lions, could we not spare two-fifths of the sum to bring liberty to five times as many in the Philippines?

The treaty should have provided for the independence of the Filipinos as it provided for the independence of the Cubans, but when the treaty, by an inexcusable error, provided for cession instead of independence it was easier to ratify the treaty, extinguish the title of Spain, and confer independence upon the Filipinos than to continue the war and risk international complications by an effort to compel Spain to do what we could do ourselves.

Our treaty with Spain, according to international law, imposed upon us no obligations to change our form of government or to abandon our ideals in order to enforce an imperialistic doctrine. It is still possible for this nation to return to American methods. All it has to do is to announce its purpose to deal with the Filipinos in accordance with the principles set forth in the declaration of independence and then keep its promise. Why does it not do this? Because the republicans think that oriental trade is more important than American principles.

Patriotic Duty.

In an interview with the New York World, E. E. Carey, who recently returned from a two years residence in Manilla, referred to the recent exposures of fraud in the Philippines and said:

What is needed is an investigation that shall probe to the bottom the suspicious features connected with the occupancy of the Philippines, such

- 1. Causes which have recently prolonged the rebellion.
 - 2. Undue restrictions on trade.
- 3. The granting of special passes for launches, enabling a select few to trade in prohibited territory.
- 4. Dealings of certain Manila firms with the insurgents.
- 5. Granting of certain contracts for buildings, etc.
- 6. The chartering of local steamers for inter-
- island trade at unheard-of rates. 7. The granting of special and valuable privi-
- leges to private individuals. 8. The purchase of the mosquito fleet, former-
- ly the property of the Spanish government.

At the signing of the treaty of Paris, Spain had in Philippine waters a dozen small gunboats which were valuable to the United States, but useless to Spain.

The Spanish government offered the boats to a high official at a reasonable figure; he refused the offer and afterward bought the roats from private parties, paying \$100,000 more than the first offer. Then, through the fault of someone, the insurgents looted some of the vessels and the government paid an additional \$80,000 to cover this loss.

Government contractors have had their goods carried in government boats and landed free of

Certain contractors have been favored with large contracts. For example, suppose five tons of rice and ten tons of sugar were needed. A certain contractor would be given a tip; he would order the supplies from Hong Kong.

When he had the goods in his house the officers in collusion would call for such bids for rice and sugar to be delivered in forty-eight hours. The favored bidder would be the only one who could meet the requirements, and he would put in a

The Commoner.

fancy bid and get the order This explains why certain officers have carriages and horses and servants and one or more establishments.

The Washington Post points out that this interview appeared in the World of April 3, and demands to know why Mr. Carey has not gone to Washington, and submitted his complaints and his information to the administration.

Perhaps Mr. Carey had a pretty accurate idea of the reception that would be accorded complaints concerning official conduct in the Philippines.

At all events, it does not seem to have occurred to the Washington Post as strange, that although this interview appeared April 3, the administration has not called upon Mr. Carey for further information.

The Post wants to know why these gentlemen, who know so much about corruption at Manila and elsewhere, do not bring charges and thus perform a patriotic duty. Would it not be more reasonable if the Post demanded to know why the administration, in the face of reiterated charges of this character, does not call for proof and follow up the call with an investigation that investigates?

As a matter of fact, in no instance has the administration commenced an investigation, except where the same was forced upon it by public exposures that could not be ignored.

A Delusion and a Snare.

It will be remembered that Congressman Babcock, a Republican member from Wisconsin, introduced a bill purporting to abolish the duties on such articles as are produced by the steel trust. A Washington correspondent of the Chicago Chronicle charges that this bill is a delusion and a snare. According to this correspondent, the bill provided specifically for the repealing of certain duties imposed on iron

"and steel manufactures in schedule C of the Dingley tariff and did not go beyond that. The effect of the repeal of certain specified paragraphs of the metal schedule would be, or course, to abolish the particular duties prescribed by those paragraphs without at all affecting the validity of any other paragraphs in the schedule. Among the paragraphs not affected by the bill is 193, the last one in the schedule, which lays a duty of 45 per cent on all articles composed wholly or in part of metal and 'not specially provided for in this act.' Clearly the effect of repealing various other paragraphs, leaving this one standing, would be to bring the articles embraced in the repeale paragraphs under the operation of paragraph 193. And this would leave the duties on those articles 45 per cent, or fully as high, on the average, as they now are, or, at least, high enough to answer all the purposes of the trust."

Commenting on this discovery, the Chicago Chronicle says:

The omission of all reference to paragraph 193 or the failure expressly to place the articles embraced in the repealed paragraphs on the free list may have been an oversight on the part of Mr. Babcock. But he is not the kind of man who would be likely to make such slips. It looks very much as though he well understood what he was doing and meant to make the kind of thrust at trusts which would please the crowd without inconvincing or alarming the trusts in the least.

Trouble in Japan.

The Philadelphia Record, a thick and thin advocate of the gold standard, gives editorial recognition to the threatened panic in Japan.

Here is its confession:

"The statement that Japan is on the verge of a panic, made in a recent report (a summary of which appears elsewhere in this issue of the Record) from Consul General Bellows, at Yokohama, comes as a startling surprise. ./e have become so accustomed to associating progress and prosperity with the Island Empire since it has adopted our ways of civilization that the thought ci financial disaster overtaking it has never occurred to the observer not on the spot."

The Record proceeds to give its explanation, but the significant part of the editorial lies in the statement of fact rather than in the attempt to avoid its force. It will be remembered that Japan was persuaded to adopt the gold standard and the financiers hailed it as an evidence of progress and prosperity. Prior to that time, Japan, with silver as her standard, had been making such gigantic strides that President Cleveland felt called upon to congratulate the United States in one of his messages upon being among the first nations to recognize her advancement. If a nation using silver has any financial trouble the gold standard organs promptly attribute it to the use of silver, but they refuse to apply their logic to gold standard nations which get into trouble. Japan was doing well with silver and has not profited by the change to a gold basis.

Norway's Fourth of July.

May 17th is to Norway what the Fourth of July is to the United States. Eighty-five years ago Norway secured a liberal constitution and the aniversary of the day is celebrated by her sons and daughters. Below will be found four stanzas of

Norway's National Hymn.

Yes, we love our native country-Country of a thousand homes-As it, ragged, weather-beaten, O'er the water looms. Love it tenderly still thinking Of parental name, While the "Saga" night 's revealing Beginning of our fame.

Land that was acquired by Harold And his soldiers brave; Kakon, while Eivind was singing, Our heritage did save. Olaf gladly gave his young life To defend our home; And our "Sverret" from the throne seat Did defy proud Rome.

Peasants with their sharpened axes Checked the foe's advance: Tordenskjold the west illumined With his sword and lance. Women, too, took up the battle When their husbands died; Though in bitter anguish dwelling They the foe defied.

Norsemen, in the home or cabin, Thank Almighty God That He has so long protected With resistless rod. Blood of father, tears of mother-Both for freedom shed-He has changed into a blessing On each Norseman's head.