The Sun.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1882.

Amusements To-day.

Bijou Opera House.—Pinafore.
Bush St's Museum.—Broadway and 9th st.
Daly's Theatre.—Monkeys.
Fifth Avenue Theatre.—Mme. L'Archiduc.
Grand Opera House.—Miss Multon.
Haverly's 14th Street Theatre.—Chips.
Metropolitan Alcazar.—Olivette.
Madison Square Theatre.—Emeralda.
Niblo's Garden.—The Lights o' London.
Park Theatre.—Jane Eyre.
San Francisco Minstrels.—Broadway and 29th st.
Standard Theatre.—A Daughter of the Nile.
Theatre Comique.—The Blackbird. Matinee.
Tony Pastor's Theatre.—The Beautiful Galatea.
Union Square Theatre.—The Black Flag.
Windsor Theatre.—Green-Room Fun.
Wallack's Theatre.—Taken from Life.

Advertisements for THE WEEKLY SUN, *issued to-morrow morning, must be handed in this evening before six o'clock.*

An Unsatisfactory Result.

The result of the Star route trial yesterday is by no means satisfactory.

Those defendants have been convicted whose conviction is of no particular importance; while the men go free who ought to have been found guilty.

Where the fault lies for this result is, perhaps, not entirely clear, but we are inclined to think that it must rest upon the jury. We do not see how the counsel for the prosecution could have done much more than they did.

The fact remains, however, that the net which was set for sharks has caught only minnows.

Official Morals.

Has it ever occurred to President ARTHUR that the steamer Despatch, on which he has been travelling about of late, does not belong to him, but to the United States? It was paid for with the people's money, and is kept in repair, furnished with coal, and supplied with a crew and officers by an appropriation of the people's money, and for a purpose supposed to be useful and necessary to the people's Government. That it should be employed for the amusement or the convenience of any officeholder was not among the objects for which it was constructed or for which it is maintained.

Is there any warrant either in the Constitution or laws of the United States for converting a naval vessel into a pleasure boat for the President or any other officer of the Administration? Is there any justification either in law or common sense for such employment of public property? *There is not.*

The salary of the President is fixed by law, and a big salary it is. If, instead of being content with this salary, he should contrive to get an additional sum out of the Treasury, what would be thought of him? What would be said of his act? What would be done with him when Congress meets? Yet is there any essential difference between taking money that the law does not allow him, and taking any other valuable thing that the law does not allow?

The President ought to be most careful in regard to such things. He ought to carry scrupulousness and the sense of personal dignity and integrity to the utmost possible extent. He should respect to the last degree not only the letter of the law, but its spirit. He should show a high and spotless example to every other officer of the Government.

If the President needs a yacht, let him get one for himself like any other gentleman. He should think it just as dishonorable for him to convert to his personal service a vessel belonging to the navy as to put in his pocket on the sly a bag of gold or a roll of greenbacks belonging to the Treasury.

Can anybody imagine GEORGE WASHINGTON taking a naval vessel for his own use in a yachting excursion? No, indeed. We could just as easily imagine him travelling on a railroad with a deadhead pass.

Creedmoor.

To-day the annual fall meeting of the National Rifle Association begins at Creedmoor. The British visiting team, who are accustomed to the corresponding event at Wimbledon, held earlier in the year, with its many striking features, and above all with its lavish rewards for good shooting, may be inclined to smile at the modest display of the American range. This also is a prize meeting, but, contrasted with its English prototype, the prizes are few and frugal. There are, it is true, several rifles offered for competition, some medals, and a few cups and trophies of much intrinsic value; but to these latter, for the most part, are fixed conditions of temporary ownership for a year, or else requirements for several successive winnings, which have made the same prizes do duty for many years, and bid fair to keep them performing their economical functions for generations to come. The cash which it is possible for any rifleman to carry away by his prowess from a prize meeting at Creedmoor, is not to be compared with the munificent gifts offered at Wimbledon; and it is little wonder that the British visitors have not felt tempted to enter for any of the team matches save the one which they have expressly come to win.

Nevertheless, this week's meeting, with good weather to favor, should be one of unusual interest and value. The international match will bring to Creedmoor not only many additional spectators, but a larger number of contesting riflemen. The programme is for the most part the familiar one presented at this annual gathering, but with one or two additions. The novel presence of a team from Michigan is an evidence of the extension of interest in these contests, and should the regular army team from the Division of the Atlantic decide to compete in the HILTON trophy match, it would add greatly to the animation of what is usually the chief team match of the year. In some respects, indeed, this is still the most valuable competition of the meeting. The distances are 200, 500, and 600 yards, which are recognized as practical ones in actual campaigning, while those of 800, 900, and 1,000 yards are not universally so considered, save for exceptional organizations of sharpshooters. The weapons, also, required in this match, are such as have been adopted as official arms by some State or Government. This condition secures a genuine military match, because, while giving the widest range to the selection of any weapons that can really be used in practical warfare, it rules out those that are constructed for the purposes of a special military match or fitted with special rigs, and are not regularly manufactured and issued anywhere to a body of troops. It had been greatly desired that the British team should enter for the HILTON trophy, which is expressly open to the competition of teams of twelve from other countries; but it would not be qualified to do so, as, though strong at the distances required, the weapons with which it is supplied are not the service rifles required by the terms of the HILTON match, and are for the most part made up for match purposes, the barrel being that of one maker, the breech of another, and, perhaps, other aids and appliances those of a third.

