

TRAMPS AND STREETS.

A recent visitor in California found the streets of Los Angeles being kept clean by chained gangs of tramps, the tramp being defined as the "unemployed who is determined to continue out of employment." This is a neat definition and we agree with him that the dirty streets of Nebraska City might be carried far toward cleanliness if the wilfully indolent were compelled to use the hoe for their meals, and the helpless unemployed, the man who wants work but cannot get it, should always find an honorable job on the streets at minimum compensation, so that he could always earn something and avoid beggary while waiting, hunting and making the better chance. If we could only put a per centage of sense into our sentimentality, things would go better.

THE '99 EXPOSITION AT OMAHA.

The many friends of Dr. George L. Miller who reside in Nebraska and a great throng of admirers outside of this state will rejoice in the complete success of the Greater America Exposition.

It will be entirely original and altogether unprecedented in very many ways and may be visited as a means of education to the visitor, in regard to Cuba and the Philippine islands.

The antagonism which has prevailed as to certain retail mercantile establishments and various saloons and hotels in Omaha will, no doubt, die out; and the merchants and traders in other towns will proclaim that Omaha retailers cannot successfully compete for any patronage at their respective localities. All free traders will admit the right to buy in Omaha. But nobody will be compelled to buy there.

THE CONSERVATIVE wishes all concerned in the exposition a complete and satisfactory outcome of the enterprise notwithstanding the fact that it was undertaken in opposition to most of the newspapers, published in Nebraska, outside of Omaha.

"HIGH-HANDED TREASON" IN IOWA.

The attention of the president of the United States and his cabinet advisers will no doubt be called to the traitorous and treasonable utterances of ex-Gov. William Larrabee. It is possible that severe punishment awaits the chairman of the state board of control. It may be that Governor Shaw will convene the general assembly in special and extraordinary session for the purpose of deposing an official who is engaged in the work of preventing enlistments in the regular army. At any rate the open act of antagonizing the government in time of war cannot be passed unnoticed by the federal authorities. While Otis, Lawton, MacArthur, and the rest of them are heroically fighting to subdue

the Filipinos and take possession of their islands, an ex governor of Iowa is spreading dissent and questioning the wisdom of the government's policy. He may be, in the eyes of some, actually inciting trouble by his rebellious utterances.

The use of the mails has been denied the seditious circulars of Edward Atkinson and others because they are calculated to prejudice the success of the administration in the Philippines, and "loyal" papers all over the land are loudly calling for summary execution of this Boston rebel. But is Edward Atkinson any worse than William Larrabee? In fact, is not the crime of this prominent citizen of Iowa more rank than that of the Massachusetts essayist? Before the students of a public institution of learning, the State University of Iowa itself, Governor Larrabee has said that the Philippine islands "afford a field for adventurers only." He has averred that the expense of keeping these islands will be far more than they are worth. He has declared that the peace commission made a bad blunder, and that the administration was a party to this blunder. What does the government propose to do about this?—Davenport (Ia.) Democrat.

EARLY LIFE OF JOHN JACOB ASTOR.

My great grandfather, writes Hon. William Waldorf Astor in the June Pall Mall Magazine, was born in a peasant's cottage in the village of Waldorf, or WaldDorf, "the village in a wood," near Heidelberg, on July 17, 1763. He received the usual parish school education, and at the age of sixteen left home to escape a stepmother's ill usage. He set out on foot for the Rhine, and pausing for a last look at the familiar scenes he was to behold no more for many years, made three valuable resolves to which he adhered through life—to be honest, to be industrious, and never to gamble. Arrived in London he lodged for four years at the house of an elder brother, and having during that interval acquired the English language, embarked for the New World, towards whose broadening field of opportunity he felt himself irresistibly attracted, and where he had the premonition of great fortune.

Upon reaching New York he at once busied himself in the fur trade, to whose vast developments his thoughtful attention had been directed by a fellow-countryman, and wherein immense profits were being realized. He entered upon this occupation with unremitting vigor, and in a dozen years had diverted some of the most profitable markets from his competitors, and was at the head of a business branching to Albany, Buffalo, Plattsburg and Detroit. He established his central office at New York, where he diligently cultivated a merchant's habits in regularity and method, in the knowledge of accounts, and in the mas-

tery of the minutest details of his affairs. He rose early, lived frugally, labored with indefatigable activity, and soon had considerable means at command. He was a keen judge of the men employed either at his counting-room, or as traders with the Indians, and—himself the most painstaking of them all—required from each the best of which he was capable.

QUIVIRA.

The June Harper's contains an article by Mr. James Mooney, of the bureau of ethnology, on the much-discussed city of Quivira, the half-mythical city located somewhere in this quarter of the continent, of which the Spanish invaders of New Mexico heard from the Indians, and which several of them claimed to have reached. Their narratives differ greatly, but agree in saying that the city when found, was most unsatisfactory, containing no more gold than we may suppose an Indian encampment of those times would have contained. Mr. Mooney identifies Quivira with some settlement of the Wichita Indians between the Great Bend of the Arkansas and the present city of Wichita.

The late Judge Savage of Omaha located Quivira at the Loup Fork of the Platte, maintaining his position in several scholarly papers, which appear in the publications of the State Historical society. He depended mainly on the narrative of one Penalosa, who made the journey from Santa Fe in 1622, whereas Mr. Mooney's Quivira is that of Coronado, who visited it in 1540. According to one view, the inhabitants of the "city" were Pawnees, by the other they were Wichitas.

Where experts disagree, THE CONSERVATIVE would not presume to rush in; but it seems possible that both these theories may be correct, and that villages on both the Arkansas and the Platte may have been visited by early Spanish parties. It would not be strange if two explorers, eighty years apart, thought they had found the same city, especially if the two towns were known by the same name to the roving Comanches of the southwest, who had no towns nor pottery of their own; for the Pawnees and Wichitas were closely related and resemble each other greatly to this day in language and customs. The many-storied houses that Penalosa found in his Quivira are a great puzzle, if one gives his story any credence; Coronado's city contained houses of grass, and one of these, built by the Wichita Indians in the northeast corner of the grounds at the Omaha exposition, was described in detail in THE CONSERVATIVE last fall.

It would be interesting to know what Mr. C. F. Lummis and the Landmarks Club think of the Spanish explorers and their Quivira.