the first time a city in Iowa has voted on such a proposition; indeed, we do not recall that such a proposition was ever made before in any State.

It is said that the Duchess of Fife's deafness is not improving, but rather becoming more serious. As the ailment is hereditary on her mother's side of the family, the King of Denmark, the Crown Prince of Denmark and the Princess of Wales all suffering from it, there seems but little hope that the Duchess of Fife is likely to get better. As regards the Princess of Wales, the drawback is scarcely perceptible, for she is so very sympathetic, and has so much intuition, that she practically divines what you are about to say before the words are uttered.

A mixing up of the English word "champion" and the French word "champignon" (mushroom) resulted in the following advertisement in the *New South-West*: "Monday, March 21—Great billiard tournament between Herr Aloys Kramer, of this town, and the Bavarian Mushroom!"

The Flight of an Empress.

By Gray Taylor, in the *Cosmopolitan*.

On September 4, 1870, at three o'clock in the afternoon, the message of the fall of Sedan, the defeat of the French army and the capture of Napoleon III, flashed over the wires to Paris. It meant the fall of the Empire and the nation plunged into chaos and crime. * * * With curses and vile epithets flung at the Empress, the infuriated crowd stormed the palace gates, which already began to give way. Eugenie's peril was as terrible as that of the ill-fated Austrian, Marie Antoinette, in the Revolution. Instant flight alone could save Eugenie, but it meant a frightful risk. * * *

The Empress escaped from the palace just as the infuriated mob had succeeded in forcing the principal gates in front and were rushing madly on in search of their intended victim. The clamor of their righteous howls was in her ears as she and her faithful attendants passed out on to the threatened plaza. Such an emergency as this had been anticipated and in a measure provided for. During several days a number of the fleetest horses in the imperial stables had been harnessed to ordinary closed street cars and stationed within halting distance of the principal entrance of the Tuilleries in the form of a fair and comfortable conveyance. Von Metternich hastily signalled one of these incongruous attachments. As Eugenie was hurriedly stepping into the cab, a street gamin suddenly cried out: "That is the Empress!" Chevalier Nigra caught the little villain by the throat and exclaimed, "Say that again and I will strangle you!" Madame le Breton in a low tone ordered the man on the box to drive to the residence of Dr. Thomas W. Evans, in the Avenue de Bois de Boulogne. * * *

After about an hour's journey they alighted at the town of Lisieux. The rain was then pouring in torrents, but this was an item too insignificant to be considered at this stage of a desperate life drama. Leaving their charges in the bleak, uncertain shelter of the porch of a dilapidated old church, the two indomitable escorts started forth again in search of a fitting conveyance in which to continue their flight across country to the coast. They had a long, discouraging hunt before they found anything at all to their purpose, but at length they returned with a fairly comfortable arrangement which was to take them on to Point l'Evêque and Deauville. After a long ride the party took refuge in the rooms of Mrs. Evans at Deauville, a charming resort. After careful inquiry the gentlemen of the imperial suite learned that Sir John Burgoyne was in port with his pleasure yacht, the *Gazelle*, and they at once set out to interview him. This gentleman was so fearful of some harm coming to himself or his possessions, that he at first declined having anything to do with the matter. But our two Americans were so insistent that he yielded to the decision of Lady Burgoyne, who was on board the yacht. It was arranged that all should be on board at midnight, and the two indefatigable doctors hastened back to the hotel to conclude preparations for their flight in the darkness. In the meantime, Mrs. Evans had been neither idle nor ungenerous, but had supplied from her own toilet articles necessary for the comfort of the two ladies during the remainder of their journey. * * *

Not daring, for fear of detection, to drive to the dock where the yacht awaited them, they were forced to make their way across ploughed ground and swampy fields, through the deep mud and driving rain. The mud ever grew softer and deeper, the darkness denser, as at eleven o'clock, Dr. Evans—with a twinkling lantern which rendered the darkness more visible and revealed the quagmire at their feet only too late for avoiding it—escorted Eugenie across the black, dreary distance to the hospitable, tossing little craft, which they finally reached by a swim, sound in limb, but exceedingly weary and much toil stained—for often the Empress had sunk to her knees in the mire. One half hour later, Dr. Crane followed the same course with like experience, escorting Madame le Breton. The little craft was forced to wait till the storm abated ere it could cross the dangerous channel to England and safety. Aftward, in speaking of this perilous crossing, Eugenie said: "I thought, over and over again, that I should be lost; and death at that time and place seemed to me something desirable and sweet." * * *

Dr. Evans, faithful to the end, accompanied the Empress to Chiselhurst, where she has since lived—where now are the remains of her husband and son—Napoleon III, and the young prince imperial. Though she was to suffer further tribulations, the Empress had escaped the Commune. The chivalry of republican America had rescued the intended victim of republican France.