As to the principal contest of the week, the one between the teams of twelve representing respectively the British volunteers and the American militia organizations, it is highly probable that the visitors will be the winners. They are all well-known Wimbledon marksmen, the selection of most of them being practicable before the present match was made. Their preliminary practice at Creedmoor has shown great steadiness and skill, and their scores have been very creditable. Their American competitors have been somewhat too recently gathered from various States to have seasonably secured that careful practice which would probably be necessary to win this match. In fact, the team was not definitely settled upon till a few days ago, so uneven had been the practice of its possible members, brilliant scores alternating with low ones, due to errors and experiments. It had also not been the custom of the American militiamen, until this summer, to practise at three out of the six distances required in this contest, as these were not considered in this country ordinary military distances. As the American team has improved with practice, there is, of course, a bare possibility of its winning; and there is a good assurance that in any case it will do itself credit. But the strong probability is that the British will take back with them, for the year, the token of superiority among military marksmen, while still leaving to America the Palma, the emblem of her championship at long-range shooting with fine rifles, by teams not limited to the militia.

Blunders of the English Commissariat.

The slow advance of Gen. WOLSELEY'S army is by no means viewed with so much indulgence and complacency by the English press as by some of our esteemed contemporaries, and, according to a recent telegram, the German military critics regard the absence of celerity in the movements of the British troops as a thing to be much regretted from a strategic point of view. The twenty days required by the English commander for reaching a point only as many miles distant from Ismailia are unfavorably contrasted, not only with the rapidity of the German operations during the last war with France, but with the march of Sir FREDERICK ROBERTS under more difficult conditions from Cabul to Candahar. Gen. ROBERTS had neither railway nor canal by which to convey his supplies, whereas Gen. WOLSELEY has had both; and if the latter has not profited by these advantages whose fault is it?

The fault unquestionably lies with the commissary department. So long as our information was confined to telegrams carefully revised by the military censorship it was not easy to fix the responsibility for the unexpected delay in the British advance, though persons familiar with the history of the Crimean war surmised that the British soldiers had been again retarded by a failure of supplies. Now that full reports, forwarded by mail from correspondents in the field, are forthcoming, it is impossible to longer disguise or palliate the flagrant shortcomings of the English commissariat. Thus we learn from the correspondent of the London *Times* that the detachment commanded by the Duke of CONNAUGHT had not a morsel of food served out to them for twenty-four hours after starting from Ismailia. The correspondent of the *Standard* says: "The troops have had a hard time of it for the last two days. On Thursday they started at four in the morning, and had nothing to eat all day but a few biscuits." In a second letter the *Times'* correspondent speaks of "the emaciated soldiers who have done such good fighting on empty stomachs," and of the lean, half-starved horses with which the Bengal Lancers did such good work on Saturday of last week.

Now, even if the present expedition had been moving straight across the desert from the Red Sea to the Nile, in the line of march actually followed by another British army three-quarters of a century ago, the shameful state of things disclosed by the facts reported could not possibly be justified. How much worse appears the management of the British commissariat when we reflect that both a railway and a canal have been available for transport service all the way from Ismailia to Mahsamch—a point only two or three miles eastward of Kassasin—where the retreating enemy made the most serious attempt to obstruct communications by constructing a dam and an embankment. There was, it is true, another obstacle occasioned by an embankment at Mahuta, but this was speedily cleared away. It may be said, however, that neither of these means of transportation was available, for the reason that the English had no boats, and that ARABI Pasha took measures to remove all the locomotives across as the presence of the British fleet off Port Said was made known to him.

But what right had the head of the commissary department to assume when leaving Alexandria that the enemy would be obliging enough to leave anything which they could carry away? Moreover, the want of locomotives was known immediately on the arrival of the army at Ismailia, and the want could have been met within two days by the shipment of engines from Alexandria. As for canal boats, it is incredible that out of the multitude of tugs and barges belonging to the service of the Suez Canal none could have been adapted to transport duty on the fresh water canal, alongside of which the English column was to march. There were also scores of steam launches and boats belonging to the war ships and transports, which number, it is said, about 100, and, as a matter of fact, we learn that, after more than two weeks' delay, the English engineers contrived to make such changes in the locks of the fresh water canal as would permit the passage of the steam launches. As to the railway, it was not until Aug. 29 that a locomotive was placed upon the line, and for at least a week longer the commissary department relied almost wholly upon wagons for carrying supplies to the front. It is plain enough that wagons drawn by horses are entirely unsuited for transport service over the burning sand and under the glaring sun of Egypt. Camels or mules are indispensable, and, with the exercise of ordinary forethought, would have been provided in advance. We repeat that the British military authorities charged with the movement of supplies had no right to assume that the conditions of transport on the march from Ismailia to Tel-el-Kebir would be in any respect different from those which they have actually encountered. They are fairly chargeable with gross negligence and incompetence for failing to turn to account such precious appliances as a canal and a railway, and for leaving soldiers at the front to starve, while army wagons were toiling painfully through the sand.

