

of sovereignty over the Philippines issued December 21, 1898 (p. 5699) and that of the Philippine commission of April 4, 1899 (p. 5700). He was followed by Mr. Stewart (p. 5730) on the 13th, after whose speech there was a brief informal discussion of those items of the bill which relate to land holding and coinage. On the 14th the Philippine bill was informally laid aside while the omnibus claims bill (p. 5781), the fortifications appropriation bill (p. 5784) and a District of Columbia bill (p. 5802) were considered. These measures having been disposed of on the 15th, consideration of the Philippine bill was resumed, Mr. McLaurin, of Mississippi (p. 5832), making the only extended speech. After he had concluded on the 16th (p. 5906), Mr. Deboe (p. 5906) took up the debate, quoting in full in the course of his speech the instructions of President McKinley to the Taft commission (p. 5907). The only other business of the day, besides private and routine legislation, was the passage of a bill to restrain false markings of food products (p. 6236-7), and adjournment was taken to the 19th.

House.

Business on the 12th was confined to the municipal affairs of the District of Columbia, and on the 13th to the omnibus claims bill and naval appropriations. The latter bill was further considered on the 14th, when, also, the conference report on diplomatic and consular service in the Republic of Cuba was agreed to; and on the 15th and 16th consideration of the naval appropriation bill was continued. Prior to taking up this bill on the latter day, however, the House passed a bill relating to the disposition of public lands in Porto Rico (p. 5927). The 17th was devoted to the naval appropriation bill.

Record Notes.—Speech of Senator Burton on the Philippine bill (p. 5631), including full text of Gen. Funston's speech (p. 5648) before the Lotus club, New York. Speeches of Senator Stewart (p. 5961) and Representative Cooper on same subject (p. 5936).

Text of President McKinley's instructions to the Taft commission (p. 5907), and of Gen. Bell's "pacification" orders (p. 5916), and the report of J. H. Grant as provincial governor of Leyte.

MISCELLANY

THE AMERICAN.

For The Public.

Are you an American? Not if your mind
Would deny or begrudge equal rights to
mankind!

For though born in our Land if, forgetting
her story,

You lord it o'er others, you're only a tory—
Though hailing "Old Glory" you're merely
a tory.

For Freedom's proud title what price have
you paid?

Has your spirit confronted the Hessians of
trade

Or their white savage allies for rapine em-
powered?

Who dares not attack them is only a cow-
ard.

With freedom though dowered he is still
but a coward.

Have word, spinners woven a web that en-
snares,

And ties you up snug as a part of their
wares

To be bartered for privilege, places or plun-
der?

If so, you're no freeman—you're simply a
blunder.

For aught you may thunder—your being is
a blunder.

When public weal calls for your effort or
vote

Are there personal ends you must stop to
promote?

Though you howl at corruption a little
while later

'Tis due to your kidney, you smooth selfish
traitor.

Snug, cynical prater, your true name is—
traitor.

M. D.

BETWEEN THE LINES.

For The Public.

May 6.—Situation to-day in every way satisfactory. No hostile shot has been fired since escape of prisoners from the guard. (There is every indication of very rich deposits of mineral.) Would be exceedingly easy for Moros to climb bluff and cut our telegraph traversing shore of lake four or five miles—not molested. (Great opportunities for telegraph and railroad exploitation when the country is "Americanized." Big money for rich Americans.) Sultan Genassi says Datto Pagoag was killed at Bayan fort and his people dead or dispersed. Will investigate. (Great outlet for products American steel trust when Americans occupy.) Number of prisoners escaped, probably not exceeding 25. Ten have been recaptured. For miles about the country is much the same in its natural aspect as Camp Meade, Pa. Enormous agricultural facilities. All wounded doing well. (Possibilities of great wealth for American timber land monopolists when country is conquered.) Lieutenant seriously hurt. (American pork and packing house products should find good market when natives civilized.)

