

ing a wireless telegraph service between San Francisco and the Farallone islands, thirty miles from San Francisco. The service will supplement the cable between these points, which was broken recently and is now in course of repair.

A dispatch from New York under date of May 14 says: A national federation of employers, it is expected, will be one of the consequences of the movement begun by employers of labor in the building trades to organize for protection and aggressive purposes against the labor unions.

A dispatch from Washington, dated May 13, says: The war department has received mail advices from Manila that Miss Floy Gilmore has been appointed assistant attorney general for the government in the Philippine islands. She is the first woman appointed to such an important local position. She went to the Philippines as a stenographer and gained her present position by good work in the office of the attorney general.

General Nelson A. Miles has written a letter to the Army and Navy Journal declaring his position in regard to the report he recently made charging officers in the Philippines with cruelties. General Miles says he was instructed to go to the Philippines and investigate conditions there, paying special attention to the "instruction, discipline and supplies of the army." He reiterates the charges made in his report, but says that the soldiers did not act in these matters except in obedience of orders issued by their superior officers.

Christopher H. Payne has been appointed United States consul at St. Thomas. He is a colored man who has taken an active part in West Virginia politics and has been in the internal revenue service. The informal transfer of Henry A. Johnson of the District of Columbia from Venice to Valencia has been announced.

On May 15 Governor Mickey of Nebraska made public the charge that he had been offered bribes of \$1,000 each for four state positions. The governor has not made public the names of the men who offered the bribes.

Former State Senator F. L. Busch went before Circuit Attorney Folk at St. Louis on May 15 and made a confession of his connection with corrupt deals extending over a period of eight years. Mr. Busch confessed that he has been receiving a salary from the railroad lobby for taking care of all railroad legislation.

A Reaction Setting In.

General Miles put a crimp in the war department stories that there are no atrocities to be credited to the Philippines. It appears to have been a good thing, as a bureau of information medium at least, to have permitted General Miles to encircle the globe. The commanding general of the army, who is, however, commanding in name only, kept his eyes open while in the Philippines, and he saw things. His report, extracts from which were published in the Sentinel Monday, indicates that strenuous action is needed to regulate the jurisdiction of the army officer and soldier in the Philippines. Such atrocities as are reported by General Miles as undoubtedly having occurred are a disgrace to any nation, especially to one that professes to be the advance agent of civilization as does the United States.—Knoxville Sentinel.

The Sentinel expresses sentiments which are well nigh universal among

the democratic and independent papers of the country. The thick and thin republican organs and certain allied democratic journals which, having caught the imperialistic mania, out-Herod Herod in their advocacy of it, are, of course, abusing Miles as they do everybody else who jostles their fetish. Among the mildly imperialistic papers there is a marked reaction against the disposition shown some time ago to regard every criticism of military atrocity in the Philippines as an attack on the honor of the army.

Americans are not like the French who believe that no member of the army can do wrong. God save us from the day when the military will be exalted above the civil authority in this country, for that day will mark the beginning of the end of our free institutions. We hold it an absolute essential of popular government that the misdeeds of civil officers shall be held up to public knowledge and denunciation. How much more necessary that the military should be subject to the same treatment. We give all due honor to our army and navy and most of them are entitled to all honor—but there is nothing sacred about them, and if there were they would be all the more honored by the punishment of unworthy companions in arms.

The country is to be congratulated that it has come back to a saner attitude regarding its military forces. Even imperialists can now see that the men who have been honestly seeking to expose the perpetrators of the Philippine atrocities are not traitors, but the best friends of the true soldiers and the American people.—Memphis News.

Information Wanted

Information is wanted concerning the whereabouts of Ed Hilmer. His mother left him at Stromsburg, Neb., some ten or eleven years ago. Address J. G. Andressen, Higginsville, Mo.

Mrs. Philip Coons, of Visalia, Cal., is anxious to learn the address of a long lost niece. When last heard of the niece was living in either Nebraska or Colorado.

If there is a married woman among Commoner readers whose maiden name was Shofstall, she is requested to write to Mrs. Kate Coons, Visalia, Cal.