The same inefficiency displayed in foreseeing and overcoming difficulties of transportation is disclosed in the measures taken to collect the proper supplies at the base of operations. No doubt the soldiers constituting the advance column would have been glad enough, during the past three weeks, to have got a decent quantity of bread and salt meat, though it would have reflected little credit upon the commissary department to have confined them to such a diet. It seems that even at Ismailia there is a great dearth of fresh meat and fresh vegetables. Here, again, the British authorities seem to have serenely reckoned upon finding everything they wanted eagerly pressed upon them at the hands of a complaisant population. No precautions seem to have been taken against a possible inability to obtain such supplies on the field of operations. There are cattle and vegetables enough in Cyprus, which Lord BEACONSFIELD intended to serve as a storehouse for just such a campaign as that now carried on, and fresh provisions might have been forwarded in time from Malta had orders been telegraphed at the time the expedition was despatched from Alexandria. But in the matter of procuring such supplies, as in the matter of moving them after they had reached Ismailia, not a single proper step was taken until the grievous hardships and enforced inactivity of the army compelled a desperate effort to redress past blunders.

No doubt all the errors hitherto committed in connection with the commissariat are at last in a fair way of being corrected. If Sir GARNET WOLSELEY means this week by an assault on Tel-el-Kebir to impose on his soldiers some hard fighting, it is because he sees for the first time a certainty that they will not be asked to do it upon empty stomachs. No one probably appreciates more keenly than the English commander the mischiefs of the delay rendered inevitable by the virtual breakdown of the commissary department. ARABI Pasha will have had some three weeks in which to strengthen his fortified camp at Tel-el-Kebir as well as to occupy a new position at Salihiyeh, from which on Saturday, as was of course to be expected, the British advance post at Kassasin was exposed to an attack on the flank as well as in the front. In all likelihood, however, the advantages which the Egyptian leader has derived from the delay in the British advance will not affect the ultimate issue of the struggle, simply because his troops are not good enough to cope with the English in the field. But what a commentary is afforded by the glaring blunders committed by the commissary department in this campaign on the fitness of an English army to contend with any of those Continental forces whose supply system approaches the perfection of their German model. Whatever reforms the English may have effected in other branches of their military service, it is clear that, as regards the commissariat, they have learned but little since the epoch of the Crimean war.

Beat Keifer.

Elsewhere we print a letter from a Republican voter in Speaker KEIFER'S Congressional district. He says that KEIFER spent $10,000 in securing a renomination, and that to secure a reelection he will put out five times that amount. Add to this the contributions from JAY HUBBELL'S committee, and the district will be flooded with money. KEIFER'S majority in the last election was 5,412 in a total vote of 36,592. Thus an average of $3 a head may be spent in corrupting voters.

The Democracy have nominated a good candidate. Success is possible, although the outlook can hardly be deemed encouraging. KEIFER is the tool of the ROBESON Ring. By his elevation to the Speaker's chair, a horde of plunderers overran the public treasury. To support their robberies the war taxes on the necessaries of life were maintained and appropriations exceeding by $116,000,000 those of any other year were made. Every man or woman who buys a pound of sugar or a box of matches in KEIFER'S district pays tribute to the ROBESON Ring and its Speaker.

TWEED was reelected to the Senate after the discovery of his corruption, and one of his lieutenants beat HORATIO SEYMOUR in a struggle for the Assembly. The result in the case of KEIFER will show whether there is any more virtue among rural Republicans of Ohio than among the old TWEED Democracy in New York. Meantime let every honest man, without regard to party, strain every nerve for his defeat.

Defeat Miles Ross!

The men who follow the political fortunes of Mr. MILES ROSS, the head and front of the River and Harbor steal Congressmen, boast that their candidate will be renominated in Freehold to-day.

If he is renominated, it will be a dark day for New Jersey Democrats. There is only one opinion among honest men as to the River and Harbor bill. It is that the appropriation of eighteen millions of dollars mostly for creeks and sloughs was little better than downright robbery. Ross's boast of what he has done for the district does not deceive the farmers and taxpayers who are to do the voting in November. They know that for the few thousands of dollars that will come to the district through Ross's log rolling in Congress their member conspired with ROBESON & Co. to vote away nearly nineteen millions of the people's money; they know that taxes to the amount of $400,000,000 are collected from the people of the United States annually—an amount far in excess of the needs of Government—in order that a vast surplus may accumulate for the benefit of spoilsmen; and they know that they are paying burdensome taxes—war taxes—because representatives like Ross, instead of setting their faces against this robbery, seek popularity by getting appropriations for the benefit of a few political followers.

