The Sun.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 1882.

The regular circulation of THE SUN *for the week ending March 4, 1882, was:*

Sunday	189,278	Wednesday	67,702
Monday	137,151	Thursday	149,202
Tuesday	155,016	Friday	152,250
Wednesday	146,789	Saturday	158,729
Total for the week			1,096,908

Watch the Apportionment in the Legislature.

It is apparent from the tone of an influential portion of the Republican press that if Gov. CORNELL and his coadjutors can maintain their alliance with the Tammany members of the Legislature, the State will not be fairly districted for Representatives in Congress. It will be remembered that after a sharp conflict in the House, in which Pennsylvania and Illinois suffered losses, New York was allotted thirty-four members, being one more than its present number. One of the arguments which saved this member to New York, when the onslaught was made on the large States during the hot debate in the House, was that our Legislature would so arrange the districts that this new Representative would be assigned either to this city or to Brooklyn.

But it now begins to look as if the Republicans provided they can rely on their Tammany allies will either not pass any apportionment bill at all at this session, or, if they do allow one to go through for appearances' sake, it will be on the understanding that Gov. CORNELL will veto it. In that case our new member of Congress would be elected next fall by the State at large, leaving the other thirty-three Representatives to be chosen in the districts as now arranged. Of course, this would be most unjust to the Democratic portions of the State. But perhaps this is the very reason why the CORNELL-KELLY combination will carry the scheme through.

Mr. Morton Has the Floor.

It is now some time since the *Boston Advertiser* published the contract between the Crédit Industriel and the firm of MORTON, BLISS & Co.—a contract which had been executed on Aug. 27, 1881, at Paris, where Mr. MORTON was residing as United States Minister. No attempt has yet been made to relieve Mr. MORTON from the grave imputation cast on his fitness for a high diplomatic trust by his share in that transaction.

It may be that Mr. MORTON has hitherto concentrated his mind rather on commercial and financial questions than on the legal and moral obligations of a United States Minister, on whom is reposed the duty of upholding in foreign countries not alone the material interests of our people, but the national reputation for integrity and honor. It is, we may inform him, a fundamental maxim of international law that the conduct of diplomatic representatives, and especially of those holding the conspicuous post of Ambassador or Minister, must be above even the suspicion of personal motive or pecuniary gain. So anxious is our own Government to avert the lightest slur on the character or action of its diplomatic and consular officers, that by section 1,751, Revised Statutes of the United States, the most sweeping and peremptory injunctions are laid upon them. Every such officer is prohibited from "corresponding in regard to the public affairs of any foreign Government with any private person, newspaper, or other periodical, or otherwise than with the proper officers of the United States; from recommending any person at home or abroad for any employment of trust or profit under the Government of the country in which he is located; and from asking or accepting for himself or any other person any present, emolument, pecuniary favor, office, or title of any kind from any such Government." Thus we see that Congress, solicitous of American reputation, has forbidden acts ostensibly the most trivial and harmless, not because these might not on investigation often be shown to be quite compatible with official integrity, but because it was resolved that the character and motives of our diplomatic representatives should not even be open to inquiry. No extenuation, no apology, can relieve a diplomatic officer from the operation of that statute. A violation of any one of its provisions demonstrates his unfitness for a diplomatic trust.

Now, it is sometimes difficult to establish a *prima facie* case of offence under the above statute. It may be open to question whether a particular passage in a letter to a newspaper or private person should be construed as a criticism on the public affairs of any foreign Government. Neither can the Government always bring home to a Minister or Consul the odium of a bribe or favor bestowed on a third person. In the instance, however, of Minister MORTON, no doubt is possible regarding the *prima facie* aspect of the case. The charge against him is based on no mere rumor. It is not founded even on the suggestive coincidence of his official letter to Mr. BLAINE of Aug. 11—in which he urged a joint intervention of France and the United States in the South American quarrel—with the pendency of negotiations between his business firm and the Crédit Industriel, which, according to Mr. R. R. RANDALL, had at that time been going on for months. The charge of conduct unbecoming a United States Minister rests on evidence far more definite and positive, namely, on the text of a contract and memorandum executed at Paris on Aug. 27 between the commercial agents of the French corporation and the firm of MORTON, BLISS & Co. By that contract the exclusive agency for the sale of Peruvian guanos and nitrates in the United States was assured to the American house, and, by the memorandum annexed, the duration of the contract and the fruition of its valuable privileges were made to hinge upon the forcible interposition of our Government on behalf of Peru, a step which, we know, since the publication of official documents called for by Congress, Mr. MORTON had already begun to further in his letter of Aug. 11 to the State Department.

