

### TREASURE FOR SCHOOL FUND.

#### Recommendation of Philippine Commission.

#### MUCH SEIZED PROPERTY ON HAND

#### Financial Condition of the Islands Improved During Past Fiscal Year—Insular Government to be Self-Sustaining.

According to the annual report of the Philippine Commission, just made public, there is now in the insular treasury paper covering more than \$5,000,000 in gold values, as against a trifle more than \$3,000,000 on hand a year ago. Meanwhile all the running expenses of the insular government have been met and large appropriations have been made out of the treasury for purely naval and military purposes.

The report says: "In the ordinary current expenses of the islands to include for the purposes of the statement now the establishment and maintenance of an efficient police system for the preservation of good order and if necessary means of communication between the islands for transportation of mails, public officials, and revenue customs inspection.

#### Islands Self-Supporting.

"There is no reason why the Government of the United States should ever be called on to contribute toward the support of the insular government, and within a comparatively few years after the complete restoration of good order it is entirely reasonable to anticipate that the revenues of the islands will be sufficient to pay all expenses incurred for troops, native or American, and insular police sufficient to maintain good order throughout the whole Archipelago."

Besides the above-mentioned amount, the insular government is holding as a separate fund, subject to the will of Congress, nearly half a million dollars, gold, seized from the Spanish treasury and mint when the American troops entered Manila. There is also about \$150,000 gold, seized from the insurgents at various times and places since the outbreak of February 14, 1899.

#### Personal Property Seized.

Many articles of personal property have also been seized from leaders of the insurrection, such as jewelry, rings, earrings, necklaces, watches, field glasses, scarves, belts, silver, insurance tags, knives, cut-throats, cuff buttons, and miscellaneous articles. All these are deposited in the treasury.

"As to the general seized funds," says the Commission, "it is recommended that Congressional action should be taken authorizing the Commission to turn the seized funds, so far as title to them shall not be established through the courts in favor of private individuals, into the general treasury of the islands to constitute a general school fund for the support of public schools, with the proviso that where a specified portion of the seized funds was collected as taxes by the insurrectionary government in any particular province those funds may be returned to the treasurer of the province from which they came, to be used for the general provincial purposes of building roads and other public roads, etc."

#### Dedicated to the Islands.

"All these funds were collected ultimately for insular interests and it seems to the Commission that the United States Government might feel justified in causing them to be dedicated to the interests of the islands through the public school fund as above suggested. Many of the seized articles, aside from such as have historical value as mementoes should be converted into money by sale and those which have historic value as mementoes, if any, might be reserved for deposit in a local museum."

#### Currency Now in Use.

On the subject of the currency now in use the report says:

"In our last report it was stated that the abnormal conditions in northern China, together with the increased value of silver in the general market of the world, had increased the value of the Mexican dollars to such an extent that the Government deposit of Mexican currency in the local banks was being rapidly depleted, the silver being exported for export to China and being replaced by money of the United States, and that if that process were allowed to continue without interruption the insular deposits of silver would become exhausted and it would be no longer practicable to maintain the uniform ratio of 2 to 1 which had been prevailing in the months preceding the date of that report, and that for the purpose of preventing further depletion of the insular deposits of silver, acts had been passed providing for the payment of salaries under the civil service of the islands in money of the United States and imposing an export tax of 10 per cent upon Mexican dollars. Appropriations were likewise made in money of the United States.

#### Temporary Export Tax on Silver.

"The imposition of the customs export tax on Mexican silver was a purely provisional and temporary measure for the purpose of enabling the Government to hold the rate of exchange between the two monies at a uniform rate until Congress should be enabled to provide a system of currency for the islands. Congress having taken no action upon the matter at its last session, the local legislation remained unchanged. Meanwhile the demand for Mexican dollars in China and other parts of the world has increased and their market price diminished materially. These causes, coupled with the legislation referred to, began eventually to cause a large accumulation of Mexican and insular currency in the Government's deposit.

"The circumstances that led to the imposition of the 10 per cent export duty upon Mexican silver having ceased to operate, act No. 213 was passed on the 21st day of August, 1901, repealing that export tax. At the present valuation of Mexican dollars, there is no inducement to export them, and the law was no longer subserving any useful purpose.