MILES ROSS should be beaten to-day in the Convention. But if the politicians nominate him, he should be overwhelmed at the polls. The men who support him to-day should be marked for future destruction.

The Republicans have probably carried Maine by a small plurality for their State ticket, judging from the incomplete returns received at this writing. In 1880 Mr. PLAISTED, the Fusion candidate, was elected by 189 plurality. Returns from about one-fourth of the State this year indicate sufficient Republican gains to wipe out this figure and elect the Republican candidate. The vote was light, and not any of Mr. BLAINE'S old-time enthusiasm appears to have been injected into the canvass. The Greenback and Independent parties cut a very small figure; indeed, the Greenbackers are said to have voted the Republican ticket in many instances.

Mr. JOHN F. WALTON of Cass Station, Ga., writes to say that JUDSON C. CLEMENTS and W. H. FELTON are rival Democratic candidates for Congress in the Seventh Georgia District. FELTON has the support of the Republicans. Mr. WALTON asks which candidate young men should support. We answer, CLEMENTS. He voted against the River and Harbor steal and the ROBESON steal in the last Congress. His record shows that he can be trusted. There is doubt about FELTON. Republicans don't appear to be supporting honest Democrats this year.

We missed yesterday the paternal admonition touching our comments on the Egyptian contest with which we have been occasionally favored by our venerable but still esteemed contemporary the *Evening Post*. This has excited considerable regret, for we have been touched by the friendly interest exhibited by the mentor, although sometimes we have found ourselves unable to discern the value of the advice. It is always, however, a diverting spectacle to see our ancient friend assume the knowing airs and ponderous manner of the pedagogue, even when the other qualifications for the rôle happen to be absent. We have faith, moreover, that our venerable but by no means decrepit contemporary will ultimately hear from Egypt.

The farmers are to be congratulated. Yesterday's rain was of great value to them, and the American Institute Farmers' Club is to resume its meetings to-day.

While accuracy in matters of detail should not always be demanded of novelists who write of remote and inaccessible countries, still we should naturally look for some exactness and carefulness from a man like CHARLES READE, when speaking of events supposed to have occurred in this city, because it is from his supposed truthfulness, even in matters of detail, that many of his books derive their main influence. In a novelette called "Singleheart and Doubleface," recently issued by the HARPERS, this veteran writer repeatedly speaks of one of our large Atlantic steamships as "the steamboat," and makes the heroine discover the New York Custom House in close proximity to One Hundred and Fourth street.

We noticed in our news columns yesterday the proposed candidacy of Mr. GEORGE G. BARNARD for the office of County Clerk in Brooklyn. Mr. BARNARD is the present capable Deputy Clerk, and he has been for nearly eighteen years in the office of the County Clerk. He is noted for the efficient and courteous discharge of his duties, and his nomination by the Democrats would be acceptable to the bar and to laymen, while the Republicans could not oppose him, as his promotion would be in accordance with the true principles of civil service reform.

There are lively times ahead for Mr. FRANK HISCOCK, SECOR ROBESON'S side partner in Congress. The feeling against HISCOCK on account of his bad record is so strong that an independent Republican, Mr. WILLIAM A. SWEET of Syracuse, has taken the field against him. The district has been regarded as sure for the Republicans, but should Mr. SWEET be supported by the Democrats, there is a good chance of keeping HISCOCK at home. He is just the kind of man to leave at home.

Shotguns are not the only weapons employed in SPRAGUE estate warfare. That the torch is an effective appliance is attested by the attempt to burn a dwelling house belonging to the estate at Cranston. Four barns and two mills had already been given to the flames. The history of this estate, in all its bearings, would form an extraordinary story, if revealed in absolute completeness and truth.

Corea, having finished its sanguinary picnic is paying the bills. The King has been reinstated by Chinese troops, while Japan, who now understands by experience the subject of money indemnities, has arranged that Corea shall pay her $2,500,000, besides $250,000 for the relatives of her murdered subjects. Exactly how these settlements may affect the rejected treaties is not yet clear. Since neither China nor Japan can find it much for her interest to have Corea opened directly to Western commerce, doubtless they have not required any stipulations on that subject in suppressing the disorders.

One of the queer disclosures just made in regard to the thefts of the PHIPPS gang in Philadelphia, is that they stole the roof off the almshouse. Their plan was simple. Observing that the roof was a very costly one of copper, they tore it off, substituting a new and cheap one at the expense of the city, and then sold the copper for a large sum, no record of what became of the proceeds being on the books. Still, this is not so mean as purloining the sugar, tea, and other comforts of the inmates.

The British Consul-General at Alexandria claims to have succeeded in abolishing the thumbscrew as the Khedive's instrument of extorting evidence from the prisoners taken from ARABI'S forces. But it is incorrect to assume that all torturing of captives has therefore been abandoned, inasmuch as the floggings go on.