It may be said that the particular offence which Mr. MORTON appears on the face of the above contract to have committed, in his dual capacity of United States Minister and sharer in the profits of a commercial house, does not figure in the list of minor transgressions enumerated in section 1,751 of the Revised Statutes. He is not, indeed, accused of accepting a title or a ribbon, or of expressing his opinion of foreign Governments in the newspapers. He will find, however, that the far more serious dereliction with which he has been charged is amply provided for by those general principles of law which protect a principal from the ill-faith and double-dealing of his agent. The contract between the Crédit Industriel and the firm of which Mr. MORTON is a partner must be followed by dismissal of the Minister, unless it can be explained to the satisfaction, not only of the State Department, but of public opinion. This is no case for mock dignity and self-complacent silence. It is a question of justifying a signature and defending a published document. We may add that the people are already giving signs of impatience in this matter; and we warn Mr. MORTON and his friends that in their own interests the exculpation of the Minister from any complicity in that unlucky contract should not be delayed.

An Interesting Religious Discussion in India.

On the 12th of last January the Theosophical Society celebrated its sixth anniversary at the Framji Cowasji Institute, Bombay. From the official report of the proceedings on that occasion we learn that the house was densely crowded, and that the applause was frequent and enthusiastic. The Theosophical leaders, Hierophant OLCOTT and Madame BLAVATSKY, claim that the great size of the meeting and the cordial approval of their work unanimously expressed indicate plainly that they have succeeded in winning the sympathy of the native public, despite missionary and other opposition.

It seems, however, that the *Times of India* gave a report of the meeting which conveyed a different and a very unfavorable impression. The Bombay Theosophical Society therefore subsequently passed resolutions condemning the newspaper report as "scandalously unfair and misleading," and speaking of its attacks upon the Theosophist leaders as "covert assaults upon the religious ideas of the different castes of India through their proved and unselfish friends." It appears, also, that the Rev. Jo. COOK, during his extraordinary lecturing tour in India, assailed the mission of the Theosophists and the motives of Col. OLCOTT in going to that country, and made disparaging remarks concerning his reputation at home.

The Hierophant accordingly challenged the reverend gentleman to meet him in public debate. Pandit DAYANAND SARASWATI SWAMI also denied the truth of each and every one of three propositions laid down by Mr. COOK in his lectures, and tried to arrange with him a public discussion of them on the next Sunday evening. The Pandit stipulated that, as neither understood the other's language, the arguments of each should be translated for his opponent, and that then a stenographic report of both arguments, properly authenticated, should be printed, "so that the public may judge for themselves which religion is most divine." The three propositions of Mr. COOK which the Pandit denied were these:

"1. That Christianity is of Divine origin."
"2. That it is destined to overspread the earth."
"3. That no other religion is of Divine origin."

We do not learn, however, that the Rev. Jo. COOK met either the Hierophant or the Pandit, as they desired.

The anniversary meeting on the 12th of January was presided over by Dr. PANDURANG GOPAL, "the well-known surgeon oculist," and was addressed by Hierophant OLCOTT, MIRZA MOORAD ALEE BEG, "a learned Mussulman gentleman," D. M. BENNETT, "the famous infidel agitator" of New York, and KAVASJI M. SHROFF of Bombay, all Theosophists except Mr. BENNETT. Buddhism, Mohammedanism, and American infidelity and free love were therefore represented on the platform, and they all joined hands in assailing current Christianity, and in denying to it rightful supremacy as a religion, and originality or superiority in its moral and religious precepts.

Col. OLCOTT explained that his society, "as a body, has no religion. What we do is to press the majesty and glory of all the ancient religions, and to warn the Hindu, the Sinhalese, and the Parsee to beware how they depart from the teachings of the Vedas, the Tripitikas, and the Avesta for any newer faith before learning well what the older religions contain and what the newer ones do *not* contain." By that he meant that their true course was to go back to their early religious teachers, and not to fall into the embrace of Christianity. As for himself, he said he was "a philosophical Buddhist," and was working with all his heart and strength with the Buddhists for the restoration and reform of their religion, but was ready to help along what was good in other religions, even in Christianity, though he and all the other speakers were manifestly far from well disposed to that system.

The Vedas, in the opinion of the Hierophant, are the great fountain of religious truth. All India and all the world can go there, drink together, and satisfy their spiritual yearnings. They are "the repository of the highest thought of archaic man, the spring source of all subsequent philosophies." According to his notion, man knew more about religion in the infancy of the race than ages of development have taught him. The farther back we go, therefore, the purer the fountain, so he thinks.

Moreover, the Hierophant is satisfied that the Aryan sages had an "intimate knowledge of natural law in the department of Force," as he calls it, which they "transmitted from generation to generation of their followers." He challenged scientific men, clergymen, and everybody else to "disprove the truth, taught by PATANJALI and a score more of Indian sages, and confirmed by thousands of initiates in many lands and among many peoples, that the ancient progenitors of your race and my race knew the secret laws of Matter and of Force which Western science is groping after, but as yet without avail." "India," he further claimed, "the unworthy but not yet quite effete successor of her Aryan mother, is the dusky casket in which the splendid secret has been locked throughout all these unhappy ages." The Hierophant, however, does not seem to understand that it is his first business to prove that all this is a fact, not that of anybody else to disprove it. "Search, search for the key, ye men of modern science," he exclaimed. You will not find it, he went on, where chemists, and physicists, and theologians are hunting for it, "but where the demiurgic Hindu BRAHMA manages the correlations of forces and the rhythmic measures of the atoms, and the eternal principle of motion, called by the Hindu PARABRAHM, out breathes and inhales universes. *There* will the golden key of this ineffable knowledge be found!"

