## The Commoner.

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reports on the subject, it is safe to say that since May 1, 1898, over \$375,000,-000 has been expended by this government in the Philippines.

THE WEEK AT WASHINGTON.

On May 7 Senator Hoar introduced a new isthmian canal bill, leaving to the president the selection of a route.

The amendment to the sundry civil bill postponing the St. Louis exposition until 1904, was adopted by the senate on May 5.

The Indian appropriation bill passed the house on May 7. This bill includes an appropriation of \$100,000 to the Omaha Indians in Nebraska.

The trial by court-martial of General Smith at Manila ended on May 3 and the general opinion is that he will be acquitted of the charges against him.

On May 3 the president sent to the senate the nomination of H. Clay Evans to be consul general at London, as successor to Mr. Osborn, who died there recently.

H. G. Squiers, secretary of the legation at Pekin, has been selected by the president as minister to Cuba, and General F. S. Bragg of Wisconsin is to be consul general at Havana.

At the suggestion of Captain Dayton of the cruiser Chicago, Secretary Moody has authorized that officer to convene a court of inquiry to examine into the matters connected with the arrest and imprisonment of four officers of the Chicago at Venice.

On May 4 public memorial services were held over the remains of the late Representative Amos J. Cummings of New York, in the house of representatives. The exercises were very impressive, almost the entire membership of the house and the senate being present.

On May 8 the democratic congressional committee organized at Washington by adopting a resolution authorizing the chairman, Representative Greggs of Georgia, to appoint a campaign committee of eleven members, six of whom shall be members of the congressional committee.

On May 5, President Havemeyer of the sugar refining company, gave testimony before the senate committee on Cuban relations. He explained the been hacked to pieces. reduction in price of his product, and declared that it was not done with the idea of forcing beet sugar out of the market or of discriminating against the Cuban product. The chief justice of the United States supreme court on May 5 renderea opinions in two test cases, affecting the transit of Chinamen through this country to other countries. The opinion affects forty or fifty Chinamen who have been detained at San Francisco for the past four or five months, and these must go back to China. On May 7 the house began consideration of the bill admitting Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona into the union as states. Opposition was made by republicans of the house on the claim that they are not yet ready for statehood, and an amendment is proposed consolidating Oklahoma and Indian territories into one state. Recent reports from General Chaffee in the Philippines are to the effect that he will press the charges made by Major Gardener in order to ascertain the exact truth. He has also ordered General Smith to instruct his troops to forbid the practice of the so-called "water cure" on the natives, and that "natives are to be treated in such manner by United States forces that said treatment cannot be criticised in any way."

and captured the Moro forts, and its 84 survivors surrendered unconditionally. Another message from Chaffee reports that since April 16 about 1,500 insurgents have surrendered to the Americans.

DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

The debate on the Philippine bill was opened on Monday, May 5, by Senator Lodge. He did not deny that crucities had been committed in the Philippines, but said that in many instances the cruelties complained of were justified under the circumstances. He argued that the cruelties in war were not infrequent and quoted from ancient and modern history to justify these practices. He pointed out that there were scores of instances where the Filipinos had practiced extreme cruelty and tortures on the Americans, and he did not think that the isolated instances of the "water cure" were sufficient to stir up popular indignation. Mr. Lodge disclaimed any sympathy with cruelties practiced upon helpless persons. He regarded them as bitterly as any one could, but he charged that the criticism of cruelties by the democratic members constituted an attack upon the United States army.

On Tuesday, May 6, Mr. Beveridge of Indiana took up the discussion of the Philippine question in the senate. The Associated press report of the proceedings follows:

Mr. Beveridge addressed the senate to correct, as he said, an unintentional misstatement made by Mr. Rawlins of Utah, concerning the application of the water cure to Filipinos who had burned Sergeant O'Herne to death. He read from the testimony to show that Mr. Rawlins' statement was not accurate.

Mr. Hoar of Massachusetts inquired if it was a fact, proved by testimony, that American soldiers had tortured Filipinos until they had confessed to the commission of crime.