A storm like yesterday's produces a panic among the hotels, boarding houses, and cottages by seaside and hillside, causing their city inmates to fear that a permanent rainy season of September has come, and to pack and be off. Yet, despite an occasional day's rain, this is the time for enjoying the country—the latter half of September and a great part of October allow a degree of physical exercise and a variety of color in the landscape not to be had in midsummer. On the other hand, those who return to their homes through alarm at a storm will find the city very comfortable.

Bill Chandler's Chickens Coming Home to Roost.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—Hubbell's Department of Political Assessments is disturbed with reports that Bragg threatens to run as the independent candidate in Wisconsin, on the department's own idea in the South. A standing offer of money is out to any Democrat who will quit and set himself up for Congress in a Democratic district. There are numerous takers already, and other cases are under consideration. There is a scarcity of money in some parts of the South, and Hubbell's department has plenty of it, with the assessing in full force.

Now, it has not occurred to there leaders that it is a game that may be played on both sides. Bragg's threat reminds them such is the fact, and there are reports of other cases in prospect.

The Prohibitionists Independents are acting on the line which Hubbell's department encourages in the South. According to recent advices, extensive broods of chickens are coming home to roost. This fact has not a little to do with Chandler's early return to the capital.

As Good as Tweed's County Court House.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—Washington must be a good place for mechanics. A contract has been made by the Government to pay $5,000 for the brick walls of an elevator to be put into the Department of Justice. The structure will be between ten and twelve feet square, and probably sixty feet high.

The Government—almost any petty official is the Government now—has entered into a contract to pay $6,000 for putting a 12 by 10 inch tube into the Senate elevator—height 60 to 70 feet.

The Sun's First Newsboy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: Fifty years ago my stepfather, H. J. Pickering, published a newspaper (*Commercial*) in New York city. Fifty years ago on the 12th of September my brother and myself went from his office with Mr. Day, and helped him on the first number of THE SUN. On the 13th I took some of the papers and went on the street to sell them. Mr. Clark's barber on the corner of Pearl and Chatham streets, was the first man to buy one. I claim to be the first newsboy. I promised Mr. Day that I would sell his paper some time before it was published, when he was talking to father about it.

Twenty-five years ago I called at the office of THE SUN and received a copy of the first number (a reprint). I met it at my son's wedding. I write this in hopes that you will send me another copy if you have it, and oblige the first newsboy. In return I will send you a diagram of Mr. Day's first office, if you would like it.

SHARON, Norfolk County, Mass. SILAS DAVENPORT.

An Awkward Mistake About a Wedding.

From the St. James's Gazette.

A very awkward mistake is reported to have been made at St. Mary's Church, in Scarbrook, a few days ago. A deaf and dumb lady and a foreigner with but a smattering of English, presented themselves for the purpose of being married. In neither of them was the service understood, but they went through it, and when, owing to the non-appearance of a witness, the lady seemed disposed to demur, the gentleman, who had evidently taken a fancy to her, and was willing to marry her instead of Waddell, as it had been arranged that she should, coolly remarked in broken English and Italian, "Missis, Missis, Waddell, he no come, no matter, you come along with me." When the error was discovered the marriage, hours had elapsed, and it was too late to perform the ceremony correctly according to law. It is satisfactory to hear that the interesting couple have been communicated with, in order that the unfortunate blunder may be rectified as soon as possible.

A Big Sun Dial.

From the London World.

Mr. Jardine, M. P., has recently had erected, in the grounds at Castlemilk, a sundial of extraordinary dimensions. It consists of a large obelisk triangular, and is supposed to be a facsimile of a pillar erected by Queen Mary's dad in Holyrood grounds. There are altogether fifteen dials. Two indicate solar time, two give the time of day by the moon, three indicate the rising and setting of the sun, the length of the day, and when it is noon at the principal places over the globe, the sun's declination, &c. Across the structure is a motto, and has been exciting no little wonder among the simple folks about Lockerbie.

THE FIGHT IN KEIFER'S DISTRICT.

Feeling Among Honest Republicans—The District Flooded with Money.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: Never was there such apathy among Republicans here as at present. Keifer's meeting the other night was very poorly attended, despite extraordinary efforts, in the way of posters, hand bills, and brass bands, made to greet the robber lieutenant with a good audience. The hall was not more than half filled, and the enthusiasm was of that warmed-over sort, sickening to a man once proud to acknowledge his allegiance to a party worthy of the great names which made it successful.

Keifer read his address from A to Izzard, and from Izzard to the close, and commanded little attention. I counted seven sleepers, four newspaper readers, two peanut crunchers, twelve Democrats, and forty-seven boys under 14. Six men had their legs thrown over the backs of the seats in front of them, four men in the rear were talking up a horse trade, and the remainder seemed to care very little about doing honor to their leader. Occasionally a few hearers roused themselves sufficiently to feebly applaud some specially vicious attack upon the Democrats, because, forsooth, they had not prevented the radical majority from passing the bills and steals which are just now so odious to the people.