most primitive kind. The entrance hall was a composite of salon, kitchen and dining room. On one end of the room was an immense open chimney, around which sat a number of rough, uncouth looking men. The place was picturesque in the extreme, with its bright copper saucers shining in the soft light of the *boogies*, and its quaint old furniture scattered in comfortable disorder about the apartment. So far all was well and fairly satisfactory; but "No rooms!" was the short and surly response when our tired fugitives asked for a night's hospitality. However, the Americans urged the necessity of the case with such insistence—stating that they had an invalid lady with them whose life would be imperilled if she were obliged to travel farther that night, and, I dare say, using still weightier arguments in the form of the yellow metal—that two of the rough-looking men by the fireplace consented to give up their room for the ladies, and two others, following their lead, offered theirs to the two gentlemen. The following morning found them facing a serious dilemma. They zealously scoured the little hamlet and its environs in search of a conveyance in which to continue their journey, but nothing of the kind could be found to suit their purpose, and, despite the peril, they were forced to go to the little railway station and await the train. Fortunately, as it drew up they discovered a vacant compartment of which they hastily took possession, and by generously bribing the guard, they retained it for themselves. * * *

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An Enchanted Mesa.

The pueblo of Acoma, in Western Central New Mexico, is the oldest settlement within the limits of the United States. Many of the walls that still stand on that beetling penol were seen by Coronado during his marvelous journey in 1540, and even then they were centuries old. The valley of Acoma has been described as "the Garden of the Gods multiplied by ten, and with ten equal out other wonders thrown in; plus a human interest, an archaeological value, an atmosphere of romance and mystery;" and the comparison has not been overdrawn. Stretching away for miles lies a beautiful level plain clothed in grama and bound on every side by mesas of variegated sandstone rising precipitously from 300 to 400 feet, and relieved by minarets and pinnacles and domes and many other features of nature's architecture. The great rock tables are so precipitous, so awe-inspiring, and seemingly so out of place as the majestic, isolated Katzimo or Enchanted Mesa, which rises 430 feet from the middle of the plain as if too proud to keep company with its fellows; and this was one of the many wonderful homesites of the Acomas during their wanderings from the mystic Shipapu in the far north to their present dwelling place. Native tradition, as distinguished from myth, when uninfused by fanciful contact, may usually be relied on even to the extent of disproving or verifying that which purports to be historical testimony. The Acoma Indians have handed down from shaman to novitiate, from father to son, in true prescriptive fashion for many generations, the story that Katzimo was once the home of their ancestors, but during a great convulsion of nature, at a time when most of the inhabitants were at work in the fields below, an immense rocky mass became freed from the friable wall of the cliff, destroying the only trail to the summit and leaving a few old women to perish on the inaccessible height. What more, then, could be necessary to enwrap the place for ever after in the mystery of enchantment.

This tradition was recorded in its native purity some twelve years ago by Mr. Charles F. Lummis, and the same story was repeated by Acoma lips to the present writer while conducting a reconnaissance of the pueblos in the autumn of 1895. During this visit, desiring to test the verity of the tradition, a trip was made to the summit of the mesa, where a careful examination of the talus (especially where it is piled high about the foot of the great southwestern cleft up which the ancient pathway was reputed to have wound its course) was rewarded by the discovery of numerous fragments of pottery of very ancient type, some of which were decorated in a vitreous glaze, an art now lost to pueblo potters. The talus at this point rises to a height of 224 feet above the plain, and therefore slightly more than half way up the mesa side. It is composed largely of earth, which could have been deposited there in no other way whatsoever than by washing from the summit during periods of storm through many centuries. An examination of the trail to a point within 60 feet of the top exhibited traces of what were evidently the hand and foot holes that had once aided in the ascent of the ancient trail, as in Acoma to-day. Even then the indications of the former occupancy of the Enchanted Mesa were regarded as sufficient, and that another one of many native traditions had been verified by archaeological proof.

More recently the author visited Katzimo a second time, on this occasion with Major George H. Pratt, Mr. A. C. Vroman, and Mr. H. H. Hays, in order to determine what additional data of an archaeological nature might be gathered by an examination of the summit. The ascent of the talus, in which the potsherds had been observed in such considerable quantities two years previously, was made in a few minutes, the ladders, ropes, and photographic and surveying instruments being carried with some effort, since climbing, heavily laden, at an altitude of 6,000 feet, in a broiling sun, is no trifling labor; but the real work began when the beginning of the rocky slope of the left wall was reached. One member of the party, taking the lead, dragged the end of a rope to a convenient landing place, where a dwarf pinon finds sufficient nourishment from the storm water and sand from above to eke out a precarious existence. Fastening the rope to a tree, the outfit was hauled up, and the other members of the party found a ready means of ascent. The next landing was several feet above, at the base of a rather steep pitch of about twelve feet. This wall, although somewhat difficult to climb, may be climbed with greater or less safety by the aid of several small holes in its face. These holes were doubtless made artificially, but as the narrow pathway at this point is now a drainage course during periods of storm, the soft sandstone has become so much eroded that they have apparently lost their former shape.

