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LOUIS F. POST, Editor.

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"Americanists" is a new word in the Philippines. It has the same significance there that "tory" had to the founders of the American republic.

Three Filipinos were hanged on the 5th at Manila, so say the press dispatches, by American military authority. They were the presidente, the chief of police and the sergeant of police of a town nominally under civic government. The charge against these men was murder, by "stabbing and burying alive" seven natives "at the instance of Filipino leaders." Whether they were guilty of this crime is not known. There is only one way, consistent with American theories of justice, by which criminal guilt can become known, and that is by jury trial. These men had no such trial, yet they have been hanged, as if lawfully convicted, under color of American law. This has an ugly resemblance to military murder.

The Republican majority have apparently concluded that they can get along without the help of the minority. Not only have they readopted the gag rules, which have degraded the House of Representatives from a deliberative body to an automatic machine for adopting committee reports, but they are now reducing the representation of the minority and increasing that of the majority on all standing committees. In practice they dispense with the advice of minority committeemen altogether; as in the case of the Philippine tariff bill, in which the majority first adopted the bill and then notified the minority that it would be recom-

mended by the committee on a given day, presented to the House two days afterward, and taken up by the House four days after that. The Republican leaders are great believers in simplicity. So was Nero.

Measures having been introduced in congress for the reduction of Southern representation, on the ground that the suffrage right of male Negroes is unconstitutionally denied, a Southern member has responded with a bill for the reduction of the representation from Massachusetts, on the ground that in that state the suffrage right of male illiterates is denied. Both measures ought to pass. Though it is not in the province of congress to fix suffrage qualifications for the states, congress properly has the constitutional right, in apportioning representation, to exclude from consideration all males over 21 years of age who have not been convicted of crime but to whom the states deny the suffrage. It should have the right to exclude not only those persons, but all persons, women as well as men, and convicts as well as illiterates, who are locally disfranchised. While each state should be allowed to determine suffrage qualifications for itself, the voters of a state should not be permitted to represent the non-voters in congress. That is unfair to non-voters, and it is unfair to the people of more democratic states. It is to be hoped, therefore, that these measures for reducing the congressional representation of the Southern States and Massachusetts may be adopted. They do not go as far as they should, but they are in the right direction.

Like a ray of sunshine out of a cloudy sky is Judge Dunne's decision in the contempt case against the Chicago American which he rendered this week. He holds for one thing

that any judge may inquire, upon writ of habeas corpus, into the authority of a coordinate judge to deprive a citizen of his liberty, and may release the prisoner if he concludes that the other judge had no jurisdiction over him. There is nothing novel in this. Judges frequently decide in that way when the coordinate judge is coordinate only in the particular matter at issue, being inferior in other respects. For instance, federal judges habitually entertain habeas corpus proceedings to look into the jurisdiction of United States commissioners who have held foreign fugitives for extradition, though they specifically assert that in extradition proceedings they and commissioners have coordinate jurisdiction. But "judicial courtesy" has been invoked to deter judges of the same general grade from applying this eminently sound principle to each other. It is to Judge Dunne's credit that he has subordinated the vicious practice of "judicial courtesy" to a wholesome principle of law, which has the sanction of precedents of a high order. Judges like Hanecy will be very much more careful about instituting arbitrary proceedings against the liberty of the citizen, when they know that coordinate judges like Dunne may expose the lawlessness of their action and give summary relief on writ of habeas corpus.

Having taken jurisdiction of the contempt case in question, Judge Dunne examined into the character of Judge Hanecy's proceedings and decided that they were absolutely without legal warrant. The decision here turned upon a simple question. Judge Hanecy had convicted the American's editors of contempt because they assailed him by comments and cartoons in their newspaper for a decision he had made. He was