I met several prominent Republicans on the street during the meeting, men who have, in former campaigns, been the leaders and wheel horses in their party. Upon expressing surprise at their non-attendance at the meeting the unanimous reply was to the effect that "We don't care a continental about it anyhow. We won't vote for Keifer, and we hope he will be beaten."

One of them went so far as to say that he wished the Republican majority in this district was only 1,000 instead of 5,000. Democrats think there is a possible chance to win. They know what they have to do, and they are by no means discouraged.

I see that Judge Lawrence predicts increased majorities for the Republican State ticket this fall, while admitting that they will lose Congressmen. This is nonsense. It is safe to say that the Democracy will gain 40,000 votes on the temperance question alone, and will lose say 5,000, leaving them a net gain of 35,000 votes, or a probable majority of 15,000, allowing that the stay-at-homes will be equally balanced, which I do not think will be the case.

Keifer, Hubbell, Robeson & Company will probably carry this district. The former spent $10,000 in it to secure the renomination, and is equally able to spend $50,000 to insure election. Taking into account the 2,700 negro voters in the district, it is not hard to understand the effect of $s judiciously expended. Keifer will be returned, but his value in the next Congress will not equal that of zero in the figure ten.

A DISGUSTED REPUBLICAN.

SPRINGFIELD, O., Sept. 9.

THE FIGHT IN NORTH CAROLINA.

The Bottom Dropping Out of the Chandler-Mahone Coalition.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Sept. 9.—Senators Vance and Ransom, Gov. Jarvis, and dozens of other leading Democrats are making a most vigorous canvass in every section of the old North State with the view of defeating the so-called Liberal-Democratic-Mahone-Republican coalition. The voices of speakers are heard from the seashore to the mountains every day and night. The Democrats appear to have the advantage of the Republicans so far as talent and speakers are concerned. Some of the leading Democrats, who some time ago announced their intention of supporting the anti-Democratic ticket, have become disgusted and renewed their allegiance to the Democratic party, while others, Gen. Clingman for one, take little interest in the canvass. Many of the so-called Liberals feel toward both parties as they did toward Grant and Greeley in 1872. They have no choice.

It was announced in figures a dozen days ago by the Republicans that Col. Charles R. Jones, editor of the leading Democratic newspaper in the State, the *Charlotte Observer*, had joined the Liberals and Republicans. Jones did announce himself as an independent candidate for Congress against Clement Dowd in the Sixth District. He has since retired from the race for Congress, and announces that he will support the Democratic party as heretofore. Dowd will no doubt be elected, although the Democrats might have named a stronger man. Dowd's record on the River and Harbor and other bills is bad. Jones's withdrawal from the contest will cost the same 1,000 votes in western North Carolina.

The negroes are up in arms. They demand more offices. They talk of holding a State Convention and of calling upon the national Administration to give them some of the fat Federal offices. They want some of their number to hold Collectorships and Post Offices.

In the Raleigh Post Office John Nichols, the former Postmaster, employs several negroes. One is a corrupt ex-member of the Legislature who trades on his influence. Two negroes wait on the ladies and gentlemen at the general delivery window.

Col. Isaac Young, Collector of Revenue in the Fourth District, employs also several colored men. One is the negro orator Jim Harris, who has drawn a Federal salary for years, while canvassing the State in the interest of the Republican party. A bright colored man named Young is Col. Ike Young's confidential clerk. He signs the Collector's name to revenue stamps.

These petty offices do not suit the negro, however. Ike Young says there is too much of the negro in the party. In only a few counties can a colored man be elected to office. Ever since the Republicans tried to run James H. Harris, colored, for Congress in the Fourth District, then Republican, the Democrats have held the District. Harris is running for the Legislature in Wake, and it is said will defeat the Republican ticket. A colored man was recently arrested in the Goldsboro Post Office robbing the mails. Another was caught at the same trick in Newbern.

Dr. J. J. Mott, the Republican Boss, is playing Mahone's game in this State, assessing all Federal officeholders heavily. The Postmaster at Rocky Mount has been removed because he would pay his assessment. His successor paid the assessment, and has since then been detected in robbing the mails.

Republicans here do not think the outlook so bright for them as it was a month ago. The negro vote will be divided. The Democrats are very confident of electing their candidate for Congressman at Large, Judge Bennett, and six of the eight District Congressmen.

A Negro Lion Tamer Killed by Lions.

From the St. James's Gazette.

A negro, who was replacing the regular lion tamer, who was wounded at Freyjus, was entering the lion's cage of Sanger's menagerie at Cannes when his foot slipped, and he fell on his face. The lions, with their natural instinct, rushed upon the prostrate man, and repeatedly tore his flesh, a young one especially holding him with persistence and tearing his thigh. An assistant repelled four of the lions with his pitchfork, but the fifth refused to let go till a red hot bar had been thrust down his mouth, when the unfortunate negro, still conscious, dragged himself out of the cage, and was carried off bleeding. The spectators meanwhile were almost paralyzed with horror, which was soon changed into panic when it was perceived that the door was open for at least thirty seconds while the negro was being carried off.