Those were the concluding words of his address, and they were received, the report tells us, with loud and long-continued applause. Are we to infer that the Hierophant has found this key? If he has found it, why does he not unlock the mysteries, instead of keeping them for his personal delectation and that of the members of a secret society like the Theosophists? Why challenge disproof when he fails to present proof?

Col. OLCOTT claims that, instead of converting the native population to Christianity, the Christian missionaries in India have planted the germs of infidelity in the Asiatic mind. And when these germs are uprooted, he declares, "the young men will not run out into Christianity, but run back into the religions of their fathers, becoming more orthodox, and continuing so." That is, the missionaries are doing what they can to destroy all religion, and he and his coadjutor are laboring to undo their work and bring the people back to the pure religion of their fathers. The missionaries have about 22,000 children of Buddhists in their schools. "As a general rule," he said, "they do not convert them to Christianity, but make them lose all faith in and respect for their forefathers' religion." These children he claimed to be getting back.

Mr. BEG, the Mohammedan, took the same view of the efforts to propagate Christianity. They were put forth on the assumption that the Western religion was intrinsically better than the Eastern, whereas, according to him, it was only the religion of the East distorted and corrupted. The following extract from his address tells the story:

"We refuse to accept the Demiurge Jesus as the tribal Deity of an obscure Shemite tribe, in preference to the Mohammedan Allah, the primeval Deity of the whole Shemitic race, which, again, is both the Zervana Akerana of the Zoroastrians and the Brahm of the Aryans under another name. And, though Jesus may have been a wonder worker, though He may have enunciated as the cognate pregnant eternal truths which the so-called modern Christians refuse to understand or accept, though He may have exhibited the highest ideal personal life, all of which have been and may be disputed, but the admission of which does not affect my present argument, we decline to admit Him either as the sole representative or as the co-eternal partner of the Infinite. We of Asia, from whom the primeval truths first went out to illuminate the world, decline to have these same truths, degraded, distorted, and abominated, thrust back upon us, their originators, in a corrupted form. The source must be purer than the muddy outlet corrupted with the outpour of a thousand cities. *Be our God what it may*, it shall be the God of the universe, not the God of the children of Israel, it shall be the God of infinity and totality, not a half God who is helpless from His passions and powerless to enforce His own decrees, and who must give up His son to the slaughter in order to propitiate Himself—the God whose laws are outlawed in the limitless Kosmos, not in a Papal Council or in a Presbyterian synod."

Mr. SUBORE, the Buddhist, also contended that the Christian teachings in India were having the effect of driving the people into infidelity. They failed to convert the natives to Christianity, and at the same time destroyed their religious faith. From his address, which was by far the most thoughtful delivered, we make this extract:

"Whatever good English education may have done in India, you will readily admit that its influence has been to make many of us infidels and atheists. While it has supplied us with enough of intellectual food, it has left uncultivated the moral and spiritual nature. We educated men are as we many by-bred productions of the British rule in India, if I may be allowed to use the expression. Parsees are neither entirely Parsees nor are they Europeans in their tastes, virtues, modes of thought, and habits of life. Hindus even do not fare better in this respect. The old pure Zoroastrianism exists in its mere skeleton form or is dying or dead. The ancient and sublime Hinduism and Buddhism are almost extinct."

A real revival of their old religions in their purity, the demolition of caste distinctions and superstitious beliefs, and the amelioration of the condition of the masses were what he regarded as essential. But he denied that Christianity could do that work. "Christianity is not the religion for India," he said with decision. "The intelligent Indian mind, awakened by the secular education given by the Government, is abroad in search of truth, and it is not likely to fall an easy prey to the missionaries. The days of Christian missionaries are numbered in India, say what Mr. JOSEPH COOK and others may." Missionaries were welcome, however, so long as they confined themselves to spreading education. But they would not do that. They persisted in interfering with the religions of the people. He declared himself by no means unfriendly to the Christian missionaries. He admitted that their influence had been wholesome. But he denied that they were disinterested and purely philanthropic in their motives, saying:

"And why? Simply because the clergy class and the missionaries are paid for their work and amply maintained from the coffers of the State and from the various foreign missions respectively. Kindly if you as are in the habit of glancing at the items in the annual Indian budget must have unfeignedly observed that there is an item of more than sixteen lakhs of rupees on the debit side of the budget marked as ecclesiastical expenditure. Now, this large sum of sixteen lakhs of rupees drawn annually from the taxpaying poor of the country goes to enrich the British clergy class. In addition to this large sum from the Indian Treasury, several Christian denominations here have been in the annual receipt of large grants annually from the various foreign missions in Europe and America. All this money goes to keep the British clergy and the missionaries in a dignified and happy condition of life. Every missionary here has a spacious bungalow, carriages, horses, and servants at his command, a happy home-hold consisting of a beautiful wife and chubby-looking children, a comfortable salary, with occasional opportunities of sojourning to the hills and periodically going home on furlough."