#### Required Local Money.

"The fact was stated in the former report that the local banks refused to receive deposits in money of the United States and required all such money to be exchanged into local currency before being deposited, commission being charged for exchange. Hence depositors were not able to withdraw their money in United States currency, but only in local currency, and if they wished United States money to use were obliged again to repurchase it from the banks, paying a commission for the exchange. This method of business was regarded as a discrimination against money of the United States, and accordingly, on the 23rd day of November, 1900, act No. 53 was passed, requiring banks of deposit in the islands to

accept deposits both in the money of the United States and in Mexican or local currency, and to repay such deposits by checks or otherwise in the kind of money in which they were made, but guaranteeing the banks against being required to accept small and unprofitable deposits in any currency. This act, although unsatisfactory to the banks and by them called to the attention of the War Department, was approved by the War Department as a useful regulation of banking institutions, and has furnished great relief to all business men in the islands. Nor is it any hardship upon the banks. It simply deprives them of a kind of profit which it was unjust for them to reap, in view of the fact that they were gaining it by a discrimination against the money of the sovereign power in the islands.

#### A Stable Currency Secured.

"The effect of the military order referred to in the former report, authorizing the exchange of 2 pesos of local currency for one dollar of the United States, coupled with the legislation referred to, to secure equal facilities for the deposit and payment of both currencies in the local banks, and the payment of sums due from the insular Government to citizens and others mainly in money of the United States, has been to secure an entirely stable currency throughout the islands since the 11th day of August, 1900, down to the date of this report, and it is considered that the securing of this result has been of very great advantage to all the people of the islands. At the present time the value of Mexican dollars as compared with gold is such that a dollar of money of the United States is worth some 120 cents of pesos of local currency, but it has been considered of such importance to maintain a uniform ratio between the two temporarily, until Congress should take the currency question, that the civil governor has fixed by proclamation the ratio of 2 to 1 between the two currencies for the currency commencing the 1st day of October, 1901.

#### Effect of the Order.

"The effect of this order will probably be that importers and others having taxes to pay to the Government will meet those payments almost wholly in local currency, and thereby the insular Government will sustain a certain loss, that is, it will receive less intrinsic value than it would if the payments were all required to be made in gold, or if the ratio of \$2.02 or \$2.04, insular currency, to \$1, money of the United States, had been fixed. But it is the opinion of the commission that the maintenance of a stable, uniform ratio for a few months longer will be of value to the business interests of the islands, and will compensate for the loss.

"If the scheme of coinage hereinafter recommended shall be adopted, the Mexican dollars in the treasury will be available for recoinage, and a large seigniorage will accrue as profit to the treasury from the transaction, the Mexican dollars being available for that purpose. There has been considerable complaint that the United States paper currency in circulation in the islands was soiled and torn, and it was an embarrassing matter for the insular officers to receive the currency and then be unable to dispose of it in settlement of their balances with the insular treasury. To remedy this difficulty, it is recommended that the currency be fresh and clean, and thus render it more wholesome and likewise more satisfactory to the people of the islands, and that it be issued on June 22, 1901, providing that it should be the duty of the insular treasurer to hold mutilated or worn-out notes that came into his possession and forward them to the United States Treasury for redemption in new notes fit for use, and the treasurer and other officials receiving out or mutilated notes in payment of the public dues and to receive credit for the same with the insular treasurer, who should forward them for renewal, as above stated.

#### Proposed New Coinage.

"Upon the general subject of currency for the islands the Commission, after substantially one year's further consideration and study of the situation, and conferences with business men, renews the recommendation made in its former report for the coinage of a United States Filipino peso of the value of a half dollar, money of the United States, containing a small percentage less silver than the Mexican dollar, the percentage being such that its intrinsic value would not at any time warrant its export from the island for bullion, with a provision for its convertibility into money of the United States-Philippine peso for \$1 in money of the United States, together with convenient subsidiary coins. In consideration of the details of such a coinage system, the Commission has had the benefit of the advice and assistance of Mr. Charles A. Conant, an expert upon the subject of banking and finance, who came to the islands under your direction, for the purpose of aiding the Commission in formulating a plan for providing a stable and uniform currency for the islands. Mr. Conant's assistance has been of great value upon both subjects, banking and currency.

