

San Francisco, where writs of habeas corpus might reach him. This case furnishes a mild object lesson in the possibilities of autocratic government. Rice published a newspaper at Manila. Discovering what he believed and still declares to be financial rascality on the part of a military officer serving in a civil capacity, he exposed the corruption. Instead of trying the officer for corruption, a military tribunal tried the editor for libel and convicted him. Gen. MacArthur consequently ordered him deported to the United States. Let it be observed that military considerations nowhere entered into the matter. It is distinctly an instance of military meddling with civil concerns. The military officer was accused not as a military but as a civil functionary. The crime charged was not a military but a civil offense. The person making it was not a military man, but a civilian. Yet the accuser was tried under military law, as for a military offense, by military officers, and for the protection of a brother officer from criminal charges. A most excellent stage is Manila for private rehearsals of militarism, and Americans now living may yet see the curtain rise upon public performances at home.

This deportation of Mr. Rice from Manila for exposing official corruption appears to be in line with the action of the British government in proscribing democratic newspapers in Cape Colony. Among those proscribed are Reynold's, Stead's Review of Reviews, and Labouchere's Truth, all published in London. There is nothing for which your militarist and imperialist have such wholesome fear as an unsubsidized press. This was always so and is so now. Russian and German papers could tell an interesting story about it. They never have been free. American and English papers are likely to gather material for a similar story, as the great "world movement" goes on.

The Boxer uprising proves, as we

inferred (page 149) from the confusing reports received from China last summer that it would, to have been in reality an outburst of patriotism, such as, in similar circumstances, would have occurred in any country on earth. The information comes from George Lynch, an English war correspondent, who, as reported in the Chicago Record of the 28th, said:

Except as regards the attack on the legations, which was utterly inexcusable, there was nothing in the Boxer movement which cannot thoroughly recommend itself to the mind of any patriotic man, to whatsoever country he may belong. It was the patriotic rising of an exasperated people, who were goaded to desperation by unscrupulous foreign aggression. The motive of the whole movement was "China for the Chinese," as we might have said "England for the English" or "America for the Americans." The attack on the legations was absolutely inexcusable. Confucius says that the persons of emissaries are sacred. But what defense can we make for the attack on the Taku forts without any declaration of war? Let us try to look at things from a Chinese point of view. Every sentiment that people hold precious has been violated in China by the foreigners; every imperial edict rings plaintively with the refrain of "outrages on the gods."

An astounding confession of McKinley partisans is given publicity by the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Evening Post, a devoted McKinley organ. The publication is made apropos of the pending measure to compel the payment of government bonds and notes and the redemption of silver money in gold. Provisions of the same general character were inserted by the lower house in the gold law of last year, but they were struck out in the senate, thus possibly enabling a president to pay public debts with silver. It will be remembered that great stress was laid by the republicans last fall upon the importance of electing McKinley lest Bryan might take advantage of this hole in the gold law to put the country upon a silver basis. Our own answer to that plea was that if it were true the republicans had shown either their incapacity or their indisposition

to make a gold standard law. It now transpires that all this was part of a bunco game. The republicans deliberately struck out the protective clause in the gold standard law in order to serve a campaign purpose by making the law defective. Such is the confession referred to above. In the language of the Post's Washington correspondent (see Chicago Evening Post of 26th), referring to the striking out of the protective clause—

It is no violation of confidence to state at this stage that this was done with intelligence and primarily was intended to rally again to the support of the republican party the great host of neutral and democratic voters who feared the advent of a free silver regime. It was a clever political move and served well to array against Bryan once more the forces which defeated him four years previous. The republicans of the senate realized that if the gold act were made invulnerable the danger of the election of Bryan would be more acute, inasmuch as he would not have the power, with one of the branches of government in republican hands, to put his pernicious ideas of currency and political economy into practice. These facts may not be written when the history of currency legislation is drafted, but they are, nevertheless, plain truths which show how the political game of strategy is operated.

Once more the Colorado tax report may be procured at cost of postage—not more than five cents—by addressing Senator Bucklin at Denver. This has been made possible, we learn from Senator Bucklin, by Tom L. Johnson, who has ordered an edition of 20,000 copies. Demands for this excellent report are coming in large numbers from all parts of the United States and Canada. As we have heretofore explained, the report describes the nature and workings of the Australasian land tax, which has for several years been in force in New Zealand and parts of Australia, and the system of local option in local taxation, which is also in successful operation in those countries. The latter system is a practical application of that to which the New York chamber of commerce and other leading commercial bodies in