What was said of real value at the meeting was uttered by the Mohammedan and Buddhist. Their remarks were really interesting and suggestive. That cannot truthfully be said of the speeches of the American orators. The inference we draw is that if there is to be a religious reformation among the natives of India its actual leaders will not be Hierophant OLCOTT and Madame BLAVATSKY, but earnest and enlightened countrymen of their own. It was reserved for the Hierophant alone to talk about occult Aryan science, something of which, if it exists at all, he obviously knows nothing.

The Story of A Winter Journey.

On July 1, 1877, Mr. EDWARD F. NOYES of Ohio was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to France. This is the NOYES known as INDEX NOYES. He was appointed because he had been of service in the fraudulent counting in of HAYES. It may be necessary to recall to mind the fact that at that time the office of Secretary of State was occupied by Mr. WILLIAM M. EVARTS, who had also been of service in opening the way to the White House for HAYES.

Mr. NOYES continued to draw his salary of $17,500 a year during the four years of HAYES, but did not remain constantly in Paris. One of his absences from the post of alleged duty covered half the autumn of 1878 and the entire winter of 1879-80. From Oct. 16, 1879, to Feb. 27, 1880, INDEX NOYES was on his travels, making the circuit of the Mediterranean Sea. We heard from him at Genoa, at Pisa, at Florence, at Rome, at Naples, at Pompeii, at Athens, in Corfu, in Mitylene, in Rhodes, in Cyprus, at Constantinople, at Smyrna, at Beyrout, even at Damascus, at Jaffa and Jerusalem, on the banks of the Dead Sea, at Alexandria and Cairo, and up the Nile for seven hundred miles, tarrying at Assouan, Luxor, and the First Cataract; then on the island of Maltz; next in Tunis and in Algeria; at Bona, Constantine, Setif, Algiers, and Oran; and, finally, in Spain, at Gibraltar, Malaga, Seville, Cordova, and Madrid.

Thus INDEX NOYES exhibited his expansive shirt bosom and his astonishing companions of the French nation all the way around the middle sea, and escaped Paris during the most disagreeable season of the year. The greater part of his journey lay along the route usually taken in the East by the American traveller in pursuit of winter sunshine and new experiences.

But INDEX NOYES's salary went on while INDEX NOYES was away. The installments drawn by him in payment for services supposed to be rendered the United States Government in Paris to the third of a year during which he was really travelling for pleasure in the Levant, Northern Africa, and Spain amounted to about $6000. For this money taken out of the United States Treasury he made no return whatever. The matter was of public notoriety and scandal at the time; the fact that Mr. EVARTS allowed INDEX NOYES's prolonged absence from his post to go unrebuked was regarded as evidence of the desire of the Fraudulent Administration to make things as pleasant as possible for those in the secrets of the Fraud.

A volume of State Department reports just received from the Government Printing Office at Washington contains a document which throws new light on this almost forgotten scandal. The mass of absurd essays contributed for Mr. EVARTS's perusal by Consuls and Vice-Consuls all over the world half conceals a modest paper between six and seven pages long, entitled "Commerce of the East and of North Africa, and the Share of the United States Therein," and signed by the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to France. The report is made up of platitudes and rubbish, of which these specimens will give a fair idea:

"I experienced a sense of humiliation that the inhabitants of the East have so little to remind them of the existence and resources of the United States."

"I found everywhere in the Sultan's dominions a kindly and sympathetic feeling manifested toward our countrymen, the expression of which was always hearty and unrestrained."

"In the minds of the Orientals our Government is excluded from the list of those which they represent as considering Turkish territory and Turkish property the legitimate prey of the strongest."

"The political questions pertaining to the East have for many years engrossed public attention."

"Little interest has been taken in the silent but potent influences at work for the amelioration of the moral and elevation of the social and intellectual conditions of the unfortunate millions who inhabit countries bordering on the Mediterranean Sea."

"The Oriental people are slow to move, and find it difficult to get out of their old grooves of custom."

"I am aware of the prejudice in the United States at this time against subsidies of all kinds, but I do not sympathize with that sentiment."

"The Turkish dominions, Greece, Algeria, and Morocco are so far from the United States that our people hardly appreciate the number of their inhabitants or their condition and wants."

"Centuries of misrule and oppression, the frequent intervention of foreign nations, the extravagance and recklessness of the ruling classes, the bigotry and tyranny of the Mohammedan religion, the corruption of the unpaid native courts, the insecurity of life, liberty, and property—all these things combined have kept the masses of the people in an abject and impoverished condition."

