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EDITORIAL

Typical Contrast.

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While throngs, rarely or never before seen in New York in such magnitude, crowded to the river banks on Saturday, the 20th instant, and rushed on board everything available that was afloat, and gazed with admiration at our battle ships; and, with the confiding, unsophisticated nature that is theirs, thought of nothing but the Nation's Glory impersonated in the battle ships, a Cabinet Officer, his name is not given, was preoccupied with other and very different thoughts.

He was on Sampson's flagship,¹ and gazing at the dense crowds that gazed on the battle ships, he forthwith reduced or translated their enthusiasm into dollars and cents. Said he:

“This day ought to make it easy enough to obtain appropriations for the navy hereafter.”

The masses, the people, absorbed in disinterested admiration at what they consider the National Glory, on the one hand, and on the other, a Cabinet Officer, a representative of the ruling and thieving capitalist class, scheming at the very time for “appropriations” and big steals,—that contrast was surely THE thing on that Saturday: it typified much that distinguishes the two classes that ere long will be wrestling in a struggle for life.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
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¹ [U.S.S. *New York*, flagship of Rear Admiral William T. Sampson, American naval commander at the Battle of Santiago de Cuba in July 1898 during the Spanish-American War.—R.B.]