May 7.—No change in situation. (Possibilities for American exploitation immense.) Wounded doing well. (No place for poor workingman except for soldiers to use in civilizing natives.) Datto from lower Bayan says his people want peace. (Paradise for American monopolists.) Natives must be made to respect authority of United States.

Chaffer.

A. J. GRAY.

St. Paul, Minn.

THE "RIPPER" LEGISLATION FOR CLEVELAND.

With a majority hostile to the party in control in Cleveland and also hostile to advanced steps in the monopoly problem, the efforts of the solid delegation from Cuyahoga county, backed up by the almost unanimous vote of the Cleveland city council to secure the right of popular decision with regard to franchise questions, met with crushing defeat in the legislature this spring. The final blow was delivered in defeating a proposed amendment to a bill which was passed taking away the control

of Cleveland parks from the administration, and conferring the control upon a park board, appointed by a county judge, of Republican politics. The amendment in question would have left to the voters of the city of Cleveland the final decision as to whether they preferred the new or the former method of park control. Just before this amendment, so apparently in accord with American traditions, was voted down by a strict party vote, a leader of the senate had the assurance to make the following remarkable statement:

"I should hesitate to permit the people to vote on matters pertaining to the parks. The parks are a contribution from the rich to the poor. A contribution from the more intelligent to the less intelligent. They should not be controlled by those who have the political or business interests of the city on their hands. The parks should be controlled by the class which donated them."

Last week the legislature followed up the attack upon the referendum and all home rule by lodging the local assessment of all property for taxation in the hands of a state board in any county where such action might be requested by the county auditor. It is well understood that this is to enable the defeated county auditor of Cuyahoga county, before he goes out of office, to throw all local assessments into the hands of this undemocratic body, to be appointed by the governor, attorney general and state auditor. But a reaction against this extreme legislation is sure to follow, and in fact there is evidence already at hand that the principle of the referendum and home rule has received fresh impetus from these very attacks.—From a paper read May 8, 1902, before the National Municipal league, by Prof. Edward W. Bemis, of Cleveland.

BATTLE OF MEN AGAINST A MONSTER.

Editorial in the Chicago Daily News of May 19, 1902.

When the railways that run through the anthracite coal districts of Pennsylvania decided to own the mines from which they hauled the coal to market they put up the freight charges to a prohibitive price. It was a policy of confiscation and was successful. Mines and coal lands were sold by their owners to the railways. The sales were forced sales.

There are more mines than are

needed to supply the coal that is required by consumers at the high prices charged for it. The result is that the output of the various mines is limited according to an agreement among the mine-operating companies. Mines are shut down part of the year. That throws the miners out of work. By the encouragement of foreign immigration into the mining districts the coal companies supplied themselves with more labor than they need. They made labor cheap. They have paid low wages and have made many charges against the men, such as those for rent, powder for blasting (a shameful overcharge), doctors' services (whether required or not), oil for lamps and provisions from company stores. In 1900 the United Mine Workers of America organized the anthracite coal miners and brought on a great strike, lasting 42 days and resulting in a substantial victory for the men. Some of the old bitter wrongs were righted.

Other wrongs remain. Wages are fearfully low. Work is precarious. The miner can barely live on what he is permitted to earn. Meanwhile the price of anthracite coal to the consumer has risen enormously. The coal monopoly, working under an ironclad agreement, absorbs the great profits and hides them away under tricky bookkeeping by which 40 per cent. or more of the selling price of coal disappears as freight charges—paid by the monopoly to itself. These charges are wildly unreasonable. Meanwhile the miner is permitted to dig when the mine is not shut down by agreement, making a bare living. He costs so little that the coal monopoly does not have to improve its methods. It can continue to use obsolete machinery and do its work in a wasteful manner because men are so cheap.

The coal trust pays its men on an average \$1.28 a day. As the miners are employed only a part of the time, the figures do not fairly represent what their wages is in proportion to their living expenses. Last year, which is said to have been a good year for the miners, they were employed only 194 days, which means that their actual yearly earnings calculated by the day amounted to less than 80 cents. In 1899 the average number of working days was 180. A recent estimate places the average earning capacity of a miner for a year at \$248. Out of this sum he must pay the coal trust for house rent from \$36 to \$72 a year, must supply his own powder at \$14 a year and his own oil at \$5 a year, to say nothing of the fee to the coal companies' physicians, which is \$6 a year whether the

physician is needed or not. With what the miner has left he must clothe and feed himself and his family, and this at a time when the necessaries of life are unusually high.