The only interesting and valuable parts of INDEX NOYES's so-called report are to be found in the opening and closing sentences. He begins by saying that he started on his winter pleasure trip "in compliance with instructions contained in State Department despatch No. 178, of date Aug. 29, 1879." He concludes: "I have thus imperfectly reported the special mission to the East and North Africa with which I was honored by the Secretary of State."

What special mission? What instructions were contained in Despatch No. 178 from Mr. EVARTS? The inference is that the scandal of INDEX NOYES's absence from Paris two years ago is much worse than had been suspected, and that he not only took pay for services which he failed to render for nearly five months, but that an arrangement was devised to enable him to travel to Damascus and Philæ at the expense of the people of the United States. If there was such an arrangement, it would be difficult to characterize it in plain words that would be pleasant for either INDEX NOYES or the Hon. WILLIAM M. EVARTS to read. Let some Congressman call for the letter of instructions on the strength of which INDEX NOYES proceeded on his "special mission to the East," and for a statement of allowances of expenses to him during that mission.

A Movement to Systematize Charity.

If all the money spent in New York in public and private charities was so dispensed as to reach only those in actual need of relief, it is safe to say that the amount would be enough to provide adequate help for every one of them. But a large share of the sum sticks to the hands of official almoners, and a still greater proportion of it is wasted on impostors or laid out in support of needless and fantastic charities, devised by humbugs or eccentric, unpractical philanthropists.

Even if the amount now distributed in charity is not large enough to cover the whole field, the deficiency is not due to lack of liberality on the part of people able to give, but rather to their ignorance of genuine cases of bitter suffering from poverty, to their fear of imposture, and to their indisposition to investigate objects for charity presented to them. People may have been deceived so often by mendacious beggars that they refuse to examine into the merits of any case which comes before them. They are afraid that they will be made fools of again. Looking up the exact situation of applicants for bounty is a troublesome task, and it is even more troublesome to go about and hunt up cases where relief is imperatively needful. Besides, the endless appeals from the great multitude of charitable societies of all sorts worry men and women able to give, and the frequency of imposition affords the really stingy an excuse for keeping their purses closed. And finally, of course, there is a good deal of indifference as to the whole subject.

If, however, people were sure that the money given by them was going to actually provide needed relief, no man or woman in New York at any time would bitterly suffer for the lack of pecuniary aid. The money would be promptly forthcoming to meet the wants of every case. As it is, a great part of the distress endured by those who feel poverty most severely is relieved by their neighbors, little better provided with this world's goods than they. If illness impoverishes a family in a tenement house, the first succor usually comes from the other inmates of the dwelling. Though their own supply of food may be scant, the well and strong will not let their sick neighbors starve. In proportion to their means, indeed, the poor give far more than the rich. They are better acquainted with poverty. They know better what it means. Moreover, the cases of suffering occur under their eyes, and they are readier than those less hardly pressed in making allowances for the frailties of human nature to which the poverty may be due. Perhaps, too, the pride of those who have unexhausted is less hurt when they accept aid from their immediate associates. They do not have to submit to the patronage and pious platitudes with which the more fortunate almoners are apt to load their bounty.

If, however, the needs of the people who really suffer from deprivation, who are helpless and hopeless, were as well known by those in more comfortable circumstances as they are by their neighbors, aid would speedily be offered by the prosperous. Their wants would be gladly supplied if their necessities were understood. There may be a vast deal of indifference concerning the condition of the poor among people who have never felt the sting of poverty; but there is not enough of it to prevent immediate relief for every genuine case when once it is known.

A society has lately been established in this city which is intended to meet this want of exact knowledge regarding the actual need of charitable aid and relief. It is called the Charity Organization Society, and its function is not to dispense alms, but to furnish information as to where and in what form they are required. It proposes to have a central office, or headquarters, where the record of all its work shall be kept; and, with the help of district committees, among whom the city will be parcelled out, it will investigate thoroughly, and without charge, the cases of all applicants for relief which are referred to it for inquiry. It will also send visitors to personally attend cases needing counsel and advice. It will procure work for poor people who are capable of being wholly or partially self-supporting; will obtain from the proper charities, and from charitable individuals, suitable and adequate relief for deserving cases; and will in those ways, and by the prosecution of impostors, do what it can to repress mendicity. The society will undertake also to promote the general welfare of the poor by social and sanitary reforms, and by the inculcation of habits of providence and self-dependence.

The scheme, therefore, is a very large one, and its importance is great. In brief, the Charity Organization Society is formed for the purpose of directing relief straight to the objects in need of it, and preventing its waste on fraudulent cases. The churches and charitable agencies of the city will have in it a centre of intercommunication, so that they can work intelligently together and there shall be no injurious overlapping of relief. People who are disposed to give will also be able to find out from it where to send their money. Finally, the society announces that it will have nothing to do with religious questions or politics, and will not discriminate as to nationality. No person representing it will be allowed to do any proselyting or to offer any spiritual instruction. Practical charity is all it undertakes.