The lions might have sprung upon the assembly. A rush was made to the entrances, and the alarm which spread outside was only ended by the opportune action of an assistant who slammed the door of the cage. The negro having reached the hospital, though accompanied by a doctor, was refused admission because he was without an order. He was taken back to the circus and again to the hospital, where he was finally admitted. This gross mismanagement cost him his life, for he died from the loss of blood entailed during the double journey. This is the third accident which has occurred in this troupe.

Searching for the Emperor Trajan's Ashes.

From the London Times.

ROME, Aug. 21.—A Signor Gennarelli has applied to the Minister of Public Instruction for permission to excavate around the base of Trajan's column, which he expects to find nothing less than the sepulchral chamber containing the ashes of the emperor, in an urn of gold, and a letter addressed to the future by seers, forth the reasons on which he confidently bases the expectations. Signor Rosa Casoni, Kotzebue, Cavaliere Lanciani, and others, insist that Trajan's ashes were brought to Rome and deposited in a costly urn of gold beneath the column still standing unscathed in the piazza. But, he adds the column was erected some years after his death, and therefore the urn could not have been buried beneath its pedestal.

The chamber in which it was placed must have been situated immediately below the level on the side of the other, and that the chamber so situated has never been violated in the course of the centuries that have elapsed, and that the golden urn is safe within it, Signor Gennarelli undertakes to prove.

The Monarch of Missouri Forests.

From the St. Louis Republican.

A mammoth tree, cut in Mexico, Audrain county, Mo., the other day measured nine feet through, near the ground, was 110 feet high to the first limb, and had a height of thirty feet from its base, and is thought to have been at least 500 years old. The wood was made up into 8-foot rails, 300 fence posts, besides ten cords of firewood. By its fall twelve squirrels and one raccoon were killed. This was doubtless the largest tree in Missouri.

THE BRITISH MILITARY POSITION.

LONDON, Aug. 31.—I have said in a previous letter that I did not intend to make any comments on the varying fortunes of the Egyptian campaign, knowing with what rapidity you will receive in New York all the details on European subjects of interest. I am not going to depart from that rule, but I wish to take the items in the London journals this morning as to affairs in Egypt for the text of a few general remarks on the military position of the British empire.

Everybody knows that the growth of the German empire has absolutely revolutionized all the previously existing conditions of the military problem in Europe. There was no country whose position was more transformed than England's. First, the land forces at her command, instead of bringing her into the foremost rank of military powers, as was the case in the early half of this century, now leave her on pretty much the same level as Spain or some of the other smaller countries of Europe. Secondly, even granting the quality of her soldiers to be superior to that of other nations—which probably is not the case—the breechloader has equalized in most material respects the good and the inferior soldier. Her navy remains; but the opinion is pretty general that the last great naval battle has been fought. At all events, the fact remains that the navy of France, which is but slightly inferior to that of Germany, remained absolutely useless during the war with Germany.

These are facts known to all the world; and my repetition of them now is made only for the purpose of suggesting this question: Is the public opinion of England fully alive to the change in England's military prowess and prospects? I have mixed a good deal with nearly all classes of the English people within the last twelve years; and I will endeavor to give something like an answer to this rather difficult question. As to the working classes, I can answer with tolerable confidence; they belong for the most part to the peace-at-any-price party. This state of feeling is the result of various causes. First, the idea—partly, if not chiefly, owing to the International—has become general among the working classes of the Continent that their enemies are within, not without; among the owners of land and the holders of property, and not among the people on the other side of an imaginary frontier. The English workingman has not as yet been touched in even the slightest appreciable extent with the doctrines of Continental Socialism. For instance, we have a Convention going on at the present moment of the miners of the kingdom—one of the largest, richest, and best organized of our Labor Associations; and the questions they are discussing are the certificates of underviewers, examinations of gas by the under fireman, the employment of blasting powder, and other matters of general importance doubtless, but entirely unconnected with any scheme for the general emancipation of labor, such as would be infallibly discussed in a convention of German or French artisans. But the working classes of England, though in no degree socialistic, are opposed to war; they now have votes in the towns, soon they will have votes in the countries; they thus largely control the elections, and a big war will, I think, find in them in the future a solid and steady opposition. Coming to the middle classes, the majority of those who belong to the Dissenting churches are opposed to war, regarding it as a luxury by which the children of the Episcopalians who cannot be made parsons are promoted in the army or the navy. Among the upper classes opinion is divided by party or by intelligence. The Tories are bellicose; the Liberals peaceful; the stupid on both sides still dream of big victories.