The summit of Encantada was reached after some difficulty. It has been swept and carved and swept again by the winds of centuries since the ancestors of the simple Acomas climbed the Ladder trail of which we found the traces. The pinnacled floor has not always appeared as it is to-day, for it was once thickly mantled by the sherd-strewn soil that now forms a goodly part of the great talus heaps below. There is little wonder, then, that the party despaired of finding even a relic when they had reached the top of the trail and looked about at the destruction wrought, and yet they had been on the summit only a few minutes when a sherd of pottery of very ancient type, much cracked by weathering, was found. This fragment is of plain grey ware, quite coarse in texture, with a degradation of white sand. During the twenty hours spent on the summit, every opportunity was taken of making a critical study of the general features of the top of Katzimo throughout the 2,500 feet of its length, special consideration being devoted to the topography

of the site, the erosion, the earthy deposits, the drainage, and the great cedars that stand gaunt and bare, or lie prone and decaying, because their means of subsistence have been so long washed away, and the party was forced to the conclusion that had house walls, whether of stone or adobe, ever existed on the summit at a reasonably remote period, there was no possibility that any trace of them could have remained to this day. Nevertheless, the abundance of ancient relics in the talus, the distinct remains of the ladder trail, the specimens found on the summit coupled with the destruction wrought by nature, the tradition itself—all testify to the former habitation of the site. To the Acomas Katzimo is still enchanted, and as a subject in the study of mysticism the man of science must yet regard it. The law of millennium is not undone by a few hours of iconoclasm.

OUR FOREIGN NEWS.

Translated and Selected from leading European papers for the SENTINEL.

ENGLAND.

HAS RUSSIA SECURED THE "USFRUCT" OF PORT ARTHUR?

Times—London, March 30.

Yesterday Mr. Curzon could only tell the House that Russia had secured from China the "usufruct" of Port Arthur and Ta-lien-wan and the adjacent territories. He was not even in a position to explain the meaning of this important term from the vocabulary of the Roman law, at least as it is interpreted by Russian commentators. It would be unwise for others to rush in where Mr. Curzon fears to tread, but it may be assumed with some confidence that "usufruct," in any agreement where China is the grantor and Russia is the grantee, signifies the most beneficial kind of tenure which the wit of man can devise, freed as far as possible from all the onerous conditions incidental to ownership. * * *

It will be remembered that early in the session Mr. Curzon reassured the House by declaring that, although our warships had withdrawn from Port Arthur, they would return there when they chose. Whatever else the Russians may read into their "usufruct" of that harbor, we are inclined to doubt whether they will hold it to be compatible with this treaty right of ours.

Le Temps

Russia has just obtained a great diplomatic success. * * * At the Tsung li Yamen there is, happily, a practical common sense on which one can generally count. Nothing is more congenial to the temperament of these upper class mandarins than dashing their heads against a wall. The most of which they are capable is to suffer, like Prince Kung, a diplomatic indisposition. As soon as the conferences had convinced that body how irrevocable was the decision of Russia, measures were taken to remove the friction and facilitate an understanding. The choice of the two plenipotentiaries for the interview with M. Pavloff, the best known of whom in the West was Li Hung Chang, was of itself a pledge of conciliation. Indeed, the agreement was speedily arrived at on the very basis of the apparently quite reasonable demands put forward by Russia. * * * This treaty has the double justification of carrying into effect eventualities long ago foreseen and admitted by competent and impartial men, and of re-establishing for the benefit of Russia the balance recently disturbed by the success of German policy at Kiao Chau.

Daily News—London, March 30.

The Tories used to be fond of asking the electors to believe that their party was the one of businesslike administration, especially in foreign affairs. After recent performances they will not find it easy to palm off that fallacy again. Turning, however, from the credit of the Government to the interests of the nation, we entirely refuse to believe that the Empire is in jeopardy because Russia is in occupation of Port Arthur. The hue and cry which some of the Tory papers are raising in this matter is both mischievous and undignified, and we hope that no Liberals will be tempted to join in it. If the anti-Russian diatribes in which the *Times* and others are indulging mean anything, they must mean that Great Britain should have gone, or should still go, to war to prevent Russia having Port Arthur. Lord Selborne's criticism of this proposition is excellent. To prevent the Russianization of Manchuria is an object which we probably could not secure, if we would; and which we certainly should not attempt, even if we could, for our Government has invited Russia to the sea already. Do not, then, let us go off on this false scent. The practical question is not the fact of the Russian occupation, but the terms of it. In itself there is nothing intolerable, or even very disadvantageous, in the Russian occupation. What we have to see to is that British rights and interests are not imperilled thereby.

Daily Graphic—London, March 30.

According to Count Muraviev's note, Chinese sovereignty is still recognized in both Port Arthur and Tallienwan, and while this is the case the treaty rights of this country apply. Thus in Tallienwan we have the right to demand the ordinary Chinese tariff, and in Port Arthur we have the right of anchorage for our ships of war. No doubt these points are now engaging the attention of the Government. They are, however, not the only points raised by the cession "in usufruct" of Port Arthur. As we have frequently pointed out there is a strategic question to be considered. It is certain that the interests of this country will not be sufficiently vindicated until we also have obtained a naval base "in usufruct" which will adequately counterbalance the Russian tenure of Port Arthur.

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