

tice. Lest we deceive ourselves, therefore, and think that we honor Emmet, while in reality we are turning against the very thing for which he gave his life, let us take those immortal words of the Irish patriot and put them in the mouth of Aguinaldo. I will not change the speech of Emmet's in the least. I will only substitute in a single place in the speech the word "Americans" for the word "French." Suppose Aguinaldo were on trial before a Spanish tribunal on the charge of having conspired to turn the sovereignty of the Philippines over to the United States of America.

And suppose that, in denying this charge, he had used these identical words of Emmet. Would we applaud them? That is the test of our loyalty to the pure principle of liberty to-day. Let us hear, then, what this modern Emmet would say. "Were the Americans to come as invaders or enemies, uninvited by the wishes of the people, I should oppose them to the utmost of my strength. Yes, my countrymen, I would advise you to meet them on the beach with a sword in one hand and a torch in the other. I would meet them with all the destructive fury of war. I would animate my countrymen to immolate them in their boats before they had contaminated the soil of my country. If they succeeded in landing, and if forced to retire before superior discipline, I would dispute every inch of ground, burn every blade of grass, and the last entrenchment of liberty should be my grave. What I could not do myself, if I should fall, I would leave as a last charge to my countrymen to accomplish; because I should feel that life more than death is unprofitable when a foreign nation holds my country in subjection."

Let him who cannot cheer that sentiment waste no tears at Emmet's grave. Let him rather take the headsman's ax and strike this fairest of Irish patriots to the earth; for so in spirit every man does who questions for a single moment the right of any people to rule themselves. Only last week Gen. Shafter said to a sort of a Y. M. C. A. club in the city of Washington: "My plan would be to disarm the natives in the Philippine islands, even if we killed half of them in doing so." A member of the senate has expressed the belief that the Filipinos will never consent to become a dependent colony. In this same week a newspaper in our own city threw off the mask of hypocrisy and frankly argued in its editorial columns that the principle that just government could only be derived from the consent

of the governed was an old foggy notion. The ghost of Emmet rises in condemnation of this age. Let us not sully the reputation of these martyrs by our unmeaning praises. Let us take our rightful places by the side of those whose hands are stained with the blood of martyred patriots and frankly remain there until we repent of our apostasy and return to our old love, until we can claim once more the honor of believing in liberty, not for ourselves only, but for all mankind. . . .

THE GRANTING OF FRANCHISES UNDEMOCRATIC.

I feel constrained to announce myself as being unalterably opposed to any grant of municipal franchise for any purpose whatever, and I take this position as a matter of principle.

I maintain that the idea of granting franchises to private individuals or corporations to minister to, a city in social necessities is as wrong in scientific theories as it is mischievous and destructive of what is best in municipal life in practice.

The whole idea of granting special privileges to a few people to make profit of from all the rest of the people is undemocratic, and consequently is opposed to and stands in the way of progress toward the realization of our loftiest and best ideals—the equality of all men before the law. * * *

Private ownership of public franchises is a high crime against democracy. It is contrary to the spirit of republican institutions. It is a city granting a privilege to an individual to enrich himself, usually at the expense of the classes least able to bear it, the poor people.—Mayor S. M. Jones, of Toledo, Ohio, at Cooper Union, New York.

ONE OF FRANKLIN'S STORIES.

A gentleman received a letter, in which were these words: "Not finding Brown at hom, I delivered your meseg to his yf." The gentleman, finding it bad spelling, and therefore not very intelligible, called his lady to help him read it. Between them they picked out the meaning of all but the yf, which they could not understand. The lady proposed calling her chambermaid, "because Betty," says she, "has the best knack at reading bad spelling of anyone I know." Betty came, and was surprised that neither sir nor madam could tell what yf was. "Why," says she, "yf spells wife; what else can it spell?"—From Letter by Benj. Franklin, quoted in *The Century*.

Prof. —, a leading light of Edinburgh university, recently wrote on the blackboard in his laboratory:

"Prof. — informs his students that he has this day been appointed honorary physician to the queen." In the course of the morning he had occasion to leave the room, and on returning found that a student had added to the announcement the words: "God save the Queen!"—Household Words.

"What is a fraction?"

"A part of anything, sorr."

"Give an example."

"The sivinteenth of June."—Harvard Lampoon.

"The millennium will be a hard time for the cynics, if there are any left."

"Oh! I don't know. They can spend their time demonstrating that it can't last."—Puck.

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