

metals will be found the farther we get into the north and south, and Arctic explorers will have something else to seek there besides glory.

#### A BIG STORY.

It is not quite in order that the story in our dispatches regarding the creation of an immense syndicate to lease and operate the Philippine islands should come from Paris. London is the place made famous not alone by its great population and commerce, but by many gigantic speculative schemes in foreign lands, beginning with the East India Company a long time ago and extending on to the days of the Barnatos and Barings and Hooleys. The dispatch locates the scheme above referred to, by inference at least, in Paris, but it is quite likely that the working capital and head center of the concern will be found not far from the place first herein spoken of, just across the channel, the world's metropolis, London, that is, if there is anything at all in the story.

The amount of the capitalization is itself suggestive of great things. Even in these days of opulence among the select few and titanic undertakings in every direction, the Philippine scheme stands out as boldly as the statue of Liberty Enlightening the World. It is the uncountable sum of \$400,000,000 that the syndicate proposes to raise. Of this Spain is to be made complicit with a douceur of \$175,000,000; the reigning power in the islands—concededly the United States—is to be paid \$125,000,000 for a twenty-five-year lease, and the other \$100,000,000 will be used to begin business with and get things in working order. The company is to have the exclusive privilege of collecting and owning all revenues from customs duties, taxation and so on, while the reigning power spoken of is to administer the civil and military government at its own expense and, of course secure and maintain stability, tranquility and the other safeguards with which entrenched capital likes to be surrounded. It would thus appear that the government would have to be conducted, come war or peace, on a stated income of \$5,000,000 a year, which would be ample and should leave a large margin if too much did not have to go to keeping the natives in a state of orderly subjection.

It is vaguely intimated that a prominent figure in the project is a well known promoter and experimenter formerly of this city, but for several years past residing in London—John W. Young. If this be the case, it only goes to show what was previously known hereabout, that he is a hard man to down and keep down. He comes of the right kind of people to be persistent and persevering in the midst of misfortune, and those who will wish for him abundant success in such or any legitimate enterprise are by no means few and far between. He may have been all along one of those men of whom the "News" recently spoke as being ahead of their day. Certain it is that some of his schemes in this country, though well laid and prospectively great things for everybody, fell flat through apparent lack of judgment regarding their present feasibility and the shrinkage of funds at times when such shrinkage meant collapse. In other words, Mr. Young was thought to be somewhat visionary at intensely practical times, that he was full-orbed in the dark of the moon and saw things as they ought to and promised to be instead of as they actually were at the time. Without restriction in the matter of capital he would be likely, we think, to push any project he might un-

dertake to a successful issue, but no amount of nerve and brain can command success in a great enterprise with the sine qua non of cold cash existing only as an iridescent dream.

Mr. Young has not been heard of, except through private sources, for some time. It is to be hoped he will break the long silence in the manner indicated and retrieve something of his former estate. No one would be sorry if he realized a great fortune.

#### THE RACE PROBLEM.

The case of the colored citizens of the United States is hopeless, if South Carolina methods are not checked. Wilmington people, and among them "ministers of the gospel," it seems, argue that because the negro is illiterate and ignorant, therefore he cannot vote, and if he insists on his right as a citizen, he is to be killed by a mob. And when he is no longer illiterate and ignorant but capable of conducting a newspaper, then he must be killed, too. From the horns of such a dilemma there is no escape.

The leaders of the Wilmington mob need to be impressed with the fact that they, in pursuing the colored citizens of the state with grand larceny, arson and homicide, are violating the Constitution that gives equal rights to all citizens. Unless the work is stopped, public indignation may find so emphatic an expression that it will be impossible for the federal government to ignore it. Our country, launched on a mission of mercy and justice in behalf of foreigners, cannot afford to watch in silence her own children outraged by lawless mobs.

