

cost not exceeding \$20,000. When it is considered that the expenditure of this sum would mean the saving of American lives it seems more than criminal that it has not already been done.

Beyond building temporary docks on the Maricao Beach, nothing has been done to make ready for the American troops. Considering the number of comber of commissions and officials that have inspected and re-inspected the camp sites, dodged yellow fever and at the appearance of that disease, what has been accomplished seems insignificant.

Washington, Nov. 15.—Great pressure is being brought upon the war department to have the volunteer troops now in the Philippines returned to this country. Nearly every state that has troops stationed at Manila has asked through its governor or representative in Congress that these troops be sent home. This pressure comes through the relatives and friends of the volunteers, and is started by the troops who have been writing home. Some of these letters published in the state papers at the homes of the enlisted men have created a wave of sympathy for the volunteers in far off Manila. While they do not recount very great hardships, except among those who are ill, they do show that the life is very obnoxious and that the duty of policing the city of Manila and remaining inactive is very disagreeable.

It is said at the war department that there is no way of relieving these troops from duty in the Philippines at the present time. The uncertain conditions that exist in the island of Luzon make it utterly impossible to get along with a smaller number than are stationed there at present.

Gen. Otis has been asked by cable if troops could be spared, and has replied in the negative.

The great demand that has been made for the muster out of volunteer regiments or individual members of such regiments will form the basis of a strong recommendation in the annual message of the President for an increase in the regular army. This new force will be needed to take the place of the volunteers who desire to return home and leave the service.

Washington, Nov. 15.—The following dispatch has been received at the war department:

Manila, Nov. 15, 1898.

Secretary of War, Washington:

Health conditions improving, only six deaths in last eight days. Sick reported decreasing. Five female nurses of the Red Cross are doing excellent work in the hospitals here. Twenty competent female nurses who give strict attention to work would render beneficial services.

OTIS.

San Francisco, Nov. 15.—The Western Union Telegraph company has issued a statement correcting the figures given out by the company on Friday last on the result of the election in this state. The figures from 1,868 precincts out of a total in the state of 2,407, give Curry, Republican, 104,366; Thompson, 100,025. Of the number of precincts heard from, fully 25 per cent have not returned figures on the secretary of state vote, but from the returns gathered, the Democratic state central committee have given up hope of Thompson's election, and admit the success of Curry.

The result of the fight for the secretaryship has been watched by residents of this state with as keen interest as the contest for the governorship.

Cleveland, O., Nov. 15.—Col. J. A. Smith, U. S. government engineer, has just returned here after a month's absence, largely spent in inspecting the Atlantic coast defenses and especially the harbor defenses at New York, Boston and Portland, Me.

"Our harbor defenses," said Col.

Smith, "while not yet completed, are sufficiently far advanced that it would be suicidal for any warship of a foreign country to enter any of these harbors if we objected. A great deal of work is yet necessary to be done, but work is being pushed forward rapidly.

"Very few people have any idea of the power or accuracy of our coast defenses. Our defenses are as good as any in the world for their purposes. No better can be found anywhere. The works are being rapidly completed and it would not be a great while until the coast is well nigh impregnable."

Madrid, Nov. 15.—The Catalanian delegation which, in conjunction with delegations representing the other provinces of Spain demand the decentralization of the government, has handed to the queen regent a message, setting forth the aspirations of the province and demanding local autonomy, the government continuing to exercise the functions relating to political unity, and international relations.

New York, Nov. 15.—Rev. Maurice Rosenthal, a Jewish clergyman, was aroused from his sleep early today by hearing a stranger in his house in east 116th street.

Arming himself with a pistol he went into the parlor where he was attacked by the intruder. The two men fought desperately for a few moments, the burglar proving to be the stronger. At last the clergyman fired his pistol full in the face of the burglar, who fell unconscious, the bullet having torn out his left eye and entered the brain. The wounded man was taken to the hospital, where he recovered sufficiently to reveal his name and address as Wm. Farrell, of north Third street, Philadelphia. He is about 21 years of age and of powerful build. The surgeons say he cannot recover.

