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### KILL EVERYTHING ABOVE TEN

**A Sample of Civilization Brought by  
the Americans to the Philippines**

If any doubt existed about the truth of the stories told of the savage treatment of the Filipinos by officers and soldiers of the American army, it will be dispelled by the revelations by Major Littleton W. T. Waller, of the Marine Corps, who is being tried at Manila before a court-martial on charges of having executed natives of Samar without trial. Major Waller doesn't deny the charges, but defends himself by pleading that he was acting under orders of his superior officer, General Smith, who had command of the Department of Samar.

Here is an extract from the testimony of Major Waller as cabled from Manila:

"The Major said General Smith instructed him to kill and burn, said that the more he killed and burned the better pleased the General would be, that it was no time to take prisoners, and that he was to make Samar a howling wilderness.

"Major Waller asked General Smith to define the age limit for killing, and the General replied, 'Everything over ten.'"

That General Smith issued the order to kill "everything over ten" we know, not only on the assertion of the Major of Marines now on trial in Manila, but also from the testimony of Captain David D. Porter, Captain Hiram I. Bearse and Lieutenant Frank Helford, all of the Marine Corps. With the testimony of these witnesses before us, we cannot doubt that an American General has ordered a human battue. He told his subordinates that the more killing and the more burning they did the better he would be pleased; as he had resolved to make Samar a howling wilderness.

Smith's guilt has been proven so conclusively that the War Department at Washington does not deny the charges against him, but intimates that the situation in Samar in a measure justified a man holding a commission as a United States officer in acting like an Apache chief. Adjutant General Corbin, in an interview which appears in the New York Herald, is reported as saying: "General Smith concluded that measures were necessary to teach the Samar natives that order must be established and maintained."

This is the semi-official defense of Smith's order to kill "everything over ten." The whole adult population was to be killed off "to teach the Samar natives," to quote the language of Adjutant General Corbin, "that order must be established and maintained."

In a general order he told his command that "every native, whether in arms or living in the pueblos or barrios, will be regarded and treated as an enemy." Lest some of his subordinates might be disposed to show respect for the sacred character of the priesthood, Smith expressly enjoined upon them to make no exceptions in favor of the native priests. Here are his instructions as to how they should be treated:

"If the evidence is sufficient they will be tried by the proper court. If there is not sufficient evidence to convict they will be arrested and confined as a military necessity and held as prisoners of war until released by orders from these headquarters. \* \* \* Officers in command of stations will not hesitate, therefore, to arrest and detain individuals whom they have

good reason to suspect are aiding the insurrection, even when positive evidence is lacking."

It will be seen from these instructions that Catholic priests, some of whom have grown gray in the service of their flocks, are to be imprisoned simply because they are priests. Don't loathe about evidence, Smith says to subordinates, but arrest and imprison a native priest wherever you find one. —New York Freeman's Journal.

[For months this sort of Cromwellian persecution has been going on under the protection of the American flag, and American newspapers, with a few exceptions; are as dumb as dogs about it. This conspiracy of silence is broken, however, when a British officer of the Transvaal is accused of transgressing some international law. What the British are supposed to be doing in the Transvaal, the Americans are more than doing in the Philippines. Fine civilization, indeed!—Ed.]

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