

ent points along the way. From Cliff house, overlooking the broad ocean, the flowers were scattered on May 30, 1899. A friend who was making the trip to Manila on the Senator, the same boat from which the brave young soldier had been buried, asked the privilege of carrying a box of flowers with her and scattering them to the waves as near as possible at the place at which the burial had occurred."

FROM THIS pathetic incident, according to the World-Herald, arose the custom in Nebraska of each year sending out upon the river a small boat laden with flowers, in memory of the defenders of home and country who lie beneath the swiftly rushing waves. For this purpose a special ritual was prepared by C. M. Peters of the Union Veterans' Union, which is always read at the ceremonies attending the launching of the boat. "In memory of a son whose silent tomb is the restless ocean, and whose requiem is the beating of the waves on two continents, are these flowers sent to be carried by the receding tides far out to sea, there to gently sink as if to find the boy whose body lies somewhere within the mighty watery tomb. We send these flowers on their journey to the sea in memory of the dead who lie unconfined in its depths and over whom no shaft or monument can be reared. In memory of the sailor dead we send them, wherever their watery entombment may be. And with them we send our prayers of love and devotion for the cause for which they gave their lives."

THE BOAT which was used this year at the Omaha celebration by the ladies of Garfield circle No. 2, Grand Army of the Republic, was presented to them for this purpose by the Vicksburg regiment No. 1, represented by Colonel George B. Rathbun, Vicksburg regiment, No. 1, department of Nebraska Union Veterans' Union, company I, Twenty-fourth Iowa volunteer infantry, who was also marshal of the day. The boat is named Senator in memory of the ship from which George Geddes was buried. It was covered with flowers and contained a bottle in which the following message was sealed: "In memoriam of the sailors and soldiers buried at sea, this craft is launched by the ladies of Garfield circle No. 2, Grand Army of the Republic, and the Union Veterans' Union, division of Nebraska, who desire it to continue on its course to the ocean, bearing the tidings, 'Peace on earth and good will to men.' Whoever finds this boat will please send it on its way to the gulf and inform by wire or letter the Omaha World-Herald, where found and condition it is in. By request of committee, Major General J. Francis Hopper, division commander, department of Nebraska."

WITH APPROPRIATE ceremony this boat was launched at Omaha at 5 o'clock on the evening of Memorial day. The World-Herald report says: "An especially touching part of the program of the launching of the memorial to the soldiers and sailors buried at sea was the singing of 'Lead, Kindly Light,' sung by Arthur Lillie, a comrade of the dead soldier, who sang this song at the burial at sea. Judge Jacob Fawcett delivered the speech at the launching. The small craft, with its sails and beautiful blossoms, was launched near the smelter in the bend of the river, and despite the strong, swirling current, breasted the waves and rode proudly away. People followed the boat with their eyes until it disappeared beyond the railroad bridge."

JOSEPH H. CALL, who has for nineteen years, been the special counsel for the United States in land grant litigation against the Southern Pacific, Santa Fe and Atlantic and Pacific railroads, has resigned his position. Referring to his resignation, the Los Angeles Examiner says: "In the history of the United States there has been no parallel in the number and importance of the litigations won and the results accomplished compared to those litigations entrusted to Mr. Call. The official reports of the federal courts including the supreme court contain the history of these litigations commencing with volume 146 United States reports and ending with volume 200. When Mr. Call entered upon his task the railway claims occupied and exercised ownership over all the lands within granted and indemnity limits in Southern California, Arizona, New Mexico and Indian Territory, those railroads claiming not only lands opposite the constructed roads but also millions of acres where the road had not been built. The result accom-

plished in California is the taking of over five millions of acres from the Southern Pacific and restoring the same to the public domain and which lands are now largely embraced in government forest reserves. The lands claimed by the Santa Fe between the states of Missouri and California recovered by the government amount to more than thirty millions of acres. In all of these litigations which Mr. Call commenced and carried through to the supreme court of the United States the government was victorious in each and every one and in only one case not commenced by Mr. Call did he meet defeat. That case was brought up by the interstate commerce commission against the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe roads and involved the right of the initial carriers to route citrus fruit shipments upon connecting lines. This case was decided by the supreme court upon the findings of the commission and was adverse to the orange growers."

A LONDON cablegram, printed in the Minneapolis Journal, follows: "With a single exception all the members of the West Ham board of guardians and the workhouse and infirmary officials, whose trial began at the central criminal court April 24 on the charge of receiving bribes, were found guilty today and sentenced to terms of imprisonment at hard labor varying from six months to two years. In summing up Justice Jelf characterized the practices disclosed in the evidence as being a curse to the country. He added that he was afraid it was a growing curse, and that the people were losing their hold on all that was best in the civil life of the country. The sums involved were comparatively small. A doctor, for instance, paid \$500 for a hospital appointment."

