

## **Mass Appeal: The Hijacking of Dime Novel Medium to Counter U.S. Imperial Ideology in Cuba and the Philippines<sup>1</sup>**

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The collective contribution of Crosby, Ade and Bridgman represents a unique kind of anti-imperial discourse and a shift from narrow Anglo-American nationalism and xenophobia to genuine concern for the cessation or collapse of the American republican experiment and non-Anglo others. Moreover, in contrast to the most vocal anti-imperialists—who almost without exception geared their heady appeal to an esoteric audience, many of whom were at least middle class, college educated and / or politically active—Crosby, Ade and Bridgman appealed to the masses by integrating anti-imperial ideology within a dime novel framework; this simultaneously undermined the genre’s historical promotion of expansion and idealization of war, as well as variegated the composition of the anti-imperialist discourse. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2008 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]*

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Having originated as a string of multiplying colonies to expand Britain’s commercial and territorial interest, the United States emerged with imperialism in its bedrock. Emigration to the colonies by those fleeing

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