Mr. Beveridge said it had been proved that the water cure had been administered in the dreadful O'Herne case. By the confession of the Filipinos to whom the water cure had been given it was learned that O'Herne had been burned to death over a slow fire and that his body subsequently had

The confession of the Filipinos included the location of O'Herne's remains. Investigation disclosed those remains, which were identified. "Was this murder proved by any other testimony than that given in the testimony of the tortured Filipinos?" inquired Mr. Hoar. "Not that I know of," replied Mr. Beveridge. "But that evidence was conclusive." Mr. Beveridge and Mr. Patterson became involved in a spirited colloguy over the treatment of the Filipinos by the American soldiers which was interrupted by Mr. Carmack of Tennessee saying: "The conduct of American soldiers in the Philippines was uniformly kind wherever it was permitted to be so. In cases where it was otherwise they were driven to the cruelties by their superior officers." Mr. Beveridge said he was glad at this late date to hear an apology for attacks made upon the American soldiers, and inquired if Mr. Carmack could mention more than a single instance where an officer had ordered the administration of torture to a Filipino. Mr. Carmack replied that he had not referred to any special order, but that the general orders of Generals Bell and Chaffee indicated that in the opinion of those officers the American troops were treating the Filipinos too kindly.

ity senators, he said, should confine themselves to the record as made and in connection with the instance of cruelty, which all bitterly regretted, they should in justice show that the Filipino prisoners had received the same food, the same medicines and had been attended in the same hospitals by the same nurses as the American soldiers.

Mr. Rawlins contended that every statement he had made in his discussion of this question was essentially accurate. He discussed the O'Herne case and said that the impression ne had gotten from the testimony was that the Filipinos had been induced to make the confession suggested to them by the administration of the water cure. He resented Mr. Beveridge's imputation that the minority was arraigning the American soldiers.

Mr. Rawlins said outrages in the Philippines were due, not to the soldiers themselves, but to the highest military authorities in the islands. The responsibility for them, indeed, was to be placed properly at the door of the administration officials here in Washington.

"Until recently," said he, "I had thought that those things were sporadic and isolated, but I have been forced to the belief that they are but a part of the general plan of campaign."

Mr. Rawlins said one victim was tied down by American troops and sugar was placed upon his head to attract the voracious ants, common in those islands, and forced to give information. He declared that women and innocent children had been put to death ruthlessly by American troops.

Mr. Beveridge read at some length from the testimony taken before the Philippine committee to show many acts of unusual unkindness to Filipino prisoners by the Americans.

Mr. Turner of Washington spoke upon the bill. He declared it unwise, unpatriotic, cruel and inhuman to attempt to make the Philippines a permanent part of the territory of the United States.

He then criticised the refusal of the senate committee on the Philippines to summon Aguinaldo, Mabini, Major Gardener and others. He would feel constrained, he said, if the present methods of the Philippine committee are continued to declare that it does not want the truth, but that it is determined to strangle the truth as our armies under the compulsion of superior authority are strangling liberty in the Philippines. "If any senator," asked Mr. Turner, "had conceived at the time the treaty with Spain was pending that it would lead us into war with the Filipinos would that treaty have received a single vote?" Mr. Turner referred to the order of General Jacob H. Smith and said that it remained for the American soldier, the highest type of civilization, in a quarrel not having the single element of religious difference, prosecuted upon professedly humanitarian grounds, to raise his name to the height of bloody infamy. He characterized General Smith as "a monster in human form," who had devoted an entire province to a merciless extermination. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Dolliver as to whether any women or children had been put to death under that order Mr. Turner replied that evidence showed that twenty men had been taken out and shot. Mr. Dolliver declared that the men had been shot not under the order of but upon other General Smith, grounds.

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without the constant presence there of a great army.

The war department received a cablegram from General Chaffee May 3 announcing the beginning of hostillties with the Moros. The ultimatum sent to them was treated with contempt and the American troops were fired on, after which they advanced

Mr. Beveridge ridiculed this answer of Mr. Carmack, declaring that when he asked him a direct question he replied in a diaphanous way of the orders of Bell and Chaffee. The minor-

Mr. Turner urged that Major Waller had pleaded the order of General Smith as justification for his execution of the Samar guides and had been acquitted on that plea. He asserted that it would be impossible, despite the "fairy tale of amity which constantly is being dinned into our ears," for the United States to govern the islands

Mr. Turner referred to a special dispatch which appeared in the Washington Post of today under date line of Lynn, Mass., and which on the authority of Rev. W. H. Walker told of the execution of 1,000 Filipino prisoners by a battalion of American troops because there was not sufficient food for them. Rev. Dr. Walker told the story on the authority of his son, J. B. Walker, a private in company I. Sixteenth infantry.

Mr. Turner said he did not vouch for the truthfulness of the story, but felt that it ought to be investigated.

Mr. Lodge replied that he would investigate the matter, although he felt it was utterly without foundation.

'Lust of dominion," said Mr. Turner, "greed of conquest, overruled the sober judgment of the American officials and drove us into this war."

He strongly urged the Philippine committee to summon every witness who could possibly throw any light on it. Speaking earnestly to the coinmittee he said:

"In view of the bloody stain on the American ensign, if you do not shed light on this situation, it will be because you dare not. You cannot es-

