

he does on the ground that it is not a matter connected with municipal affairs. Consequently the lord mayor and the sheriff must themselves foot the cable bill of about \$38. That is a most excellent example, and it would be well if it were strictly followed everywhere. It is just as dishonest for public officials to spend public money for public purposes not within the functions of their government, as to spend it for private purposes. When Congress, for instance, appropriates money for a purpose which, though public in one sense is not so in the Congressional sense—ship subsidies for instance—it robs tax payers just as truly as the city of Cork was expecting to rob tax payers when at their expense it cabled a message to the United States on an international subject.

THE "KNOCKERS."

It was inevitable, of course, as soon as announcement was made that the government had in contemplation the farming out to the highest bidder of the monopoly of the opium traffic in the Philippines, with a proviso that the sale of the drug should be confined strictly to the Chinaman, that the "knockers" should be heard from.

Yet it did seem only fair and reasonable that the financial "knockers"—those who assail our colonial policy because of the increased taxation its execution imposes on the American citizen—should be silent. But they were not. It was in vain to tell them that the opium license would take from the imperialistic burden which was staggering our patriotism at least \$100,000 a year. They laughed scornfully, exclaiming with insolent precision that the amount saved was not even worthy to be spoken of as a bagatelle; that \$100,000 taken from \$200,000,000 would leave \$199,900,000, or 1,999 two thousandths of the present annual colonial expense. "But, even if it left us only one trillionth of the expense to pay," they asserted with unbearable candor, "we would still 'knock.' Our demand is that the complete burden be removed—our demand," said these

poor creatures, in a tone teeming with disloyalty, "is that we give up the infernal, trouble-breeding islands."

Another class of "knockers," self-styled "patriotic," had, from a superficial point of view, better grounds for their complaints. Basing, as usual, their fault finding on the equality clause of the Declaration of Independence, they arraigned the Administration for discrimination. "Why," they cried in pitiful indignation, "should the Chinese be permitted to indulge in the tranquilizing drug while the Americans and the Filipinos are interdicted?" These narrow, short-sighted people seemed to find it impossible to grasp and appreciate the real purpose of the Administration's wise measure of exception. They did not consider that the opium fiend is, necessarily, on his way to the cemetery, that every Chinaman buried means one less possible live Boxer, which means one less possible factor of danger to the American missionary. They failed to recognize that the prohibition of the use of opium among the Americans tended to save that people. And they did not reason from experience that opium is forbidden to the Filipinos simply because we can arrange the disposition of their number without being obliged to tempt them to self-destruction.

But let us take heart. Let us hope that in time all "knockers" will become so broadened by culture that they will be ashamed of ever having tried to pick flaws in our glorious programme of expansion. In the meantime we will go onward, as we have been going, from success to success. Our flag of liberty will float over nation after nation as we proceed; and under its protecting folds will be sheltered the American and the alien, the live and the dead.

G. T. EVANS.

NEWS

Week ending Thursday, June 25.

Regarding the Servian revolution (p. 166) the Czar of Russia has supplemented his note to Peter I of Servia (p. 168) with the following

message published officially at St. Petersburg on the 18th:

A week has now elapsed since the day of the bloody revolution at Belgrade, an intimation of which could not be given to the Imperial Government in the customary official form because legal authority was lacking in Servia. Strictly adhering to her standpoint of noninterference in the internal affairs of the Balkan states, and at the same time finding it impossible to hold any intercourse with the persons who have arbitrarily usurped power, Russia has awaited the conclusion of the troubles in order to define clearly her attitude toward the events in the kingdom of Servia. The Skuptschina and Senate assembled in extraordinary session June 15, the legal order of things was reestablished, and Prince Peter Karageorgevitch was unanimously elected king. The Prince, complying with the request of the national assembly, has consented to ascend the throne of Servia under the name of Peter I. Immediately after the proclamation the new King telegraphed to the Czar, asking his imperial majesty to recognize him as King, whereupon the reply of his majesty in confirmation of this was sent. The Imperial Government, while hailing the election of the new monarch, scion of a glorious dynasty, and wishing all success to the supreme head of the Servian people, which is allied to Russia by ties of religion, can nevertheless not refrain from expressing the confident hope that King Peter will be able to give evidence of his sense of justice and firmness of will by adopting measures at the outset to investigate the abominable misdeed which has been committed and to mete out rigorous punishment to those traitorous criminals who have stained themselves with the infamy attaching to regicides. Of course, the entire Servian nation or army cannot be held responsible for the crime which revolts public conscience, yet it would be dangerous to Servia's internal peace not to exact expiation for the revolution carried out with violence by the military. Such neglect would inevitably react in an unfavorable manner on the relations of all the states with Servia, and would create for Servia serious difficulties at the very commencement of the reign of King Peter I. Their Russian co-religionists offer to God supplications for the repose of the souls of King Alexander and his consort, who have met an untimely end, and they invoke the blessing of the Almighty on the rule of King Peter for the welfare and prosperity of the Servian people.

Recognition of the new Servian government by Italy, as announced last week (p. 169), has since been denied. Four other nations have dis-