

Would Acquisition of Territory to the United States
be Dangerous.

The difference between the present condition of the United States and the thirteen original colonies after the Revolutionary war is very conclusive to a lover of his country, for the acquisition of territory, instead of being a menace, is a great lever of prosperity.

But before proceeding further let us make a comparison of the present condition of the United States and its condition immediately after the close of the Revolutionary war. Then we had three million people as our population. Now we have seventy millions, and what is this increase due to; simply this acquisition of territory. Then we had a little over eight hundred thousand square miles; now the area of the United States is nearly four million square miles.

Just after the war with Mexico the revenue was \$39,000,000, today her revenue is \$553,000,000.

When the Mississippi river was the extreme western boundary of the United States there were a great many men in the country who thought that the acquisition of territory would be dangerous to the welfare of the country. But has it? No.

The experiment of acquisition of territory was first tried in the Louisiana purchase, when the United States obtained possession of that vast expanse of territory, the acquisition of which more than doubled her area. It embraced all of that territory comprising the present states of Louisiana, Arkansas, Indian Territory, Missouri and Kansas, and that territory lying west of the Mississippi and north of what is now known as the Mason and Dixon line.

The influence of our government and its civilization over this vast territory, which a few years ago was the home of the Indian and buffalo, can now be shown by myriads of cities and towns and a network of railway systems more complete than any other section of the country.