The American reader would conclude from this summary of opinion that the peace party was almost omnipotent in England, represented as it is by so many important sections of society; but that is a mistake. The traditional boast glory does not easily die out, and there are millions of Englishmen who have not yet awoke to the fact that time has advanced one step since Nelson won Trafalgar and Wellington Waterloo. In London, particularly, the war party is strong. If you go to the music halls, the songs of the popular favorites breathe of the sword. The *Daily Telegraph*, the most popular of our London journals, couches its articles in dithyrambic style; and if you were to visit "Patience," you could see how high feeling runs as you listen to the enormously enthusiastic cheers with which the appearance of the heavy dragoons is hailed. And why, you will ask, is this? First, then, London is a commercial city, has a large body of mercantile clerks, and the mercantile clerk of London is conceited, empty-headed, frivolous; professes to know all about the coming Derby, smokes a short pipe, and believes in the glory of old England. Then we have a large body of rowdies, and rowdyism is always patriotic; and, finally, London is a very drunken city, and whiskey and valor have gone together from time immemorial. A great war, then, would probably be supported by London, and opposed by the provinces; would find bitter hostility in mechanics and dissenting shop keepers, and general approval among the squires and the clergymen of the Church of England, the farmers of the country, and the mean, snobbish, and drunken elements in the towns.

The Liberal party is making the present war; but undoubtedly their opponents represent, as a rule, the pugnacious element of the nation. This brings me to say a few words on the leadership of the Tories. When Beaconsfield was in office one never knew what took place. This Hebrew adventurer cared little or nothing about England or Englishmen, or indeed about anything in the world except himself; he had a lively and a reaches now imagination, and a histrionic love of adventure. The Marquis of Salisbury has none of these faults; but he has a good many others that make his leadership a danger to the peace of this country. Within the last few days he has given a proof of his utter want of discretion. A practical politician need scarcely be told that there are certain things he should specially guard against is that of insisting on saying that he is right because, metaphysically and abstractedly considered, his conclusions could be shown to be logically unassailable. But Lord Salisbury is still the literary man; the slashing editor who, in the *Saturday* or the *Quarterly Review*, tore mercilessly through plausible fallacies, even when they were put forward by the writers and speakers of the Tory party, to which he himself belonged. A Liverpool Conservative association the other day gave the politician the opportunity of coming out in his old character of the irresistible journalist. They ventured to send him a resolution congratulating the House of Lords on the judicious amendments they had introduced into the Arrears bill of Mr. Gladstone. Now, everyone knows that the House of Lords did not amend the bill, judiciously or otherwise; and that, in point of fact, they threw over Salisbury, who wanted to have the bill so altered as to necessitate a collision between the two Houses of Parliament. But it was not for Salisbury to recall that day and its bitter humiliation. The temptation, however, proved too great for his fierce pen; he wrote back a scathing letter to the effect that the bill had not been amended by the Lords at all, and that he still was sorry it had not been rejected. This was sulking, and a leader who sulks is nearly always lost. Salisbury, then, is a hard-hitting man with a pen, and a bitter one, and, I think, I want I used in Ireland long ago to hear called a "hot tongue." These qualities have led to a conception of his character which is popular in some quarters, and much exaggerated. Bright often spoke of Salisbury's haughty and wise mien, the look of which is always on the lookout for opportunities of speech to speak of him for years as the "Jesuitical marquis," and in another Radical journals of the province he figured as a Conservative hidalgo, who always had his sword and bristling brows contracted in a frown, and would never yield an inch though the fate of dominion might advance to the universe. Disraeli, who was venomous, and narrow, and, in his way, skillful, has, I have reason to believe through some of Lord Salisbury's intimates, is almost altogether imaginary; too fair in some, too fair in other respects. His creed is narrow, his friends adjust, and his manner of expression acrimonious; but personally he is affable and polite, and generous.

I turn from England affairs abroad and at home, to say a few words on Ireland. Up to the time at which I write there is no sign of the release of Mr. Gray, though the opinion is universal that the Lord Lieutenant will not permit him to serve his whole term. Meantime the country is taking its bearings on the matter in the most unmistakable terms. Already two prominent municipalities have resolved to confer upon Mr. Gray the freedom of the city, and resolutions of sympathy have been passed by numerous public bodies. There have been, however, indications in which no strong emotion has been shown; for instance, at Dundalk and Drogheda, Dr. Kane's jubilee. I will say just a word or two about the manner of business at the last mentioned place, because it will explain some of the difficulties of popular movements and leaders in Ireland. The majority of the Board are undoubtedly in favor of the prosecution of sympathy and a resolution to that effect was put to the meeting. The reason was that on two occasions when the matter was brought up the chair was occupied by a bitter Orange Conservative; and, astonishing as it may appear to an American, it is still the fact that the law gives to the Chairman of many of our public bodies in Ireland the power to reject motions and to put others in place of them, from which there is no appeal. In fact, such a thing as a popular body in the American sense of the word does not exist in Ireland. Take, for instance, these Poor Law Boards. I have told you what is the power of the Chairman; but the inappropriate character of the Board does not end here