Mrs. Emma H. Nye, of Wythesville, Va., is anxious to learn the whereabouts of her son, known among western railroad men as Victor H. Nye. The last his mother heard of him was in 1893, when he was in Kansas City.

The American Marine.

Under the above title William W. Bates, late United States commissioner of navigation and formerly manager of the Inland Lloyd's Register, as well as the author of "Rules for Construction and Classification of Vessels," has recently given to the public, through Houghton, Mifflin & Co., New York, publishers, a very thorough and comprehensive argument in favor of the rehabilitation of the American marine. He discusses among other things the nation's interest in a marine, the economy of doing our own shipping, the encouragement of maritime pursuits, naval arts as they relate to national progress, American and British navigation laws compared, the evolution of British maritime power, early shipping policy of the United States and its declension, the effect of war and free trade upon the merchant marine, tariff legislation as it affects our shipping, the free importation of ships, the unity of interest in shipbuilding and ship owning, true economy in ship owning; durability of British and American

built ships, the effect of foreign marine on insurance, sailing ship performance, Pacific coast commerce and navigation, the marine insurance business in the United States and as conducted in foreign countries, imperfection of our tonnage tax system, the load-line question, the cost and economy of shipping, the bureau of navigation of the treasury department, the tonnage bill and estimates for bounties, transportation under protection and free trade, and the methods of protecting shipping.

As will be seen, the book covers the entire field and together with the statistics which it contains, furnishes a fund of valuable information for any student of this important subject.

A Fearless Reformer.

President Roosevelt is certainly a fearless reformer. Yesterday he attacked one of our darling sins when he asked to have the cards of visitors torn down from the big trees of California. With a rude hand he has slammed in the faces of millions of our worthy citizens their only door of hope of fame. The few thousand Americans whose names appear in "Who's Who" may sit secure, like the gods on Olympus, unshaken by the concussion; but what of the submerged nine-tenths? For years they have been sticking their cards on the big trees, hacking their initials on every accessible piece of wood within two miles of Niagara Falls, and toiling up Mount Washington with stone-chisels and mallets, thrilled by visions of a glorious immortality. These honest people cannot go traveling about the country in special trains; they are not entertained by governors and aldermen; they are not asked to deliver addresses on the tariff, the strenuous life, the race suicide; they cannot even write histories of the west. Cut off from these simple, but exhilarating methods of impressing their personality upon the world, they turn in desperation to the big trees and to the bald rocky crown of Mount Washington. If President Roosevelt himself were in their place he would not meekly content himself with rearing a patriarchal family and then joining the choir invisible. Such a craven surrender to fate cannot be expected of men with iron in their blood.—New York Evening Post.

Strange Things Are Done in Jersey.

In criticizing the action of the public authorities of Passaic in granting a license to sell intoxicants in a building wherein the worship of God is regularly carried on, the valued Albany Press-Knickerbocker-Express declares that "you can get anything they have got in New Jersey if you have the price, from the incorporation of a trust to a license to run a saloon in a building where religious services are held."

The story goes (and it is likely to be told in court) that a Passaic man who happened to be solicitor for a brewery in which some of the councilmen of the city are interested applied for a liquor license to open a saloon in the same building in which the services of St. Stephens Hungarian Catholic church are held, and the council granted it. Within two hundred feet of this building is a Greek church. The law provides that no saloon shall be conducted within three hundred feet of a church, but the councilmen paid no attention to the law. The church people propose to carry the matter to the courts.

The indignant Albany editor remarks (and who can disagree with him?) that the Jersey mosquito is not the only pest in that state. Citizenship there has nearly reached its lowest level, and we sometimes wonder why the mosquitoes do not emigrate en masse.—Providence Telegram.

Have Also Given Us Taft.

A reasonable statistician figures out that the Philippines have cost us the lives of 5,000 soldiers and \$300,000,000 during the last five years and have brought us nothing but trouble. Well, even so—hasn't the flag "stayed put" and isn't that the chief end of man?—Chicago Chronicle.

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