In the meantime, what are Christian ministers doing? In some parts of the Union they are loud enough in their demand for obedience to the laws, and that is commendable. But how is it that they have no sermons, no resolutions in behalf of their colored brethren who are suffering at the hands of ruffians? If they have any power to shape public opinion their silence will count heavily against them on the day when the accounts of men shall be settled before the bar of eternal justice. The race problem demands attention.

#### THE WAR TAX.

The late war was in every essential respect a popular one. In the first place it was demanded and urged by what, with the destruction of the Maine, amounted to an irresistible acclaim. The trend of feeling had been that way for many years and only needed the incident that came and fitted in with dramatic accuracy. The response to the call for troops was considerably more than popular; it seemed to fill a long-felt want and was greeted with such spontaneous uprising as must have caused the nations to stand agape for a time at least. Then came the floating of a popular loan and the imposition of a revenue tax which, one way or another, has penetrated to the pockets of every self-supporter in the land and a good many others.

Every citizen of the United States, said a writer on political economy last July, will pay a share of the cost of the war. It might as well be added that he certainly did so and is at it yet. Whether merchant, manufacturer, importer, retailer, banker, or insurance man, the war revenue bill has schedules of special taxes for all. The collector of this revenue enters all the great business establishments of the country, and, by proxy, the humblest homes of the land. Luxuries for the rich, indispensable necessities for the poor alike bear the adhesive stamp that

shows a payment of so many cents on account of the war debt. Where the tax is imposed heavily on large business interests of any kind, the amount will be made up by the increased cost to the consumer or last user.

The same writer shows that though many millions of dollars each will be derived from a number of great industries, in these as in other instances the individual citizen will really pay for the war. There are countless things in every day use that must be paid for by the person benefited, such as bank checks, notes, deeds, mortgages and other legal documents, and these emergency payments may be kept up until Spain shall have fully compensated us.

It is, however, useless for the people to be irrational in stating the case. The war tax, concerning whose continuance at this time so much fault is found, can only be set aside by the power which called it into existence—Congress. This body will get together the first Monday in December, and doubtless there will be no unreasonable delay in taking up and acting upon repeal of the measure complained of—provided, matters are in such a condition as to justify it. The proviso is properly brought into the statement. Things abroad are looking a little squally just now with no imminent prospect of their assuming a different appearance, and it is just as well not to be overly hasty in the matter of regaining a statu quo. To make use of the homely adage, let us not shout until we are out of the woods.

#### FALSEHOODS ABOUT UTAH.

From numerous letters received at this office, it is evident that some of our religious friends in Utah are laboring hard to revive the old anti-Mormon sentiment throughout the United States and elsewhere. The tactics are the old ones, and from the similarity of the proceedings, it would seem that the campaign is directed from a common center, as in the days of old. We mention the matter, believing that the law-abiding, peaceful citizens of Utah, Mormons and non-Mormons, are interested in knowing something of the methods and aims of some of their alleged friends.

A correspondent from Chattanooga, Tenn., states that one Rev. W. H. Bagby, of Salt Lake City, at a recent national church convention, entertained the delegates with a discourse on "the ripe harvest of the West." He exhausted, it seems, his eloquence in glowing description of the beauty of Utah's valleys and mountains, and then contrasted this lovely picture with the awful condition of a people worshipping "Joe Smith," and consequently being "ignorant, superstitious and immoral." He closed, our correspondent says, with the modest suggestion that \$20,000 be placed in his hands for missionary purposes, because with a round sum like that he could do more good than with \$1,000 a year.

A correspondent from Bloomington, Ill., writes that the Presbyterians in that vicinity are very active. A gentleman who has been engaged in "missionary" work in Utah for a number of years, but without success, is lecturing about our State. According to him, too, Utah is a veritable garden spot, but he denies that any credit is due to the first settlers of this region. He asserted, according to the report, that all the offices in Utah are held by Mormons, who, "by virtue of their office," protect law-breakers.

But a reverend gentleman named Aslev, who still is pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church of this city, notwithstanding an effort some time ago by some of his congregation to get rid of him, surpasses these two worthies in his malignant attacks upon a people