Recently the miners, through their union, asked 20 per cent. increase in wages. It was denied them. They are said to have offered to compromise on a five per cent. advance, but the trust declined to treat with them. Now the miners have struck. The coal monopoly is going to do its best to defeat the miners and destroy their union. It wishes to thrust back into their former condition of serfdom the men who ask a living rate of payment for their hard and perilous toil. It is a battle of men against a monster—a sight to bring tears of compassion to the eyes of anyone who considers all the circumstances attending it. These 140,000 workers ask merely a just wage, so that they may make life a little less hard for themselves and those whom they love. Yet they are to be crushed for daring to dispute with this lawless trust, which insists on "running its own business."

The coal monopoly makes one serious mistake. The business which it conducts in violation of God's laws and man's laws becomes the public's business because of its evil nature. It is the duty of the United States Department of Justice to destroy this wicked trust.

EFFECTS OF THE COLONY SYSTEM.

Extracts from an article entitled "The Broken Necklace: A lesson in the Government of Distant Colonies," by Robert T. Hill; published in *The Century Magazine* for May, 1901. "The broken necklace" is Mr. Hill's picturesque term for the Lesser Antilles of the West Indies. We have selected from the article scattered paragraphs which refer to the piteous poverty of the wretched inhabitants of these islands, despite the tropical prodigality of nature, and suggest various causes for it.

Notwithstanding the beauties of nature, the richness of soil, the accessibility to markets, the remarkable historical association, the pleasant impressions of these islands diminish when the traveler steps ashore and comes in contact with the social and economic conditions. . . . The laboring people, who outnumber the proprietor class a thousand to one, at first interest one with their peculiar habits and oddities of dress, but a look into their lives excites sorrow and pity. Wages are abnormally low, work is scarce, and vice, notwithstanding the many churches and schools, peeps out at every corner. Paupers

greet one at every step, and beggary is practiced by all.

At St. Thomas the traveler going southward through the Caribbee islands first sees those ever-present signs of natural decay, the abandoned sugar houses and mills, though nature conceals the old cane fields by rapidly spreading over them a mantle of tropical vegetation. This sight is repeated in every island. . . .

In Montserrat most Negro peasants possess land, and the universal poverty and distress are slightly less. The British in the West Indies claim that Montserrat has survived the sugar desolation and has branched out into new lines of agriculture, particularly the cultivation of limes. But I saw no sign of what Americans call prosperity. The conditions suggest only the "abandoned farms" of New England. The revenue is constantly falling off; public works are advanced and new roads are built, but these only add to the taxation and distress of the people. . . .

Beautiful St. Christopher, once the metropolis of the Leeward islands! Mount Misery is as fair as ever, but monkeys crawl over the battlements of the noble fortifications at its foot, and the jungle is creeping down its summit year by year, slowly reclaiming the fair fields that once waved with cane. Sugar is virtually the only export, and the industry is almost dead. Reduction of labor and want of employment caused great distress among the blacks who were unable to obtain holdings of their own, and in 1896 there were serious riots. More miserable than the monkeys of Mount Misery are these poor jabbering black people, who have to be literally knocked from the steamer's gangway with clubs, so ravenous are they for alms or work from the passing traveler. You step ashore and are waylaid by hundreds of these British subjects of dusky hue, who beg from you outright because you are an American. "Oh, Mr. Buckra, the American is so rich and the Kitefonian is so poor!" There is not one day's labor per week for the willing hands, and travelers need not wonder at the scramble of the black men for cargo or the piteous beggary ashore. These black Kitefonians are making more rapid strides backward than even the other islanders. Already they have an unpleasant notoriety for crime, and yet there are churches,