"It is not desirable in our opinion to attempt to introduce American gold currency at the present time as the exclusive money of the Philippines. Such a course would produce serious disturbances in prices and wages. Substantially all the benefits anticipated from the introduction of American gold money can be obtained for the United States and that of other gold standard countries by establishing a definite relationship between the proposed silver coin and the American gold dollar."

#### MORE LOOTING IN NEW YORK.

##### Comptroller Color Likely to Have Further Arrests Made.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—It is probable that another arrest will be made in connection with the fraud system recently uncovered and practiced in the bureau of assessments and arrears in the finance department.

The reported deficiency of \$30,000 by no means represents the total amount of money of which the city has been looted. This shortage covers a period of only seven years, but a cursory investigation of the books for years previous to 1894 has served already to make it clear that the department has been systematically and continuously robbed for a long time.

Comptroller Color has had a long consultation with William P. Hazen, formerly Chief of the United States Secret Service, and tonight he was at his office until late conferring with Assistant District Attorney Schurman and Edward A. Slattery, the deputy collector, who is now practically in charge of the bureau of which Col. Edward Gilson is the titular head.

Mr. Color denied when asked specifically that the total defalcations would reach \$300,000, but he would not deny that other arrests, arising out of the thefts so far discovered, were probable.

Charges of incompetency and neglect against Colonel Gilson have been drafted by the comptroller, and it is understood they will be preferred on Thursday. Colonel Gilson declares he will certainly defend himself.

#### OLD RIVER CAPTAIN DEAD.

##### Campbell Raced the R. E. Lee Against the Na.chez.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 24.—Capt. William Campbell, a veteran steamboat man, and the last of the old-time, steamboat men, died here last night, aged seventy-two years, after fifty-nine years on the river. He was born near Belfast, Ireland, of Scotch-Irish parentage. He came to America when a child, his family settling in New Orleans. Young Campbell was shipped on the Ohio River steamer *Sonnet* in 1842. He rose to the head of the profession, and was captain of the Robert E. Lee in the famous race with the *Natchez* in 1850.

### SENSATION IN STAMP THEFT.

#### Inspector Makes Astonishing Declaration.

#### PROMINENT MEN ARE INTERESTED.

#### Asserts that There Are Some Big Fellows Who Could Tell About the \$75,000 Chicago Post-office Plunder.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Word of an arrest at New Haven, Conn., in connection with the robbery of the Chicago Postoffice has evoked a remarkable statement from Inspector Stuart.

He declared he had already traced \$15,000 worth of the stolen stamps; that he was practically aware of the thieves' identities, and that prominent Chicagoans, if they would talk, could solve the mystery of the robbery.

Clues which had been followed many weeks by the United States Secret Service officials under the leadership of Inspector Stuart, resulted in the arrest at New Haven, Conn., of Henry Boutall. Local officials are inclined to believe that Boutall has been working in connection with Charles Stokes, the stamp broker, who was arrested in Brooklyn December 10.

But Inspector Stuart did not attach much importance to Boutall's arrest. In speaking of the Postoffice robbery he turned his attention in other directions.

#### "Big Fellows" Could Tell.

"There are some big fellows in Chicago," he said, "who could tell about what became of the \$75,000 plunder taken from the Postoffice a few months ago. I am positive now of the existence of a fence in Chicago."

"The men who planned the robbery did not execute it. The thieves were hired to steal the goods, and turn them over to the market that was arranged before the stamps were stolen. If these Chicago men could be induced to talk, they could tell all about it. Some day some one of them will talk."

Charles Stokes, indicted by the New York grand jury for implication in the Postoffice robbery, is a certain handi-capped man, and is said to have been at least \$15,000 worth of the stamps stolen from here. Besides the \$6,000 worth that we recovered from him we have traced \$5,000 worth to places where he had sold them. I have had an absolute identification of the Stokes stamps as coming from Chicago."