That such a society, wisely and thoroughly conducted, may be of great advantage both to the giver and to those in need of aid, every one can see. It will help to systematize charity and to do away with the many evils which spring from the multiplicity of charitable agencies, oftentimes so managed that they become the encouragers of professional pauperism, against which the interests of poor and rich alike are arrayed. The lazy beggar, the impostor who makes his living by soliciting alms, are enemies of all the deserving poor, and take the food out of their mouths. They not only consume the relief which ought of right to go to genuine sufferers, but they also discourage almsgiving. And yet just such frauds are all the time feeding at the expense of churches, which coddle them as saints in affliction.

The General Council of the Charity Organization Society is composed of sixteen citizens of reputation, besides ex-officio members, among whom are included the Mayor, the Presidents of the Police, Health, and Charities and Correction Departments and of the Commissioners of Emigration, and representatives of the State Board of Charities and the State Charities Aid Association. It is founded on the right plan.

The Ordnance Ring.

The Ordnance Bureau at Washington acquired a very bad repute several years ago when arms were sold to France for the profit of a Ring of official jobbers. If the statements made by Senator MORGAN, on his resolution calling for certain reports "of all trials and proofs of all guns," be true, then the reputation of that bureau has not improved. We quote his words:

"The Ordnance Bureau, I may say without any apprehension of violating the rules of propriety, is under the charge of men who compose a Ring to impose upon this Government inventions which are patented by ordnance and artillery officers of the United States; and if the Ordnance Bureau has seen proper to suppress some of these tests, that is the best reason I know of why they should be brought to light."

This is a very serious charge to be made in the open Senate, and it was not answered satisfactorily. There was an attempt at explanation, and a very lame one it proved to be. It appears that three or four hundred thousand dollars a year are expended for heavy guns, costing some fifty thousand dollars each, without any tests of their efficiency. When tests are demanded, answer is made that so much time is required to construct the gun itself, that none can be given to try its quality. So the favored contractor goes on without restraint.

Mr. MORGAN cited as follows from the testimony of Mr. HUNT, President of the South Boston Company, where the big guns are manufactured:

"We made a 12-inch breech loading gun and an 8-inch one. They were made after what is known as the CHIPPIN design. A breech of steel was screwed into the cast iron gun. We used the best imported steel for the work that was obtainable. The rifled tube was made of wrought iron. And yet, when the 12-inch gun was taken to the proving grounds at Sandy Hook, and after firing only a few rounds, the steel breech broke off at its thickest part and blew out. The 8-inch gun, made in the same way, also broke, and its breech blew out after firing a few rounds. This method of gun making is a very expensive one, the steel breech costing enormously."

These are the great guns now made for coast defence. Mr. ALLISON and others tried to make it appear that they were old guns not in use, but Mr. HUNT's testimony that "they were made after what is known as the CHIPPIN design" silenced the champions of the Ring on that point.

In the course of the discussion Mr. ALLISON inquired as follows:

"But does the Senator say that any inventor is a member of the present Board?

"Mr. MORGAN—I do not say the present Board; but the Chief Officer of Ordnance—

"Mr. ALLISON—I know that Col. CHIPPIN in former years was a member of the Ordnance Board.

"Mr. MORGAN—And he was a member of that Board at the time the CHIPPIN system was adopted."

It is quite clear that the Ordnance Bureau suppressed reports which, if published, would have stopped this extravagance, jobbery, and favoritism. And now that Senator MORGAN has begun the work of investigation, it is to be hoped he will pursue it, regardless of the obstacles that will be surely thrown in his path by interested parties in and out of Congress.

This subject was before the Committee on Appropriations last year, but the testimony was only printed for the use of the committee, and not for the public; a very convenient practice of suppression sometimes. Mr. BECK let the cat out of the bag in saying: "There were some personal matters, some criminations and recriminations, that none of us wanted put in print." Why not? Because some ugly facts would have been exposed.

A Fair Set Off.

The nomination of Mr. CONKLING to the Supreme bench is a fair set off to that of STANLEY MATTHEWS. Mr. CONKLING's name is unstained by any imputation affecting his integrity as a public man. Mr. MATTHEWS was known as the attorney of railroads having the most important interests at stake in the Congress in which he served and in the court to which he was appointed.

Mr. CONKLING has boldly and fearlessly announced his faith in the right and the duty of the State to check and restrict corporate monopoly; Mr. MATTHEWS was the servant of the corporations. Mr. CONKLING is a Stalwart chieftain, whose crest rises higher than that of any other leader of the party, and has been followed on harder fields and to greater victories; Mr. MATTHEWS was a mousing Half Breed, burrowing in intrigue and burying himself in political scandals.

