

public organizations as voters and taxpayers.

### JINGOISM, PURE AND SIMPLE.

The startling announcement was made in yesterday's dispatches that Russia, France and the United States had formed a triple alliance. Weighty confirmation will be needed to impress upon the people the truth of the piece of information. The forming of such an alliance would be a fitting wind up to an administration so characterized by the spirit of jingoism as the one just closing. Harrison has been ambitious to maintain national dignity in cases where there was no indication that our dignity was about to be trampled upon. If this new doctrine has a status it comes from a desire to bluster and get a name for the administration among the foreign powers.

Where is the man so skilled in statecraft that he can see ahead far enough to discern a crisis when this nation will clamor for foreign help? Is there a sign of war or a threat secretly promulgated by Germany or England against this nation? Or perhaps Italy has not forgot the little affair at New Orleans. Secretary Foster may be seeking help because he fears that the dark-skinned nation may blow us up without warning. At any rate, there must be something in the air that the newspapers have missed, or we are about to give something for nothing to the Russian and French governments. Both of these nations are likely to tumble into a war with one of the continental powers at a moment's notice. The hazard is great. Is this alliance to work both ways? If that is the purpose, Russia and France ought to pay us handsomely for the extra risk that we are assuming.

Hawaiian annexation will not arouse a single European government. Canadian annexation is so remote that we shall have time to build half a dozen navies before a move will be made. These are the only questions about which we are at all likely to quarrel with anybody. If the Mexicans should offer to do battle with us, we would make it a very sorry day for them. England is afraid, Italy is afraid, Russia is our friend, France has her hands full. Why under the shining sun should we seek an alliance with foreign powers? We would become entangled with a foreign policy, violate the tradition under which the nation has grown great and probably find it necessary to fight some other country's battles.

If there is secret plotting against the United States that renders this alliance necessary, the people ought to know it. Otherwise, they ought to have a good reason for the serious change of national policy.