

were a youth on his way to his wedding. If in fact, then, this man is not a lunatic but a murderous conspirator, one of a band like himself sworn to assassinate royal personages, what protection could there possibly be in international outlawry, or in killing off "anarchists," unless the decree were as sweeping and indiscriminating as Herod's against the innocents? If not a lunatic, that man is affected with the kind of fanaticism that leads men joyfully to death in pursuit of their objects; and if there be in truth a society of such, neither outlawry nor fear of death will suppress them. If there be a society of such men, which we do not believe any more than we believe in the ogres of fairy lore, they will make it more dangerous to wear a crown than to go to battle; and the more they are "suppressed," the more dangerous they will become.

But be there such a society or not, be the assassination of the Empress of Austria the work of an "anarchist" or of a lunatic, the remedy is not the international outlawry of people accused of being "anarchists." Besides being futile, that would itself be anarchy; and it would degenerate into something akin to the old witchcraft persecutions. The remedy is to remove the cause of anarchy; it is, in the language of one astute American editor, to "stamp out the ignorance, stupidity, idleness, and moral obliquity from which modern anarchy is hatched." This ignorance, stupidity, idleness and moral obliquity, however, is not located where the astute editor supposes. It is the "ignorance" and "stupidity" of the titled fools who imagine that they can stop progress toward liberty by taking advantage of maniacal crimes to persecute political adversaries; it is the "idleness" of those who though they toil not, live in luxury upon the earnings of such as do; it is the "moral obliquity" of those who think of the world as their oyster and of their fellow men as menials designed by a plutocratic God to open it for them.

Stamp out these base things, and anarchy would indeed disappear. There would be then no more lunatics driven by what they see of undeserved hunger to insanely murder people whom they see revelling in unearned luxury.

The principal specification of the charge that the Cubans are incapable of self-government was to the effect that they fired upon Cervera and his surviving officers and men after they had surrendered. This was the especial ground of complaint of that industrious journal of plutocratic civilization, Harper's Weekly, which denounced the act as placing the Cuban republic "outside of the pale of civilization." It seemed to us at the time that this indicated a sad lack of real grounds of complaint against the Cubans, and implied that the plutocrats of this country were willing to seize upon the flimsiest kind of excuses to justify their purpose of wresting the Island of Cuba from its people. We were unable to see that this act charged against a few Cubans as putting the whole Cuban people outside the pale of civilization, was a whit worse than that of the Spanish sharpshooters who fired upon our wounded, our Red Cross and our surgeons, deliberately picking them off, a barbaric act which nobody thought of imputing to the whole Spanish nation. Moreover, there was no good reason for believing that the Cubans knew Cervera had surrendered. He appeared to be running away, and we could see as a matter of civilization no difference between the act of Cubans in firing upon him as he ran away, and the action of our own troops in firing upon Spanish soldiers at San Juan as they ran away. The indignation of our plutocrats impressed us as similar to that of the wolf when the lamb muddied the stream. And so it appears to have been. For now, and from Spanish sources at that, it is shown not only that Cervera had not surrendered but was running away to escape capture, when the Cubans fired upon him, but

also that as soon as he did surrender—and it was to the Cubans, mind you, that he surrendered—they treated him with civilized consideration and turned him over to the Americans. It begins to look as if proof of the incapacity of the Cubans for self-government would be at a premium at Washington before Mr. McKinley succeeds in "pacifying" their island sufficiently for the civilizing purposes of the American-Indies Company.

These are distracting times for Mark Hanna's White house protege. The management of the war was like a holiday to him in comparison with the troubles which its mismanagement has brought upon his administration. At first he was determined to ignore the universal complaints, to regard them as scandalous emanations from yellow journals; but his complacency was rudely disturbed by the election returns from Vermont. This green mountain state always goes republican, but the rise and fall of the republican majority there is as invariably an indication of the condition of the political weather elsewhere. So when Mr. McKinley heard that while the democrats of Vermont had polled as large a vote last Tuesday as they polled at the presidential election two years ago, the republican vote had fallen off 25 per cent., he hurried to set on foot the army investigation which the people had urgently demanded, but which until then he had regarded as quite unnecessary.

This investigation was requested by the secretary of war, it is true, but that detracts nothing from the inference that it was really set on foot by the president. It must be remembered that the secretary of war plumply opposed any investigation. He was proud of his department. The charges of ill-treatment of soldiers he denounced as silly. There had been but one complaint, he said, and that was without foundation. The truth was, so he asseverated, that the soldiers had had too much to eat, too much of fruit and harmful food;