Valletta, Island of Malta, Nov. 15.—The imperial yacht Hohenzollern with the emperor and empress of Germany on board, arrived here today escorted by the German warship Hela and the British torpedo destroyers Ardent and Banshee. The forts and ships exchanged salutes with the Hohenzollern.

Canea, Island of Crete, Nov. 15.—The population of this town is holiday making, there is great rejoicing everywhere. A Te Deum has been chanted by the Bishop, who amid cheers invoked divine blessings upon the protecting powers, who have freed Crete from Turkish rule.

The Christians are behaving well and there are no signs of ill-feeling among the Mussulmans.

It appears that Chakir Pasha, the last Turkish commander to leave Crete, refused at the last moment to allow the transport to sail, claiming that he must wait until he received orders from the Turkish government. Thereupon Admiral Pottier, the French naval commander, dispatched the torpedo boat Vaytour to exercise the necessary pressure upon the Turkish commander, threatening to adopt forcible measures unless the transport put to sea. Chakir Pasha then yielded, and the transport departed.

Paris, Nov. 15.—The court of cassation has informed the minister of the colonies, M. Guillaumet, that it has decided that Dreyfus be informed by telegraph that the revision proceedings have commenced and that he prepare his defense. The ministry of the colonies has received a cable dispatch saying Dreyfus is in good health.

The decision of the court of cassation to inform the prisoner that the revision proceedings have commenced and notifying him to prepare his defense is very insignificant, as it has hitherto been generally admitted that no innovation should be introduced in the Dreyfus proceedings.

FOR MUNICIPAL REFORM.

A national conference for good city government is to be held at Indianapolis on Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st and 2nd. It will be devoted to the consideration and completion of a plan for the government of American cities, which will be outlined in a municipal program, embodying what are believed to be the essential principles for the correct conduct of a municipal corporation, and providing a plan for putting the principles into practical effect.

It is expected as a result of the deliberations, a charter will be drawn up to serve as a pattern for all American cities. This agreed upon it will be the duty of all who are interested in the work of municipal reform to labor for its general adoption. The work on the formulation of the proposed municipal program has been going on for a year. Since the time of the conference in Louisville in May, 1897, a committee of ten, representative of its composition, has been engaged in drafting a report on the subject for presentation at the Indianapolis meeting. The committee recently held a series of sessions at Atlanta City and its members are still working upon various features of the report. The findings of the committee, it is asserted, will represent careful research and thorough study of civic conditions.

In a circular calling attention to this conference it is pointed out that municipal government in America is a queer hodge-podge, with legislative tinkering constantly adding to its variegated forms, presenting one picture here and another there, yet nowhere approaching an acceptable common deal.

Then it goes on to say:

"Apart from the legislative aspect, the conferences have pictured the woeful state of affairs. It has been asserted that the defects in municipal institutions arise from permanent and universal causes, and that the general situation is substantially identical in all the great American cities. A summary based upon developments at the various conferences sets forth these assertions. The least estimable and least trustworthy classes nearly everywhere conducting public affairs, wastefulness, inefficiency and frequent scandals; difficult and uncertain enforcement of the law as to offenses against good morals; scandalously great political influence of those who gain a livelihood through vices; extortion practiced upon criminals and purveyors to vice; payment of political bosses by great corporations, almost open bribery and theft of franchises, and an irresponsible public sentiment, which declines to listen to appeals for a better order of affairs."

Such conditions the friends of reform propose to grapple with and it is believed much good will be the result of the conference at Indianapolis.

The Chatanooga Times, in a very fair and unprejudiced article on the work of Mormon missionaries in the South states that arrangement has been made for the publication of a periodical devoted to the cause of the Gospel. The paper will be called the Southern Star. It is to be under the management of Elder D. P. Felt.

Mr. E. W. Wilson of the board of education asks the "News" to state that the question of opening the schools at a later hour has received attention by the board and that, as a consequence, the city schools will be opened at 9:30 a. m. during the winter term, instead of at 9 a. m. We believe the action taken by the board will meet with the approval of parents and children generally. Now let the county schools follow this example.