THE NEW YORK Evening Post having said that "army regulations forbid a United States army officer to talk back to a senator," one who signs himself "an army officer" writes from Boston as follows: "Article of war 19 forbids the use of 'contemptuous or disrespectful words against the president, the vice president, the congress of the United States, or the chief magistrate or legislature of any of the United States in which he (an officer) is quartered.' Article 20 forbids disrespectful behavior towards one's commanding officer. Should an officer call his immediate commander—perhaps a captain—an ass, or say that congress has acted foolishly, or that the president or vice president habitually meddles with affairs outside of his proper sphere, he would be guilty of a military offense. But to publish an open letter to an individual senator, accusing him of gross ignorance, prejudice, or even wilful misrepresentation, while it would doubtless be most impolitic, would not be a breach of any regulation. A senator is not sacrosanct, nor need he evoke the awe naturally inspired by a little tin god on wheels."

UPON HIS ELECTION to the United States senate, Mr. Stephenson, who succeeds Senator Spooner, announced his platform as follows: First—Prompt and thorough revision of all tariff schedules, reducing duties wherever possible without reducing wages of labor. Second—Strengthening the interstate commerce law, giving the commission full power to regulate rates and services. Third—Legislation authorizing and equipping the interstate commerce commission to ascertain the true value of railroad property; the lowest cost of operating the railways and the amount paid therefor. Fourth—Legislation requiring the adoption of the best known safety appliances and prescribing strict regulation in the operation of trains in connection therewith. Fifth—Strengthening the Sherman anti-trust law and imposing such additional penalties as will deter property interests from combining in violation thereof. Sixth—A constitutional amendment for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people. Seventh—A federal tax upon incomes. Eighth—A federal tax upon inheritances, the same not to interfere with the taxation of inheritances under the Wisconsin state law."

REFERRING TO Mr. Spooner's successor, the Omaha World-Herald says: "The break of the long senatorial deadlock in the Wisconsin legislature is a victory for the people, as against special interests. The unexpired two years of Senator Spooner's term will be filled by Isaac Stephenson, who has been one of the consistent supporters of LaFollette, and who is declared to be a thorough-going believer in the ideas for which LaFollette stands. LaFollette

and Spooner are as far apart in their views of the great political questions of the day as if they were of opposing political parties. LaFollette and Stephenson will stand together upon these questions. This is well—not on grounds of 'harmony,' but as an additional indication of a better state of things. Mr. Stephenson's tenure of office will be but two years, continuing through the Sixtieth congress. It is in this congress, in all likelihood, that LaFollette will prove himself as a fighter. The outcome of the Spooner succession struggle will help LaFollette mightily—not merely by giving him a trustworthy lieutenant in the senate, but still more by wiping out the irritation, the perpetually disturbing effects of Senator Spooner's opposition. Spooner within LaFollette's party has been infinitely more harassing than he might have been out of it. For the time being, LaFollette will be sustained by the fact that, although his party is not in accord in his state, the opposition can now cause him comparatively little embarrassment. He will go into the next congress free of that heavy handicap. This presages good things."

SENATOR FORAKER spoke on Memorial day at Steubenville, Ohio. He took occasion to say: "There is a practical unanimity of sentiment in favor of the general policy of efficiently regulating trusts, railroads and large corporations—especially those engaged in interstate commerce—but there are many honest differences as to details. Are they to be impatiently brushed aside as not in harmony with somebody's policy, or are they to be carefully considered? Much legislation has been enacted to accomplish this general purpose, upon which we are all agreed. A part of this legislation has been put to test and found efficient and beneficial. Some of it has not yet been tried. Until it has been, we shall not be able to judge intelligently as to the relative merits of the several statutes we now have in force, or as to what further legislation, if any, we may need. Is it out of order to hear each other before we decide such matters? Are we to confuse policies and methods, and failing to distinguish between them forget that one may be favored and the other condemned without any inconsistency or lack of fidelity to the principle involved?"

THE NEWSPAPERS are having considerable fun with Henry James; they are making sport of his "English." Referring to the opening sentence of Mr. James' essay on "The Manners of American Women" in Harpers Bazar, one newspaper says that "it reads just as well backward." We don't know but what this is true. Let the reader judge for himself. This is the "opening sentence": "There was always of course on the threshold, for admonition, that familiar little truth about 'the people one knows,' the truth that their manners, when once knowledge had gone far enough, seemed, as one might say, all right; and that the question had somehow been practically superseded—superseded by that of their morals, as a general thing so extraordinarily good, by that of their almost inveterate and quite explicit good intentions, their amiability, their vivacity, their veracity; conditions as to which one could scarce say if they consisted of forms, if they even altogether consorted with forms, or not."

SOME STRANGE stories come from a Winsted, Conn., newspaper correspondent. One of these sent recently to the New York World follows: "William C. Phelps, who died last week in his one hundredth year, outlived the mortuary tables of a Connecticut life insurance company in which he carried a \$1,500 policy. In March, 1849, Mr. Phelps took out a policy, payable to his heirs at death, anticipating his birthday in September by using the age at which he would then have attained. At the anniversary last month of the issue of the policy the company informed Mr. Phelps that he had reached the age at which all the tables used in calculating premiums ended, and it was ready to pay the face of the policy, with the last year's dividend. The proper papers were executed and the company paid the money to him, remarking that it was the first experience of the kind in its sixty years of history."

The Washington Herald quotes Senator Allison as saying "The tariff is going to be a live issue soon." We must insist upon the Herald submitting positive proof that Senator Allison said it. The statement is altogether too positive to be accepted as the utterance of the senior senator from Iowa.