#### WEDDED THROUGH A DARE.

##### Jest on Saturday Ended in Marriage on Monday.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—Dr. E. C. Walden, son of Bishop E. C. Walden, of Cincinnati, dared a woman to marry him on Saturday, and today he is a benedict. Miss Bessie Simms would not take a dare.

It all arose from jesting remarks at the supper table over a young couple who had just been married. Suddenly Dr. Walden said:

"I'll get married if I could find somebody to take me," at the same time looking interrogatively at Miss Simms.

"How would I do?" asked Miss Simms.

"I dare you to accept," was the doctor's response.

"I never take a dare," said Miss Simms quickly. "Name the day; I'll give you the privilege."

"The sooner the better," replied Walden.

One of the guests at the table offered to bet \$20 that the match would never take place.

"Taken," said Miss Simms. Another guest stated that the inventor, who carried the wedding supper at the best restaurant in the city.

Sunday the joking continued, while Dr. Walden went quietly ahead and prepared for the ceremony. Yesterday Dr. Walden and several friends went to the office of C. H. Brooks, where they were later joined by a clergyman, a minister, and a friend, and the knot was tied.

#### GLASS TRUST PROMISED.

##### Consolidation of Concerns Throughout the Country to Take Place.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The head of one of the large window glass firms here confirms the report that a consolidation is to be effected among the various combinations of window glass manufacturers all over the country.

This consolidation, according to the report, will bring about an immediate advance in the price of the glass.

#### NOTICE FOR CARTER HARRISON.

##### Must Not Use Charleston Trip to Further Political Ends.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Notice was served upon Mayor Harrison at the meeting of the Cook County Democracy yesterday afternoon that he could not hope to use the organization to boom him for President on the tour to the Charleston Exposition next February.

### CASH OR CREDIT.

# We Have Engaged Extra Wagons

so that we can promise you prompt delivery of anything bought here today. Something for the home is always appreciated, and we have still many things that are appropriate for gifts. If you are running short of funds make use of our easy credit system. We will arrange the terms to suit you.

#### Very choice designs in round Quartered Oak Table, 24-inch circle, dainty French legs, extra polish finish.

**\$4.50.**

#### This Solid Oak Cobler-seat Parlor Rocker, embossed back and turned posts; \$2 value, for

**\$1.08**

#### Big line of Parlor Desks, in oak, birch, mahogany, white maple, etc., etc. We offer more than 100 different styles for your inspection.

#### Large line of Metal Lamps, with enamelled fountains of the famous W. & H. make, at a discount of nearly 25 per cent.

#### Handsome cardinal or green lamp, with 9-inch globe, central-draft burner; gold decorated font; \$2.75 would be cheap at \$4. now—

#### Handsome squat-shaped Lamp, with decorated font, and glass central-draft burner; \$5 value, for

**\$3.00**

#### Big Ruby Lamps, with decorated 11-inch globe and swelled font, \$8.00 for

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### Morris Chairs, Morris Chairs, Morris Chairs.

#### TWO CARLOADS received on Saturday that should have been here two weeks ago, and

#### We Must Dispose of Them at Once.

#### A floor full of samples. Come early and make your selection. We offer one like cut in mahogany finish, heavy carved claw feet, reversible velour cushions, in a variety of patterns and colors, frames finely finished, for only

**\$7.50**

#### A Solid Oak Morris Chair, well finished with reversible velour cushions. Our regular \$7 chair, for only

**\$4.50**

#### We have all grades up to \$75, and you will be sure to find just what you want in quality, style, and price.

#### All Grades of China Closets up to \$175.

#### This solid Golden Oak China Closet, rubbed glass, regular \$22 value, for

**\$14.50**

#### Solid Oak Toilet Table, nicely finished throughout, French legs and French plate mirror—can be had also in mahogany finish—a bargain at the price,

**\$8.00**

#### Rugs of all kinds—Smyrna, Moquette, Wilton, Oriental, Brussels, etc., etc. 6x12 Smyrna \$12 7x10 1/2 Smyrna, \$8 6x9 Smyrna, \$6 36-inch Smyrna, \$2 36-inch Smyrna, \$1.25 Extra heavy 9 by 12 Wilton Rugs, \$40

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### Handsome Colored Jardinières.