Mr. CONKLING was appointed by Mr. ARTHUR as a tribute to his talents and public character, and in recognition of his tried fidelity to party and to friends; MATTHEWS was appointed by GARFIELD to pay one of HAYES's debts of infamy arising out of the Great Fraud. Mr. CONKLING's career has prohibited him from giving such constant attention to the study of the law as MATTHEWS has done; but should he take his seat on the bench, it will be with such a reputation and fame as MATTHEWS is no fit associate for.

Virginia readjustment is as curious a thing in Congressional districting as in dealings with State creditors, and for this, too, the credit is due to Senator MAHONE. While three Readjuster districts have not much more than 400,000 population, two Democratic districts have nearly 350,000. There is one shoestring district 200 miles long, that crosses the Blue Ridge and the Alleghany Mountains, and another district is an extraordinary circumbendibus from the southwestern boundary line up to Richmond and down the James.

The inspecting tour on which Gen. SHERMAN has now started will be the longest he has ever indulged in, and will be made additionally agreeable by the ladies and civilian friends who are of the party, even if they do not help him much in inspecting posts. He does not expect to get back to Washington until after the middle of May, in the mean time going down to the lower Rio Grande, and then up to view the beauties of the Yosemite valley, not forgetting a trip to San Francisco. If the General should ever go upon the retired list, he could not then make long journeys without paying his way, whereas now he has mileage. No doubt he is disposed to use his opportunities to good advantage while he feels like travelling and inspecting.

Though the attempt on Queen VICTORIA'S life fortunately resulted far otherwise than the one on the life of President GARFIELD, there are certain points of resemblance between them, and particularly in the plea of insanity resorted to in both cases, which will make MACLEAN'S trial of special interest. The British press and public were very severe upon the trial of GUITEAU, though admitting that the result they impatiently expected was reached at last. Perhaps we on our part may find something to criticise, or else something to learn, in the trial of the man who shot at the Queen. It is already worth noting that twenty men sought to overturn the carriage containing the prisoner, after his examination, no doubt with a view to lynch him.

Persons who are aggrieved by some phase of theatre ticket speculation frequently send their complaints to THE SUN, and we are bound to say that nine times out of ten the grievance is real. Seats are advertised at certain prices, but when one goes to the ticket office to buy, he is told that all the good ones are taken. But at his elbow stands a fellow eager to supply him with just what he wants, if he will pay an advance on the regular rate. At one highly fashionable theatre, the practice for years has been to close the office at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and not open it again until half past 7, so that whoever buys between these times must go to the speculator on duty in the vestibule. We believe there are two or three theatres in which none of this double dealing is practised, and where the marking off of seats on the diagram actually means that they are sold—either to genuine speculators or to persons who intend to sit in them; but the majority of the managers are in partnership with the fellows whom our correspondents denounce. It is true that no manager can prevent the purchase of tickets to be sold again, for he has no means of identifying the messengers whom the operators might send; but it is also true that performances on which the operators will take the risk of buying tickets outright are few. Of one thing, however, the public may be certain. Every seller of tickets inside the threshold of a theatre is an authorized agent of the manager, and not a speculator. Tickets are merely put into his hands for the purpose of getting more for them than the advertised price, and he returns what he can't sell. A manager is in full control of his premises, not only under the common law, but by reason of a special statute, and it may be relied upon that he knows it.

The methods of theatrical management are far better than they used to be, and they have in most particulars been lifted to an honest commercial standard. Entertainments are oftener worth the money paid to see them; tricks of the profession, that were formerly matters of course, have been given up; the reputable manager is taking his place among the controllers of recognized business interests; and now that this question of two prices for tickets is fairly discussed by the managers themselves—as it is just now in Philadelphia, Brooklyn, and Chicago—it is to be hoped that a reform will be effected.

A more varied scale of prices for seats, yielding more than the present ostensible rate for the very best and less for the poorer ones, would be reasonable and perhaps feasible. At Booth's Theatre, the prices are raised or lowered to suit the attractiveness of the performance given, which is an equitable plan, enabling the manager to profit by a crowd without using any deception. This would seem to enable a manager to get as high prices as the people would pay, and to do it on a sound mercantile principle. Now let Mr. STETSON lead the way by excluding ticket sellers from his vestibule.

Assemblyman MCMANUS has introduced at Albany a bill making it a misdemeanor to sell theatre tickets at a higher rate than the price fixed by the manager. Such a law would remedy the evil—if anybody cared to enforce it.

If there is any millionaire hereabouts who wants to erect a monument to somebody, there is a fine opportunity at the grave of Gen. ISRAEL PUTNAM in the Connecticut town of Brooklyn. The resting place of the grand old Revolutionary patriot bears evidence of both neglect and vandalism. The grave stone is a marble slab 6 by 2½ feet, that was entirely covered with an inscription written by President DWIGHT of Yale College. This slab was originally supported in a horizontal position by stone work about three feet high. But it is now only about six inches from the ground. The corners and sides have been chipped off by relic-hunting barbarians, and even parts of the inscription have disappeared. Is there anybody who cares to have Gen. PUTNAM'S memory honored with as good a monument as that erected in honor of the spy ANDRÉ?

