

### NOW FOR A FOREIGN POLICY.

Hawaii's assessed valuation is in the neighborhood of \$37,000,000. Of this vast sum Americans own about \$29,000,000. In spite of this showing, the pestiferous English have been endeavoring for years to obtain a footing on the islands. Through the efforts of the recently deposed queen they made rapid progress, going so far as to tell the Hawaiian people that they should not grant Pearl harbor to the United States as a coaling station. It will be interesting to Americans to know what the English ministry will think of the movement of the political government in the direction of annexation.

England at this time has a prospective trouble with Egypt on hand. Henry Labouchere openly says that his government has no more right to hang on to the khedive's land than the French. He questions the right of England to her original occupation of the country, even though it was done to protect her financial interests there. Now that all such matters are adjusted, says Mr. Labouchere, England should keep her promise and withdraw.

One point that may have an effect in keeping England out of the present Hawaiian imbroglio is the disinclination of the conservative element to further broaden British territory on the ground that she already has more than she can conveniently handle. Still, if there is a shadow of excuse for Great Britain to get a coaling station in the Sandwich islands she will essay the task at this interesting period.

"Happy is the nation that has no foreign policy," says an Englishman who is heartily tired of his government's meddling disposition. The United States is in that position. With the purchase of Alaska a suggestion of such a policy was presented. The most use that this country has had for diplomacy in late years has been in connection with her Arctic holdings. Questions are ever arising in which a foreign policy is outlined, only to be short lived, however. The Monroe doctrine, although comparable to the British foreign policy that makes that nation exercise a sort of espionage over all of continental

Europe, has not troubled us much as a nation, and precious little gray matter is expended on it.

The annexation of Hawaii to the United States would give rise to the objectionable foreign policy. England would force it. There are now on the islands about 2,000 Americans and perhaps 1,200 English residents. Of course the admission of Hawaii as a state or territory would at once result in the increase of the American population, but at the same time the English interests would in all likelihood remain unimpaired. England would keep a greedy eye on the nation and at one slight of her people or holdings this government would probably be called to account. In her jealous interest England would have the co-operation of Germany, which also has some property on the islands as well as a keen appreciation of its strategic value. It would be the watching of these powers and the maintaining of our national dignity that would possess us of the undesirable foreign policy. Local troubles in the new Hawaiian states would be taken up by the foreign residents and our gunboats would be frowning at those of England and Germany half the time.

Hawaii is valuable. It is a good property for the United States to get as a gift, but when she gets it this government will find herself in need of more diplomats and more war vessels than she ever needed before in time of peace. As the national body grows it will need larger trousers and roomier pockets.