#### 7 inches .....25c 8 inches .....50c 9 inches .....75c 10 inches .....\$1.00

#### Goldleaf Chairs, a bewildering assortment of styles. We have them in case and upholstered seat, and make a special of a new pattern Gilt Chair for

**\$2.50.**

#### Table and Tilted Kettle, in brass and new nickel, not only very useful, but extremely ornamental, we carry all grades, and offer one in brass like cut for

**\$1.75**

#### 100-piece Dinner Set, in brown and blue, brand new shape and new decorations. Marked \$7.50 from \$10 to.....

#### 100-piece Dinner Set, either pink or green flowers decorations. Marked from \$11 to.....

#### 101-piece Carlsbad Dinner Set, very handsome shape and extra large pieces. Brown or pink decorations. Marked from \$21.00 to.....

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## HOUSE & HERRMANN, 901-903 Seventh St., Corner of I (Eye) St.

### TO REVOLUTIONIZE CARRYING OF MAIL.

#### "WILL RATTLE THE WORLD."

#### German Civil Engineer and Electrician of Jersey City Submits His Lightning Plan to Postmaster General.

#### THE ELKS' WINTER CARNIVAL.

##### Fortnight's Entertainment for Charity to Be Held in February.

#### THE POSTMASTER GENERAL HAS RECEIVED A COMMUNICATION FROM AN ELECTRICAL ENGINEER OF JERSEY CITY WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE INVENTED A WONDERFUL LIGHTNING MAIL CARRIER WHICH WILL REVOLUTIONIZE THE METHOD EMPLOYED IN THE CARRIAGE OF THE DOMESTIC MAIL OF THE GLOBE.

#### THE INVENTOR IS A GERMAN AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF HIS LETTER IS ALMOST AS WONDERFUL AS THAT OF HIS LIGHTNING MAIL CARRIER. BUT THE INVENTOR IS ENTHUSIASTIC AND CLAIMS GREAT THINGS FOR HIS SCHEME. THE LETTER FOLLOWS:

#### "HONORABLE SIR: Here is an object invented, covered by the United States Patent Office for the inventor, which will rattle the world if your excellency will please give your favorable view to it, and by which your excellency may earn diamonds of the globe."

#### "What is this?" The inventor is an electric German civil engineer and electrician. He has invented to send letters any kind of mail, etc., through an underground pipe at the rate of 300 miles an hour and five or ten pounds every minute, and all is done by electric motor force.

#### "Pneumatic is poor against this system and nothing can compare with the new system I have invented."

#### "Letters from me to you in the White House will reach you in one hour. Think of that!"

#### "The underground pipe represents the magnetic field and a flying armature represents the flying torpedo which carries five or ten pounds of mail without becoming hot."

#### "It is the mail carrier for the next century. Everything is experimented in the city of Detroit, State of Michigan, to place the system in working order."

#### "Approved by the Inventor."

#### "It is approved by the inventor, by his friends, Fred Rohmert, of Detroit, Carl Schmidt, tanner, and Frank Pingree, brother of the late Governor of Michigan, and other principal men of Detroit."

#### "One mile to build costs \$5,500, with all around power houses and everything. Five pounds of letters from here to Chicago, sent every minute, takes two hours and fifty-five minutes. This is the lightning mail."

#### "Now, Mr. Postmaster General, please let me know what we shall do with this and when you will investigate this matter, together with your most trusted experts."

#### "HANS LIEBERBERG, New York City, Jersey City, Detroit, Mich."

#### THE POSTMASTER GENERAL HAS NOT YET REPLIED TO THE COMMUNICATION OF "ELECTRIC GERMAN," and will not until further assurances have been received that his "300-mile-an-hour lightning mail carrier" is in something more than a visionary state.

#### FOUGHT TO THE DEATH.

##### Man Attacked, Though Wounded, Slays His Assailant.