THE GRANT BILL IN THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, March 3. It only needs organization in the House to bury the Grant Retiring bill. Several plans to dispose of the question without going on the record are proposed. The most feasible is to refer the bill to a committee that will agree in advance to smother it. A number of committees have been prospected, thus far without success. An out-and-out fight might pass the bill, for under the crack of the whip members who are seeking to kill it by stealth would vote for it. Foster suggested the smothering plan. It was a Sherman idea. Gen. Sherman left for his postponed inspection tour only after the plan was in train. The chances are that unless it is sharply looked after the bill will be consigned where it will not be again heard of this session. An irreverent member proposes to amend the title with: "A bill to enable Gen. Logan to become a Presidential candidate." Another still: "To head off Gen. Grant on the third term." When they begin to make fun of a bill, its fate may be said to be precarious. Logan's pet measure is in serious danger.

The Clergyman who Visited Guiteau.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—Thus far only one clergyman, and he a colored man, has sought the cell of the condemned Guiteau. The colored preacher prayed fervently, and the wretched culprit, according to the accounts, was much affected. Whether or not the interest usually manifested by the orthodox clergy for criminals condemned to death will be extended to Guiteau, is a question that begins to be asked. The colored preacher appears to have labored under the impression that the wretched man has a soul, and that as a child of God it was as much his duty to look after its salvation as to look after that of the souls of ordinary mortals. Perhaps it has been determined that Guiteau has no soul; that is, none worth making an effort for. The time is now too long if this effort is to be made, or perhaps it may be considered to permit the dark shouted man of God to do the work alone.

The name of the colored preacher who went to Guiteau's cell to pray with him is J. W. Napier.

A Lieutenant-Governor's Lucky Speculations

From the Toronto Globe.

OTTAWA, Feb. 22.—Yesterday the Hon. Mr. Crichton, lieutenant-governor of Manitoba, who is at present in the city, received a telegram from his agent at Winnipeg to effect that he had sold 40 acres of his land at St. Boniface opposite Point Douglas, for the handsome sum of $283,000. This is but one of a number of good speculations made by Mr. Crichton, and he is still the holder of many other parcels of land which are daily increasing in value. It is said that he has cleared a million dollars so far out of his northwest speculations.

When mind and body are out of sorts, with cold extremities, a yellow face in the skin, dizziness, dull headache, and an indisposition to stir about, be sure you are in for a bilious attack, springing from a more or less disordered liver. Dr. Jaynes's Sanative Pills will bring the liver to a healthy condition, and speedily remove all biliary distress.—Adv.

SUNBEAMS.

—The Moravians on the mosquito coast of Nicaragua are prosecuting their mission work with such successful energy that one hundred of the natives have recently professed religion.

—Nearly one hundred of the leading churches throughout Indiana are holding revival services and gathering in great numbers of converts.

—The Rev. William M. Taylor, D.D., of the Broadway Tabernacle, receives $10,000 annually, of the 1,000 members of his church many are wealthy.

—The *Presbyterian* says that it has no objection to a modified liturgy for the Presbyterian Church; but that the fact is patent that there is no more power in modified liturgies than in modified whiskey.

—"Spiritual Poverty in Society" may be much to be deplored; but there is not half as much lamentation made over it as there is about the physical poverty which hinders persons from appearing morally in as good clothes as they would like to exhibit.

—Ben Hogan of Chicago was a bold and bad prize fighter. He went to hear Mr. Sawyer's preaching and was converted. He has now opened a mission in Chicago very much like that of Jerry McAuley in this city, and is said to be doing good to throngs that visit it.

—Major Cole has been gathering converts at Talmage's Tabernacle all the week. The revival meetings which he conducts are to be continued during the present week. The Major is a man somewhat unusual in stature, with a good voice and pleasing address. He tells many anecdotes, and seems to exert a magnetic effect on his audience.

—The Rev. Joseph Cook is now travelling in India, and has been lecturing before the English-speaking people in Bombay. His lectures in that city were in defence of the Christian religion against the objections which the Hindoos commonly urge against it. Some of the better class of educated Hindoos were present, and gave respectful hearing to his arguments.

—A dissontented member of the Greek Church in Strumnitza, Turkey, became an apostate. Before doing so he roundly cursed the hat and beard of the Bishop under whose ecclesiastical jurisdiction he had lived. For this scandalous sin he is to undergo trial. In this country the Bishop's hat and beard would be in vain to recover as best they could from the effects of the curse.

—To-day the Rev. John R. Paxton, formerly of Washington, D. C., enters on his duties as pastor of the West Presbyterian Church in Forty-second street. The building is stately in its architecture, and of ample size to accommodate a large congregation. Mr. Paxton has been regarded as one of the most attractive pulpit orators of Washington, and he will in all probability fill the pews to overflowing.

—The Rev. James B. Dunn, D.D., has left Bethany Church, Philadelphia, and gone to Florida for his health. He is one of the most prominent of tem